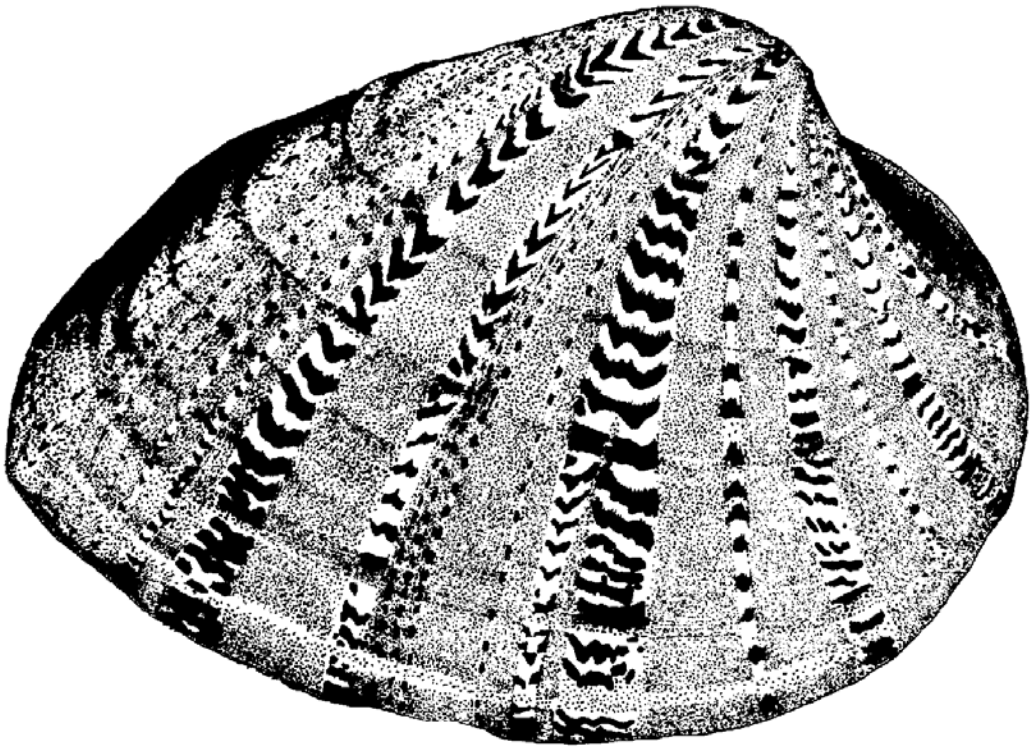
Ellipsaria

The Newsletter of the Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society

Volume 10 – Number 2 **August 2008**



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Submissions for the December 2008 issue of Ellipsaria may be sent to the editor at any time but are requested by **November 11, 2008**. Anyone may submit an article but you must be a member of FMCS to receive Ellipsaria. Please limit submissions to about one page. Categories for contributions include news, new publications, meeting announcements, current issues affecting mollusks, job postings, contributed articles (including ongoing research projects), abstracts, and society committee reports. Electronic submissions are preferred; contact the editor with any questions. Note that submissions are not peer reviewed, but are checked for content and general editing.

Please send change of address information to the Secretary.

Ellipsaria

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRESHWATER MOLLUSK CONSERVATION SOCIETY

Volume 10, No. 2 http://ellipse.inhs.uiuc.edu/FMCS/ August 2008

President's Message

Greetings,

The FMCS symposium and workshop held in conjunction with the Society for Conservation Biology went extremely well. Biologists from 50 countries were present and feedback from SCB members was very positive concerning our urgency in conserving imperiled mollusk species. This was a golden opportunity for our society to broadcast to an international audience. Special thanks are owed to all our guest speakers and to Rachel Muir for making this happen along with Ryan Evans and John Jenkinson. Thanks also to Andy Roberts and Steve McMurry for setting up and manning the FMCS display. The shirts and hats are all sold out. Speaking of shirts, we need to have a standard FMCS shirt...let me know about ideas!

We will have a board meeting in conjunction with ORVE this fall. I would like to see all hands-on-deck attendance from committee chairs. I will be sending a notice by email to committee chairs in the fall for agenda items, time and location. Hope everyone has had a productive field season and as a parting shot...what a great meeting with SCB.

The FMCS 2009 international symposium is fast approaching. Please keep in mind the sponsorship monies that are needed to make this affordable for everyone.

Steve Ahlstedt, FMCS President

Call for 2009 FMCS Professional Award Nominations

Do you know someone who has made worthwhile contributions to mussel conservation or to the Society either through donating their professional time or expertise or through their scientific endeavors? Consider nominating them for one of the three FMCS Professional Awards. Nominations and supporting documentation are due on December 31, 2008. See the Awards Committee web site at http://ellipse.inhs.uiuc.edu/FMCS/Awards/index.html for more details. Contact Dr. Teresa Newton, tnewton@usgs.gov, 608-781-6217 or Dr. Greg Cope, greg_cope@ncsu.edu, 919.515.5296, for more information.

Student Travel Awards Available for 2009 FMCS Symposium

CALLING ALL STUDENTS — To facilitate your participation in the 6th Biennial Symposium of the Society to be held April 19-24, 2009 in Baltimore, Maryland, travel awards are being offered by the Society. Support is provided via Society paid lodging accommodations for the duration of the meeting at the host hotel (Marriott Waterfront). It is anticipated that approximately 4-5 awards will be made for the 2009 Symposium. A complete application package must be submitted to Dr. Teresa J. Newton, FMCS Awards Committee, U.S. Geological Survey, Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center, 2630 Fanta Reed Rd., La Crosse, WI 54603on or before **December 15, 2008**. See the Awards Committee web site at http://ellipse.inhs.uiuc.edu/FMCS/Awards/index.html for more details. Contact Dr. Teresa Newton at tnewton@usgs.gov or at 608-781-6217, for more information.

FIRST CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

FMCS 2009 SYMPOSIUM

April 19 - 24, 2009 – Marriott Waterfront, Baltimore, MD

The 6th Biennial Symposium of the Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society will be held at Marriott Waterfront Hotel in Baltimore, Maryland from April 19 – 24, 2009. The theme for the 2009 symposium will be:

Healthy Mollusks = Healthy Rivers = Healthy People

A plenary session will open the meeting and provide a variety of international and ecosystem perspectives on freshwater mollusk conservation. Platform and poster session topics covering all taxa of mollusks (gastropods and bivalves) are welcome, and include:

- Advances in Propagation of Mollusks
- Pearl Culture
- Life History & Population Ecology
- Physiology and Reproductive Biology
- Systems and Community Ecology / Freshwater Mussel Ecosystem Services
- Habitat Restoration/ Fish Passage/ Connectivity
- Maritime, Roads, and Rail: Transportation, Impacts and Opportunities
- Water Quality and Ecotoxicology
- Status of Mollusks on Tribal Lands
- Conservation of Margaritiferidae
- World Atlas of Freshwater Mussels
- Evolution and Systematics
- Outreach that Works

Visit http://www.cpe.vt.edu/fmcs2009/ for current information on the symposium.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS

Submittal form: Abstracts should be submitted as an email attachment in Microsoft Word® or Rich Text format to Patricia Morrison (patricia_morrison@fws.gov). **File name should include presenter's last name and initials (e.g., jonesjm.doc).** Acknowledgment of abstract receipt, if requested, will be provided by e-mail.

Limit abstracts to 300 words or less (including title, authors and affiliations). Abstracts with greater than 300 words will be edited.

Submittal format: The abstract should contain the title in **BOLD**, **CAPITAL** letters, followed by the author(s), and address(es). Underscore the presenter's name. Skip one line and begin the text including a clear summary of presentation including objectives, results, and conclusions. Example:

AN EXAMINATION OF FEED QUANTITY REQUIREMENTS FOR RIFFLESHELL MUSSELS (*EPIOBLASMA* SPP.) HELD AT WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS NATIONAL FISH HATCHERY, WEST VIRGINIA

A. L. Bush [1], R. J. Neves [1], C. M. Gatenby [2], and D. A. Kreeger [3]. [1]Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Mail Code 0321, Blacksburg, VA 24061. [2]White Sulphur Springs National Fish Hatchery, 400 East Main St., White Sulphur Springs, WV 24986. [3]Delaware Estuary Program, P.O. Box 7068, 25 State Police Drive, West Trenton, NJ 68628.

Knowledge of feed quantity requirements is essential to successful captive care of freshwater mussels. An optimum ration was determined for riffleshell mussels *Epioblasma spp.* held at White Sulphur Springs National Fish Hatchery, West Virginia. Cumberlandian combshell *E. brevidens*, oyster mussel *E. capsaeformis*, snuffbox *E. triquetra*, and northern riffleshell *E. torulosa rangiana*, along with the rainbow mussel *Villosa iris* were fed one of four rations (20,000 cells ml-1, 40,000 cells ml-1, 80,000 cells ml-1, or 120,000 cells ml-1) of the alga *Neochloris oleoabundans* for two-hour trials in June (15°C), August (18°C), and December (11°C), 2006. Measurements of filtration rate and absorption rate were used to determine milligrams of feed mussels absorbed per hour (net absorption rate). Optimum rations were based upon observed net absorption rates, and were compared among *Epioblasma spp.*, *Epioblasma* vs. *Villosa*, between sexes, and among seasons. No differences were observed among *Epioblasma spp.* ($P > .05$), nor between genera ($P > .05$), or sexes ($P > .05$). Net absorption rates in June were significantly lower than in August ($P < .05$). Scheduled tests will determine net absorption rates of mussels in December. Optimum rations for *Epioblasma spp.* fed *N. oleoabundans* were 40,000-80,000 cells ml-1 in June (15°C), and 80,000-120,000 cells ml- 1 in August (18°C).

At the bottom of the page, please type:

1. The name, address, telephone, fax, and e-mail of the presenting author;
2. Preference for Platform or Poster presentation and willingness (yes or no) to convert from one format to another; and
3. Regular or Student* attendee

*Note: All students submitting abstracts, provided they meet eligibility requirements, will be judged for the best student platform or poster presentation, unless otherwise indicated.

Oral Presentation Requirements
Not to exceed 20 minutes (15 minutes for talk and 5 minutes for questions and answers). Slides and LCD projector visual aids only (no overheads).

Poster requirements
The poster should be readable from 5 feet, titles from 10 feet; and the poster should not exceed a size of 4 feet high by 8 feet wide. Authors must be present at the designated poster session.

ABSTRACTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY DECEMBER 1, 2008

FMCS Puts Freshwater Mollusks on the World Conservation Stage

With lots of prodding, planning, and coordination on the part of Rachel Muir, FMCS took advantage of a unique opportunity last month. The Society of Conservation Biology (SCB, with an international membership of over 12,000 was meeting in our back yard (Chattanooga, Tennessee) and wanted us to join them. Once the local committee got over the shock of being invited to swim with the big fish, we began to organize three events: a field trip, a 4-hour Symposium, and an 8-hour Workshop. Our Outreach Committee also arranged to staff a FMCS booth for the duration of the 4-day SCB meeting.

The field trip was a joint event co-sponsored by FMCS and the SCB Freshwater Working Group. We took a busload and more (total attendance over 60) to the part of the Duck River that justifies the label "A Freshwater Biodiversity Rainforest." The weather was perfect for biologists and conservationists from all over the World to seine fishes, pick up snails, and snorkel or "noodle" to find an amazing variety of freshwater mussels. Everyone had a great time and got a personal impression of how incredible the diversity really is in that part of the river.

TVA Fish Biologist Charlie Saylor leading Duck River field trip participants. At least 40 fish species were collected.

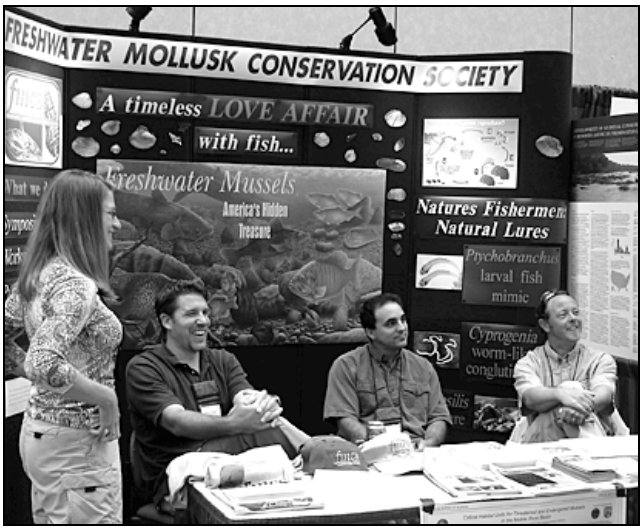
The 4-hour FMCS Symposium, entitled "Beneath the Surface: the Freshwater Mollusks of the Southeastern United States," was moderated by Ryan Evans. The eight talks in this symposium were developed specifically to provide a broad overview of the diversity, zoogeography, life history, habitats, conservation issues, and recovery tools being used for freshwater mussels and snails. Chris Barnhart showed some of his typical movies, which, as usual, mesmerized and astonished the audience. Wendell Haag's talk on the effects of habitat alteration on freshwater mussels included some comments about "tolerant" and "intolerant" species that may become important concepts in the recovery of big river faunas. The final talk by Leslie Colley of The Nature Conservancy was an excellent overview of local action to conserve freshwater biodiversity in the Duck River watershed. Attendance was very good for the symposium with a full audience present at many talks.

Rachel Muir during her Introduction to the Workshop.

The FMCS 2008 Workshop, entitled "The Road to Recovery; Science to Secure Freshwater Mollusk Biodiversity," was organized by Rachel Muir. The sixteen talks and the Panel Discussion included in this day-long Workshop were designed to start putting together a "tool box" of ideas and techniques for resource managers to use to protect and recover freshwater mollusks and the habitats in which they live. The speakers came from several federal agencies, state agencies, universities, and non-governmental organizations. Attendance was an invigorating mix of SCB and FMCS members with total attendance in excess of 150. Questions from the participants after the talks and during the discussion session were focused and, often, thought provoking.

Andy Roberts coordinated the set up and operation of the FMCS booth during the SCB meeting (and seemed to live there virtually all four days!). Andy, Steve McMurray, and the other FMCS members who staffed this booth obviously enjoyed interacting with the WIDE variety of people who came by and encouraged everyone to learn more about freshwater mollusks and their present conservation status.

This joint meeting with SCB was a unique opportunity for FMCS to reach out to an international conservation-focused audience. All of the 1,200 registrants at this meeting received a copy of the FMCS Program, including information about our Society and a membership form. We received excellent feedback from the SCB officers and many of their members. The FMCS 2008 events were a huge success and a great way to educate the global conservation



community about the need to include freshwater mollusks. Our efforts to reach out to the larger conservation community also paid off for the society through the recruitment of some new FMCS members. Publication editors for Oxford press attended the sessions and approached the local committee regarding the possibility of putting together a hardcover "toolkit" publication on freshwater mollusks biology and conservation.

Guidelines and Techniques Committee Status Report

The committee co-chairs are currently evaluating the concept of a society-endorsed mollusc surveyor certification. We plan to have a draft of our ideas to present to the committee and board members for review in the next couple months. If any members have relevant ideas / concepts (other than that mentioned) that they would like the Guidelines and Techniques Committee to consider in the future, please contact Chuck Howard cshowar1@tva.gov or Janet Clayton janetclayton@wvdnr.gov (see inside back cover for more contact information).

Announcements

MS Graduate Research Assistantship —

Assessment of the effects of emerging contaminants on reproductive biology of freshwater mussels. Warnell School of Forestry & Natural Resources, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia

RESPONSIBILITIES: The successful applicant will conduct a two-year research project to evaluate the effects of various emerging contaminants on the reproductive biology of native freshwater mussels. The project will involve laboratory exposures to evaluate individual and population level effects of contaminants. The student will use molecular techniques to monitor reproductive physiology (proteins, sex hormones, etc.), perform transformation studies on host fish, and culture transformed juvenile mussels for evaluation of relative fitness.

QUALIFICATIONS: The successful applicant should have interests in ecotoxicology, emerging contaminants, and freshwater mussel conservation, and be highly motivated, have strong organizational skills, and should be able to work independently in the lab. Minimum academic qualifications include a B.S. in fisheries, biology, environmental chemistry, or closely related field, 1100+ on the GRE's combined verbal and quantitative, and a 3.0 GPA (on a 4.0 system). Additional graduate program information: http://www.forestry.uga.edu/h/admissions/h/admissions/graduate/

Project Start Date: January, 2009.
Salary: $17,000 per year plus benefits and tuition waiver.
Closing Date: Until filled.
Contact: Send cover letter, resume, copies of transcripts, GRE scores, and the names, phone numbers, and email addresses of three references to:

Dr. Robert B. Bringolf
Warnell School of Forestry & Natural Resources
University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602
(706) 542-1477 or rbringolf@warnell.uga.edu

Illinois Mussel Watch

An Illinois Mussel Watch program has been started, It's based on the one currently being run by Marsha May in Texas. The program was initiated in May, 2008 at the workshop for the Mussels of the Chicago Wildnerness. It is a citizens based monitoring program where people search their local waterways for the presence of native freshwater mussels, take photos and send vouchers of empty shells. In addition they will record the presence of any invasive species as well as pick up any snails they see. Hopefully as the weather improves and the rivers drop that people will be able to being collecting data shortly.

For more information, please contact Dr Stephanie A. Clark at 773-477-4295 or sclark@naturemuseum.org

Publications

Araujo, R. 2008. On the validity of the name *Potomida littoralis* (Cuvier, 1798) (Bivalvia, Unionidae). Graellsia, 64: 135-137.

Gómez, I. & Araujo, R. 2008. Channels and ditches as the last shelter for freshwater mussels. The case of *M. auricularia* and other naiads at the mid Ebro River basin, Spain. *Aquatic Conservation: Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems*. DOI: 10.1002/aqc.860

Mackie, G.L. 2007. Biology of freshwater corbiculid and sphaeriid clams of North America. Ohio Biological Survey Bulletin (New Series) 15(3):ix + 436 pp.

We've recently published several papers and a book that might interest you:

Strayer, D.L., and H.M. Malcom. 2007. Effects of zebra mussels (*Dreissena polymorpha*) on native bivalves: the beginning of the end or the end of the beginning? Journal of the North American Benthological Society 26: 111-122.

Strayer, D.L., and H.M. Malcom. 2007. Shell decay rates of native and alien freshwater bivalves and implications for habitat engineering. Freshwater Biology 52: 1611-1617.

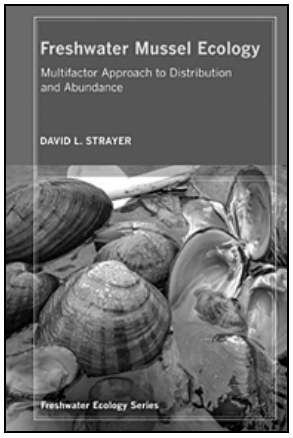
Strayer, D.L., M.L. Pace, N.F. Caraco, J.J. Cole, and S.E.G. Findlay. 2008. Hydrology and grazing jointly control a large-river food web. Ecology 89: 12-18.

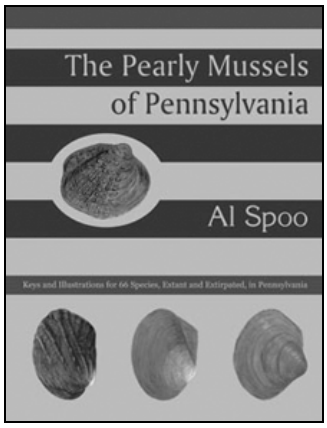
Newton, T.J., D.A. Woolnough, and D.L. Strayer. 2008. Using landscape ecology to understand freshwater mussel populations. Journal of the North American Benthological Society 27: 424-439.

Strayer, D.L. 2008. A new widespread morphological deformity in freshwater mussels from New York. Northeastern Naturalist 15: 149-151.

Strayer, D.L. 2008. Freshwater mussel ecology: a multifactor approach to distribution and abundance. University of California Press. 204 pp.
(this book is intended to be a critical review of the factors that might control the distribution and abundance of unionoid mussels, with some notes on conservation).

You can get copies of these publications (as well as older publications) by emailing me at strayerd@ecostudies.org or by downloading them from my web page (http://www.ecostudies.org/people_sci_strayer.html). The book is available from the University of California Press (http://www.ucpress.edu/books/pages/11082.php) or any of the big on-line booksellers.

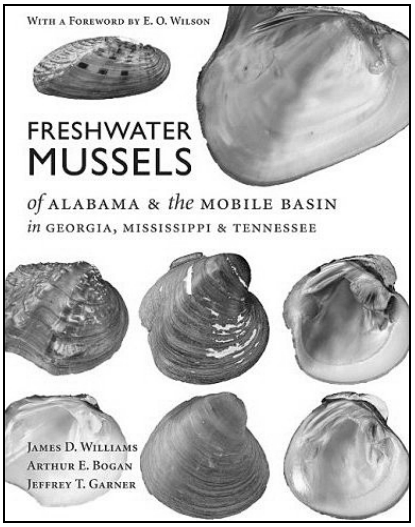




The Pearly Mussels of Pennsylvania
By Al Spoo

Pearly Mussels of Pennsylvania describes all sixty-six species of freshwater mussels known in the Keystone State, including both extant and extirpated species. Each species is illustrated in multiple views on full-color plates. Spoo has collected and compiled data from the scientific literature, museum and private collections, and personal observations. This is a valuable text for regional naturalists, wildlife enthusiasts, and shell hobbyists.

Mail inquires to Alfred J. Spoo 113 Church Rd. Lititz, PA 17543 or for information call (717) 626-2684.
212 pp., 79 colored plates, 533 illustrations / Paperback
Coachwhip Publications: $59.95 plus $5.00 shipping.
http://www.coachwhipbooks.com/titles/pearly-mussels-pennsylvania.html



Freshwater Mussels of Alabama and the Mobile Basin in Georgia, Mississippi and Tennessee
By James D. Williams, Arthur E. Bogan, Jeffrey T. Garner

A comprehensive accounting of the richest mussel fauna in the U.S.

Alabama rivers and waterways are home to the largest and most diverse population of freshwater mussel species in the nation, roughly 60% of U.S. mussel fauna. The Mobile River Basin, which drains portions of Tennessee, Georgia, and Mississippi waterways, also contains diverse mussel populations. However, many of these species have been significantly depleted in the last century due to habitat alteration, pollution, and invasive species, and many more are in imminent danger of extinction.

The authors offer encyclopedic entries on each of the 178 mussel species currently identified in Alabama and the Mobile River Basin--the scientific and common names; a morphological description as well as color photographs of the shell appearance; analysis of the soft anatomy; information about ecology, biology, and conservation status; and a color distribution map. With an extensive glossary of terms and full index, plus additional material on the archaeological record, a history of commercial uses of mussels, and the work of significant biologists studying these species, this volume is a long overdue and invaluable resource, not only for scholars of aquatic biology and zoology but also conservationists interested in the preservation of ecological diversity and protection of inland environments.

Available from the University of Alabama Press (http://www.uapress.ua.edu/) and other on-line booksellers.

Contributed Articles

The following articles were contributed by FMCS members and others in the malacological community. The contributions are incorporated into the newsletter with minimal editing and the opinions expressed therein are those of the authors.

The Slighter Creeper

Joan P. Jass
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Milwaukee WI 53233
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Jass (2002) analyzed morphometric variability within the unionid *Strophitus undulatus* based on specimens collected across Wisconsin by Harold Mathiak (1979) and deposited in the Milwaukee Public Museum (MPM) collection. That analysis showed zoogeographic differences in shell traits of this species among the three ecoregions of the state.

Using names now under synonymy, Baker (1928) had previously addressed intraspecific variation in this taxon, erecting three new varieties of the species formerly known as *Strophitus rugosus* as well as treating the subspecies *S. r. pavonius*, in his classic monograph. He identified the subspecies as having a smaller and thinner shell, a more delicate hinge, and, as its chief distinguishing characteristic, having the umbones situated nearer the anterior margin. He calculated percentages for anterior length/total shell length for both the species and subspecies and defined the species as those where this ratio was >35%. Baker (1928) said that the larger and thicker *S. rugosus* was a big river species, confined to the Mississippi and a few similar waterways in Wisconsin, while the subspecies was more widely distributed in the state.

Re-examined in light of this species/subspecies distinction, all specimens in the MPM dataset fell into the *S. r. pavonius* category. Percentages for anterior/total length ranged from 20.7% to 34.1%, with 58 of the 66 individuals having ratios less than 30.0%. Zoogeographically, these slighter creepers (=*Strophitus rugosus pavonius*) were distributed across the three ecoregions of the state. In a prior analysis of Wisconsin *Strophitus undulatus* (Jass 2002), shell measurement means from southernmost region specimens exceeded those from the other two. In the present study, none of the small minority (8/66, 12%) of creepers having the species/subspecies distinguishing ratio in the upper part of the subspecies range (30.1% - 34.1%) were from that southernmost ecoregion.

While Baker (1928) cited the big-river association for typical *Strophitus rugosus*, he also noted deviations from even that most characteristic trait, the anterior/total shell length ratio, in some specimens he assigned to the species rather than the subspecies. Though neither of the two approaches presented here for analysis of intraspecific variability addresses underlying biological causes of such morphometric variation, a zoogeographic perspective might prove more useful in terms of linking the biology of size clines to factors such as climate and past geological history.

Literature Cited

Baker, F.C. 1928. The fresh water Mollusca of Wisconsin. Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey, Madison. Bulletin 70(I):1-507, 70(II):1-495.

Jass, J. 2002. Wisconsin unionid zoogeography. Ellipsaria 4(3): 11-12.

Mathiak, H.A. 1979. A river survey of the unionid mussels of Wisconsin 1973-1977. Sand Shell Press, Horicon, Wisconsin. 75 pp.

http://www.mpm.edu/collections/pubs/invertebrates/mussels/MusselsbyMathiak.pdf

A Mussel Translocation at the McCollister Boulevard Bridge, Iowa River, Iowa City, Johnson County, Iowa, 9 - 14 September 2007

Marian E. Havlik
Malacological Consultants
La Crosse, WI 54601-4969
havlikme@aol.com

ABSTRACT

A freshwater mussel translocation was conducted at the site of the proposed McCollister Boulevard Bridge on the Iowa River, Iowa City, Johnson County, Iowa, 9-14 September 2007. Among the 446 mussels found alive (19 species), seven specimens were the exotic *Corbicula fluminea*. Forty-two *Tritogonia verrucosa* and three *Lampsilis teres anodontoides*, both Iowa endangered species, were found in the area to be impacted by bridge construction. The first state endangered *Ellipsaria lineolata* was found at this Iowa River site (at least since 1979, but probably not since 1925 or before). *Fusconaia flava* and *Obovaria olivaria* were represented by living specimens. No federally endangered *Lampsilis higginsii* or *Potamilus capax* were found. *Alasmidonta marginata* and *Lampsilis siliquoidea* were represented by empty shells only. Two species found during the 2006 mussel survey were not found in 2007: living *Quadrula metanevra* and dead *Actinonaias ligamentina*.

As construction mitigation, 356 mussels marked on one valve with either a numbered bee tag or a glue mark were translocated by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IADNR) to an upstream site in the Iowa River, downstream of the Coralville Lake Dam. The IADNR did not want to translocate the state endangered *Lampsilis teres anodontoides* to this site since this species had not done well when previously translocated in the Iowa River. After working with the two required markings, we felt that these markings might not be readable, or even be scoured off prior to IADNR follow-ups (scheduled to be done in 2008, after the summer Iowa River flooding). Therefore, listed mussels were also engraved (with a cordless Dremel) with the same

number on the opposite valve, while common mussels were engraved with a hash-mark on the valve opposite the glue mark. At the IADNR's request, we translocated all *Lampsilis teres anodontoides* a short distance upstream from the Bridge site, on an outside bend in the Iowa River, and about 90 mussels recovered September 13 and 14, 2007; all marked mussels were distributed from the surface. A total of 555 living mussels have been removed from this area of the Iowa River since 2006. Mussel populations have generally decreased throughout the interior of Iowa, but 23 species have been recorded from Johnson County, Iowa, since 2005. Based on the age and size classes seen, most of these species appear to have minimal to moderate reproduction at the site of the proposed McCollister Boulevard Bridge on the Iowa River.

Northern Riffleshells transplanted to Big Darby Creek, Ohio

G. Thomas Watters
Department of Evolution, Ecology and Organismal Biology, The Ohio State University, 1315 Kinnear Road, Columbus, OH 43212 USA; Watters.1@osu.edu

The Northern Riffleshell, *Epioblasma torulosa rangiana*, is a federally endangered mussel from the Ohio River and Great Lakes drainages. In Ohio it remains only in Big Darby Creek and perhaps the St. Joseph River system of Lake Erie. In an effort to augment the Darby population we received permission to move 1,700 individuals from the Allegheny River in Pennsylvania to Ohio. All mussels were tagged with Passive Integrated Transponders (PIT) and released in the Battelle-Darby Metro Park west of Columbus, the area of the last known occurrence of this species in the state. The region is known to support some of the best mussel beds in Ohio with abundant evidence of recruitment. The reach also supports a rich fish diversity, including darter species known to act as host for the Riffleshell. Riffleshell populations were established in two groups of 500, two of 200, two of 100, and two of 50 over five areas of the Park. This was done in an attempt to determine the minimum population size/density needed for the species to successfully spawn. We intend to monitor these populations for years to come. With luck the species will reestablish itself in the Darby system.

The augmentation was the result of the efforts of numerous agencies and NGO's, all of whom are to be congratulated for their work: US Fish & Wildlife Service (2 regions), Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission, ODNR Division of Wildlife, Columbus Zoo & Aquarium, Ohio State University, Battelle-Darby Metro Park, and Columbus Recreation & Parks. This was the single largest introduction of an endangered species in the history of the state.

Captive spawning and host determination of the federally endangered Tar River Spinymussel (*Elliptio steinstansana*)

Chris B. Eads[1], Rob Nichols[2], Chris J. Wood[2], and Jay F. Levine[1]
[1]Aquatic Epidemiology and Conservation Laboratory, Department of Population Health and Pathobiology, College of Veterinary Medicine, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC
[2]North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, Raleigh, NC

The Tar River Spinymussel (*Elliptio steinstansana*) is a very rare, federally endangered freshwater mussel endemic to North Carolina. It is historically known from five streams within the Tar River Basin (Fishing Creek, Little Fishing Creek, Shocco Creek, Swift Creek, and the mainstem Tar River) and one stream in the Neuse River Basin (Little River). Unfortunately, this species has become increasingly difficult to find within its range. From 1990 to the inception of our work, only one live individual was found in the mainstem Tar River. The rest of the mussels found during that time (19 individuals) have come from Swift Creek, Fishing Creek, and Little Fishing Creek.

In July 2007, North Carolina State University (NCSU) and the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC), with help from Sarah McRae of the NC Natural Heritage Program, began surveying sites where the species had been found previously. In 152 man hours spent surveying in 2007, we found a total of five *E. steinstansana* in Little Fishing Creek and brought them into captivity. They were held at the Table Rock Fish Hatchery in Morganton, NC where NCSU maintains a mussel growout

facility in cooperation with the NCWRC. In the spring of 2008, we found three of those individuals to be gravid. They were then transported to the Freshwater Mussel Propagation Laboratory at the NCSU College of Veterinary Medicine and held in 38-liter aquaria until they released glochidia. Upon release, glochidia from two adults were used to infect 16 species of fish that co-occur with *E. steinstansana*. The following species facilitated transformation to the juvenile stage and were considered hosts:

Bluehead chub (*Nocomis leptocephalus*)
Pinewoods shiner (*Lythrurus matutinus*)
Satinfin shiner (*Cyprinella analostana*)
White shiner (*Luxilus albeolus*)

During the spring of 2008, we also spent 75 man hours surveying within the known range and found an additional nine individuals in Fishing and Little Fishing Creeks. None of the individuals found in the wild were gravid despite the significant time we spent searching where the species was thought to be most abundant. Without holding these rare animals in captivity, we would not have been able to determine their host requirements and initiate propagation efforts. Our work on this species lends support to the idea of bringing extremely rare mussels – especially those that are short-term brooders – into captivity to facilitate spawning for propagation.

More Information concerning the Invasion of the Sea of Galilee, Israel, by the Tropical Freshwater Gastropod *Thiara scabra* (Gastropoda, Thiaridae)

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The tropical freshwater snail *Thiara scabra* (Müller 1774), Fam. Thiaridae, has been reported recently for the first time from two separated areas in Israel: Nahal Qibbuzim (a stream) and the Sea of Galilee (an inland lake) (Mienis, 2008). Information is building that this species has reached Israel by means of the aquarium-trade and that superfluous specimens were released in natural habitats.

The find of the Rough melania *Thiara scabra*, in the Sea of Galilee is of extreme concern since it is the major freshwater source for potable water in Israel. If *Thiara scabra* manage to up set the delicate biological balance in this lake then we are ready for a disastrous event. The more so because its water level has dropped this year to an unrecorded low level, which may have even a more negative influence on the quality of the lake's water.

In order to get a personal idea about the situation of this invasive snail in the Sea of Galilee we visited the lake on the 22nd of April 2008. It was a bad day to carry out field work with temperatures in the shadow of close to 40° Celsius, a lake swamped all around by thousands of bathers due to the Passover holydays, and a drive of more than 500 km. Nevertheless we managed to locate *Thiara scabra* at the two localities we were able to investigate.

At the most important of these two, the shore of Qibbuz Ma'agan, in the S.E.-corner of the lake, we almost fainted by the view: millions of Rough melania's were laying in the dried up pools on the shore. We collected all the snails laying on the surface of a square meter, leaving behind all the ones stuck in the sediment (see text-figure). At home they were sorted and counted. Over 6100 specimens of *Thiara scabra* were collected in this way. Other species present in the sample were in order of frequency *Melanoides tuberculata* (Müller 1774), *Bithynia phialensis* (Conrad 1852), *Melanopsis costata* (Olivier 1804), *Falsipyrgula barroisi* (Dautzenberg 1894), *Valvata saylcyi* Bourguignat 1853, *Theodoxus jordani* (Sowerby 1836), *Radix auricularia virginea* (Preston 1913) and *Bulinus truncatus* (Audouin 1826). The bivalves were represented by a few valves of *Unio terminalis* Bourguignat 1852 and a few pairs of *Corbicula fluminalis* (Müller 1774). All these species are local ones and were found in far less numbers than the invasive *Thiara scabra.* There was still another difference: most of the local species were represented by beach rolled material, i.e. they had died already some time ago, while all the Rough melania's were still in perfect condition, often with the operculum still in place, but with the animal dried out.

In our opinion we are rapidly moving towards a biological disaster: an invasive species conquering the Sea of Galilee.

Reference

Mienis, H.K., 2008. Additional localities of the freshwater snail *Tarebia granifera* from Israel with a note on the presence of another tropical invasive gastropod *Thiara scabra.* Ellipsaria, 10 (1): 12-13.

Additional Information Concerning the Conquest of Europe by the Invasive Chinese Pond Mussel *Sinanodonta woodiana*. 18. News from Austria, Greece, the Netherlands, Poland and Slovakia

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In the last few months I received several articles dealing with various aspects of the Chinese Pond mussel in Europe. The most important information is summarized here in order to keep freshwater biologists and malacologists in particular up to date with what is going on with this highly invasive species.

Austria

Sinanodonta woodiana was encountered in the stream Stempfelbach, a confluent of the river March in Lower Austria during fieldwork carried out in 2007 (Fischer & Reischütz, 2008). Fischer & Ofenböck (2008) enumerated the published data concerning the presence of this mussel in Vienna and Lower Austria and added seven new localities: five in the Danube and two in the March.

Greece

The Chinese Pond mussel was found alive in the river Axios near Kimina in July 2006 (Reischütz, Reischütz & Fischer, 2008) and in a western confluent of the river Evros, south of Feres in July 2007 (Reischütz, Reischütz & Reischütz, 2008). Until recently it had been reported only from Joannina in Epirus (Albrecht, Lohfink & Schultheiss, 2005).

The Netherlands

Although we are dealing here with a highly invasive species the Chinese Pond mussel is still for sale as biological water-filters in so-called garden centers in the Netherlands. Van Haren (2008) saw some in a garden center in Zaandam.

Poland

Kraszewski (2007) has reviewed the expansion of *Sinanodonta* in Poland, where it has been found so far in at least six different localities. He discussed briefly its spread elsewhere in Europe. Gabka, Dolata & Antonowicz (2007) published additional information about its presence in reservoirs used for growing fish in the valley of the river Barycz.

A study of heavy metal accumulation in two invasive bivalves living in the Konin lakes, *Sinanodonta woodiana* and *Dreissena polymorpha*, showed that higher concentrations were found in *Sinanodonta* and the highest concentration was measured in tissues of Chinese Pond mussels living in the initial cooling reservoir (Królak, Zdanowski & Kraszewski, 2007).

Slovakia

All the records, published and unpublished, of the Chinese Pond mussel in Slovakia have been enumerated by Šteffek (2007). Its occurrence in Slovakia is known since about 1995, but it seems to invade rapidly the larger streams and lakes in that Central European country. Because of its large size it is considered a serious competitor of the autochtonous mussel species.

From all these records it appears that this relatively large mussel species is still on the move in Europe. The transfer of all kinds of carp species from one country to another plays an important role in the conquest of Europe by this highly invasive species. Also the sale in garden centers of Chinese Pond mussels as biofilters in countries like the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany and probably elsewhere will ultimately lead to the establishment of this species in numerous additional natural habitats. Where are the people who can curb this event?

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Fischer, W. & Reischütz, A., 2008. Beiträge zur Kenntnis der österreichischen Molluskenfauna XI. Die Molluskenfauna der Umgebung von Markthof sowie des Stempfelbaches (Marchfeld, NÖ). Nachrichtenblatt der Ersten Vorarlberger Malakologischen Gesellschaft, 15: 51-55.

Gabka, M., Dolata, P.T. & Antonowicz, R., 2007. New localities of the Chinese clam *Sinanodonta woodiana* (Lea, 1834) (Bivalvia, Unionidae) in the Barycz River valley (Wielkopolska region). Folia Malacologica, 15 (2): 71-74.

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First registration of continental mollusks in the Extreme West region of Santa Catarina's State, SC, Southern Brazil

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Between November 2002 and June 2008 and through the opportune and active participation in field of the husbands colleagues Ieda Elisabeta Schaeffer Scheid and Mario Scheid, Brazilian natives of the area, 482 freshwater(*) and terrestrial(**) copies of mollusks were examined – 23 species in 12 genera and 8 families (5 GASTROPODA & 3 BIVALVIA), obtained from 15 samplings (2002 = 2; 2003 = 2; 2004 = 4; 2005 = 2; 2006 = 1; 2007 = 2; and 2008 = 2) in 7 sites in the extreme west region of Santa Catarina's State (Figure 1), mainly starting from the agricultural community of Ervalzinho, in the Municipal District of São João do Oeste, territory of the microbasin of Arroio Dourado (Gold stream), a geographical section of the State less studied in regards to mollusks up to now (Agudo 2005a; Agudo-Padrón 2008), domain of the great Uruguay River Basin - to the South - and emblem with the county of Misiones in Argentina´s country, through the basin of the Peperi-guaçú River (Gregoric et al 2006: 52; Rumi et al 2008: 87) flowing of the Uruguay - to the West.

(*) 390 BIVALVIA specimens - 236 native Unionoida, 154 exotic Veneroida; 13 GASTROPODA Prosobranchia, native.
(**) 79 GASTROPODA specimens: 7 Slugs - 1 exotic, 6 natives; 72 Pulmonate Snails, natives.

Among the researched places are the regional cities of São João do Oeste and São Miguel do Oeste, the agricultural communities of Paraíso and Ervalzinho, the basins of the Peperi-guaçú and Macaco Branco (White Monkey) rivers and the Arroio Dourado (Gold Stream), besides the regional section of the great Uruguay river basin (Agudo-Padrón 2008: 9, 12-13, 19, 21-23, 30-32, 35).

The systematic determination of the species here related is based mainly in the Brazilian contributions of Simone (2006) and Thomé et al (2006). The totality of the related specimens deposited in the malacological collections of the Museu Zoobotânico Augusto Rushi (Zoobotanical Museum Augusto Rushi) - MUZAR, Passo Fundo University, Rio Grande do Sul State - RS, and the Department of Ecology and Zoology, Center of Biological Science, Santa Catarina´s Federal University (Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina) - ECZ/CCB/UFSC, Florianópolis.

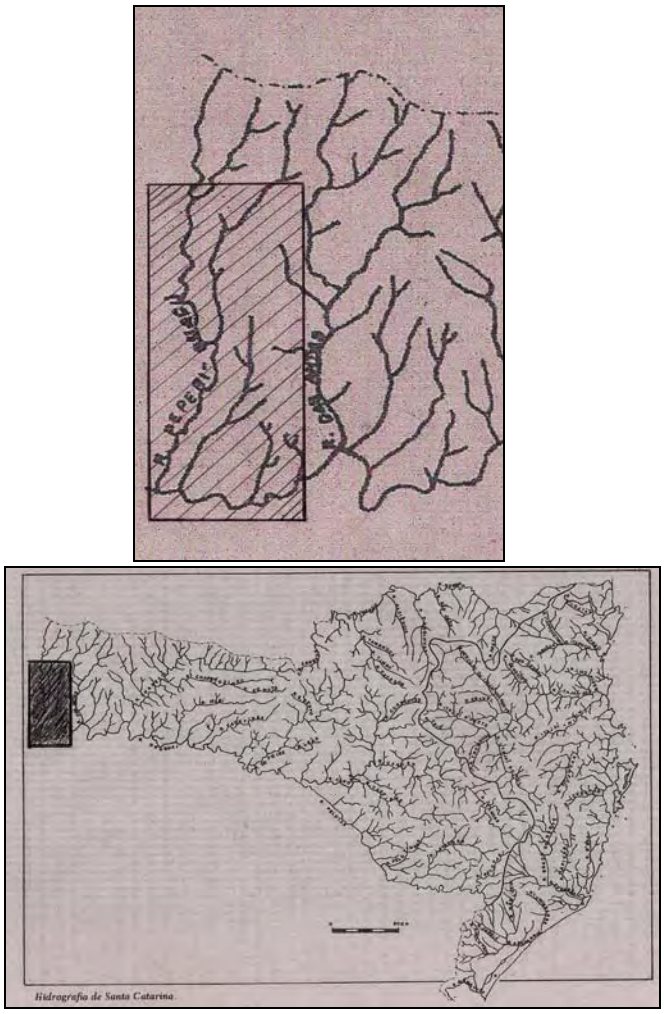

Figure 1. Area researched in the Extreme West Region of the Santa Catarina State (top), domain of the great Uruguay river basin - to the South - and emblem with Argentina´s country through the basin of the Peperi-guaçú River - to the West.

Systematic Species List :

Class GASTROPODA
- Subclass Prosobranchia
  - Family AMPULLARIIDAE (1)
    - *Asolene* (*Pomella*) *megastoma* (Sowerby, 1825)
- Subclass Gymnophila
  - Family VERONICELLIDAE (3)
    - *Phyllocaulis soleiformis* (d'Orbigny, 1835)(*)
    - *Phyllocaulis tuberculosus* (Martens, 1868)
    - *Sarasinula linguaeformis* (Semper, 1885)(*)
- Subclass Pulmonata
  - Family LIMACIDAE (1)
    - *Limax maximus* (Linnaeus, 1758)(*)
  - Family BULIMULIDAE (1)
    - *Drymaeus henselii* (Martens, 1868)
  - Family MEGALOBULIMIDAE (3)
    - *Megalobulimus gummatus* (Hidalgo, 1870)
    - *Megalobulimus haemastomus* (Scopolis, 1786)
    - *Megalobulimus oblongus* Müller, 1775

(*) Intermediate host of the parasitic human disease "Angiostrongilíase abdominal" (Agudo 2006: 12)

ADDITIONAL GASTROPOD MATERIAL

Seventeen other not identified specimens of "microshells", from "São João do Oeste (Ervalzinho)" in January 2005, obtained in earth of agricultural fields contained inside shells of native species *Megalobulimus oblongus* Müller, 1775, were deposited in the malacological collection of MUZAR, Paso Fundo University – RS, where they await specific determination. Previously determined and referred under the "doubtful identity" *Haplotrema catalinense* Hemphill, 1890 (Agudo 2005b: 8, 2007:12, 2008:35).

Class BIVALVIA
- Order Unionoida
  - Family MYCETOPODIDAE (7)
    - *Mycetopoda legumen* (Martens, 1888)
    - *Anodontites tenebricosus* (Lea, 1834)
    - *Anodontites ferrarisi* (d'Orbigny, 1835)
    - *Anodontites patagonicus* (Lamarck, 1819)(*)
    - (*)From Agudo (2005a:9) under the synonymy *Anodontites iheringi* (Clessin, 1882)
    - *Anodontites obtusus* (Spix, 1927)(*)
    - (*)From Agudo (2005 a: 9) under the synonymy *Anodontites lucidus* (d'Orbigny, 1835)
    - *Anodontites trapesialis* (Lamarck, 1819)
    - *Monocondylaea minuana* d'Orbigny, 1835
  - Family HYRIIDAE (5)
    - *Rhipidodonta charruana* (d'Orbigny, 1835)(*)
    - (*)From Agudo (2005a:9) under the synonymies *Diplodon aethiops* (Lea, 1860) & *D. martensi* (Ihering, 1891)
    - *Diplodon delodontus* (Lamarck, 1819)(*)
    - (*)Mentioned in Agudo (2005 a: 9) under the synonymy *Diplodon pilsbryi* Marshall, 1928
    - *Diplodon rhuacoicus* (d'Orbigny, 1835)
- Order Veneroida
  - Family CORBICULIDAE (2)
    - *Corbicula fluminea* (Müller, 1774)
    - *Corbicula largillierti* (Philippi, 1844)

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Malacological news from Paraná State, Southern Brazil region: additional registrations.

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In parallel syntony with the work developed in Santa Catarina's State (Agudo & Bleicker 2006; Agudo 2007a) (*), since the year of 2001 we conducted another inventory of terrestrial and freshwater mollusks in the neighboring territory of the State of Paraná - PR (Agudo 2008 a, b), with a total confirmed (included the elements of the present report) 130 species e subspecies (77 terrestrial and 53 freshwater), systematically included in 2 classes, 35 families and 63 genera.

(*) Today with a reasonable total of 766 confirmed species and subspecies (608 marine, 55 freshwater and 103 terrestrial), included in 5 classes, 173 families and 390 genera.

The classification of the continental species of Gastropoda and Bivalvia like this recognized for these two States of the southern Brazil region is based on the contributions of Bouchet & Rocroi (2005), Poppe & Tagaro (2006), Simone (2006) and Thomé et al (2006, 2007).

The new species for the State inventory and some other new geographical registrations, referred in the regional specialized literature (Pereira 1997; Belz & Netto 2008; Belz et al 2008; CdB 2008; Gregoric et al 2006, 2007; Netto et al 2008; Rumi et al 2008; Takeda & Rosin 2008), including researches in laboratory conditions (Cristo & Fischer 2008, Latoski & Fischer 2008) (*), organization of malacological quantity in a regional Museum of Natural History, principally the historical "Frederico Lange de Morretes" mollusks collection in contained it (Negrello Filho et al 1997), and archaeological studies (Gernet 2008) (**):

(*)For the terrestrial snail *Megalobulimus paranaguensis* (Pilsbry & Ihering, 1900), endemic species of the State.

(**)For shell fragments of terrestrial snails *Megalobulimus* sp, collected in archaeological stations (Sambaquis) in the coast area of the State.

I. IGUAZÚ WATERFALLS NATIONAL PARK REGION

Located in the westernmost extreme of Paraná (lowlands of the Third Plateau), in the Iguazú River Basin of the binacional "Brazil / Argentina" region (Agudo 2007b: 11; Agudo 2008a), available recent literature informs concerning six new freshwater mollusks report for the locality in the Argentinean section of the Park and the famous Waterfalls (Gregoric et al 2006: Table 3, 2007:52-55, 58-Table 2, Table 3; Rumi 2007: 110; Rumi et al 2008: 79, 81-86), five of the same ones could also be considered, for geographical reasons, as new registrations for the territory of the State in the Brazilian section of the Park, elevating to 130 the number of species previously known (Agudo 2008a:10).

Systematic Species List :

Class GASTROPODA
Subclass Prosobranchia
Family HIDROBIIDAE (= LITHOGLYPHIDAE ?)
- *Potamolithus peristomatus* (d'Orbigny, 1835) (*)(**)
(*)not specifically referred in the revision of Simone (2006)
Family THIARIDAE
- *Melanoides tuberculatus* (Müller, 1774) (*)
(*)New species registration to the place of the Park (Gregoric et al 2007)
Class BIVALVIA
Order UNIONOIDA
Family HYRIIDAE
- *Diplodon parallelopipedon* (Lea, 1834) (**)
Order VENEROIDA
Family SPHAERIDAE
- *Eupera elliptica* Ituarte & Dreher-Mansur, 1993 (**)
- *Eupera iguazuensis* Ituarte, 1989 (**)
- *Pisidium dorbignyi* (Clessin, 1879) (*) (**)
(*)Simone (2006; 301) as a synonym of *Pisidium pulchellum* (d'Orbigny, 1835)
(**) New for the Paraná State territory

II. GEOGRAPHICAL ADDITIONAL REGISTRATIONS

Systematic Species List

Class GASTROPODA
Subclass Prosobranchia
Family AMPULLARIIDAE
- *Pomella americanista* (Ihering, 1919) (*)
(*) Freshwater species, previously reported in Agudo (2006: 9). Referred for the "Iguazú Waterfalls National Park", Southeastern Brazil - Paraná River System, in Ghesquiere (2005).
Family CYCLOPHORIDAE (= POTIERIIDAE ?)
- *Neocyclotus prominulus* (d'Orbigny, 1840) (*)
(*) Terrestrial species, previously reported in Agudo (2006: 9). Referred for the State in CdB (2008).
Subclass Pulmonata
Family SUCCINEIDAE
- *Omalonix matheroni* (Potiez & Michaud, 1835) (*)
(*)First register of this amphibian slug for the State, based on specimen preserved in liquid (Museum of Zoology of the University of São Paulo - MZUSP no. 18440, collected 17/08/1967 by "Biagi & Jay") coming from the Rio Inferninho, Paranaguá, Paraná State, determined for the searching malacologist - specialist in SUCCINEIDAE gastropods - Janine Arruda (Malacology Laboratory, Museum of Science and Technology - MCT, PUCRS, Porto Alegre - RS), on 09/06/2008
Family ACHATINIDAE
- *Lissachatina* (= *Achatina*) *fulica* (*)
(*) Previously reported in Agudo (2006:9). Referred for the State in CdB (2008). New taxonomic specific status based in Fontanilla et al (2006).
Family MEGALOBULIMIDAE
- *Megalobulimus gummatus* (Hidalgo, 1870) (*)
(*) Previously reported in Agudo (2006: 10). Referred for the State in CdB (2008).
Family STROPHOCHEILIDAE
- *Mirinaba* (=*Strophocheilus*) *curytibana* Morretes, 1952 (*)
(*) Previously reported in Agudo (2006: 10). Referred for the State in IBGE (2007).
Family BRADYBAENIDAE
- *Bradybaena similaris* (*)
(*) Previously reported in Agudo (2006:10). Referred for the State in CdB (2008).
Class BIVALVIA
Order VENEROIDA
Family CORBICULIDAE
- *Corbicula fluminea* (Müller, 1774) (*)
(*)Registrations for the Iguaçu River Basin, including the areas to amount and below the waterfalls in the National Park (Netto et al 2008), as well as in the geographical alluvial plain of High Paraná River, Third Plateau (Takeda et al 2002). First known register of this exotic species for the High Paraná River Basin (Tibagi river), in the Third Plateau, by Pereira (1997).
Order MYTILOIDA
Family MYTILIDAE
-*Limnoperna fortunei* (Dunker, 1857) (*)
(*)Registrations for the Paraná (Belz & Netto 2008) and Iguaçu River Basin - in this last one to amount of the waterfalls and in the fork with the Paraná River (Belz et al 2008, Netto et al 2008), as well as in the geographical alluvial plain of High Paraná River, Third Plateau (Takeda & Rosin 2008).

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FMCS 2007 Freshwater Mollusk Bibliography

Compiled by Kevin S. Cummings
Illinois Natural History Survey, Champaign, Illinois

This bibliography lists freshwater mollusk papers that have been published up to and including 2007 and that have not appeared in previous FMCS bibliographies.

Citations are split into five groups: Unionoida, Sphaeriidae, Corbiculidae, Dreissenidae & Other Bivalves, and Gastropoda. Papers that list taxa from more than one category are included in each group. A searchable database of over 17,000 references on freshwater mollusks is available at: http://ellipse.inhs.uiuc.edu:591/mollusk/

To insure that papers are cited correctly, researchers are encouraged to send pdf's or reprints to: Kevin S. Cummings, Illinois Natural History Survey, 1816 S. Oak Street, Champaign, Illinois 61820 or ksc@inhs.uiuc.edu

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Reminders

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Helpful Hints from Hoppy:

Hoppy Says — Fight obesity...eat Asian clams and lutefisk!

Submitted by Steve Ahlstedt

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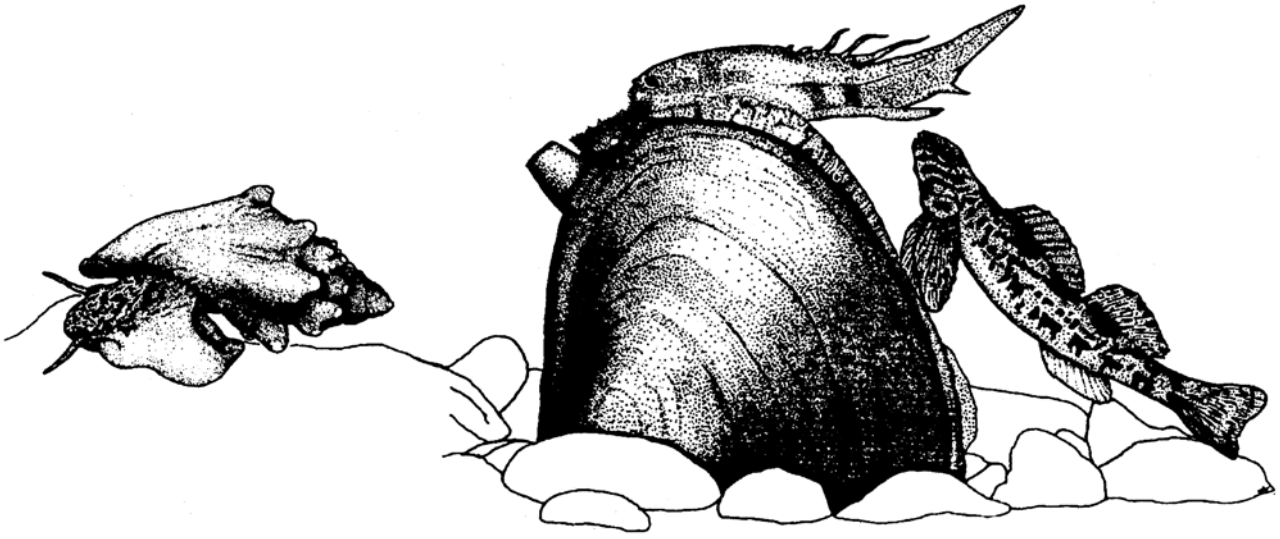

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