

New Fossil Species of the Genus *Nesiohelix* from Tarama Island, Ryukyu Islands

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沖縄多良間島産アツマイマイ属の新化石種

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(要 旨)

宮古島と石垣島の間にある多良間島塩川産のアツマイマイ属の新化石種 *Nesiohelix oshiroi* (和名タラマイマイ) を記載した。この属は中国中南部、台湾、尖閣列島、口永良部島、大東島、済州島、朝鮮半島南部に分布するが、この化石種は口永良部島産の *N. irrediviva* (PILSBRY & HIRASE), 特に化石個体に最も近似し、古生物地理学的に両島の間に関係があったことを示すものである。

Introduction

On 17th of July, 1980, Mr. Itsuro OSHIRO of Okinawa Prefectural Museum collected two specimens of fossil land snail belonging to the genus *Nesiohelix* of the family Bradybaenidae from Tarama Island between Miyako Island and Ishigaki Island, the southern Ryukyu Islands.

The species of the genus *Nesiohelix* widely distribute in the central and south China (*N. cecillei* (PHILIPPI, 1849), *N. moreletiana* (HUDE, 1882) and *N. caspari* (MOELLENDORFF, 1884)), Formosa (*N. swinhoei* (PFEIFFER, 1865) and *N. kanoi* (KURODA, 1932)), Senkaku Islands (*N. solida* KURODA & EMURA, 1943), Okinoerabu Island in Amami Islands (*N. irrediviva* (PILSBRY & HIRASE, 1904)), Daito Islands, 370 km far east from Okinawa Main Island (*N. omphalina* (HIRASE, 1915)) and Cheju Island and the southern Korea (*N. samarangae* (KURODA & MIYANAGA, 1943)). Among them, the Pleistocene fossil specimens of *N. irrediviva* (PILSBRY & HIRASE) is closely related to this Pleistocene fossil species from Tarama Island in general features suggesting the land connection between these two islands paleobiogeographically. But this new fossil species differs from that species in having the more depressed shell with two narrower brown bands above and below the periphery.

Therefore this is named in honor of Mr. Itsuro OSHIRO who brought this interesting fossil species for our disposal.

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Nesiohelix oshiroi sp. nov.

(Pl. 6, Figs. 1 a, b, c)

Shell medium in size for the genus, helicoid in shape, depressed, light yellowish white with two brown narrow bands above and below the slightly angular periphery and a narrow brown band surrounding just below the upper suture. Spire very low and with 5 whorls gradually increasing to the aperture and slightly descending near the aperture. Whorls somewhat convex and with densely set growth lines. Suture distinctly marked and somewhat constricted. Body whorl rather depressed and slightly angular at the periphery diminishing to the aperture. Umbilicus rather small and perforated narrowly and deeply. Aperture wider than high. Outer margin strongly rounded at the periphery, thickened and expanded at the edge. Basal margin also thickened, curved and reflexed and slightly expanded over the umbilicus. Parietal callus thin.

Height 20.7 mm, large diameter 34.2 mm and small diameter 30.2 mm (figured type specimen housed in the National Science Museum, NSMT-Mo 58454)

Height 18.8 mm, large diameter 32.1 mm and small diameter 28.0 mm (paratype specimen housed in the Mizunami Fossil Museum, Reg. No. 110003)

Type locality: Shiokawa, Tarama Island between Miyako Island and Ishigaki Island, the southern Ryukyu Islands

Geological age: Pleistocene

Associated forms: *Aegista omma* (PILSBRY and HIRASE, 1904), *Aegista (Plectotropis) osbeckii* (PHILIPPI, 1847) and *Platyrhaphe nudus* (PILSBRY and HIRASE, 1904)

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Plate 6

Nesiohelix oshiroi HABE & CHINEN, sp. nov. $\times$ ca 1.4

Fig. 1a. Frontal view of the holotype specimen.

Fig. 1b. Apical view of the same.

Fig. 1c. Basal view of the same.



1a



1b



1c