

A New Species of *Fenimorea* (Gastropoda: Drilliidae), from the Eastern Gulf of Mexico

Emilio F. García
115 Oak Crest Dr.
Lafayette, Louisiana 70503, USA
Emilio.Garcia1@louisiana.edu

ABSTRACT A new species of Drilliidae, *Fenimorea falloni*, is named from relatively deep water, inhabiting the easternmost half of the Gulf of Mexico and is compared with similar congeners from the Gulf of Mexico. This new *Fenimorea* is a large, entirely white with strong shouldered whorls and beaded spiral threads, which differentiates it from other taxa.

KEYWORDS West Florida, Yucatan, Drilliidae, *Fenimorea falloni*, *F. sunderlandi*

INTRODUCTION

Some of the more dramatic molluscan species from the Gulf of Mexico (hereinafter “GOM”) were discovered during the late 1960’s and early 1970’s, when American fishermen were allowed to trawl and dredge in the northern Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico (García, 1989). One of those fishermen was Thomas McGinn, a south Louisiana fisherman who, together with his wife Barbara McGinn, enjoyed collecting shells caught in his nets and dredges. “*Scaphella mcginnorum*” (this note, now known as *Aurinia (Garciaivoluta) mcginnorum*) was named in their honor, and two of the three specimens used to describe this new species came from Mr. McGinn’s fishing campaigns off the northern coast of Yucatan.

The genus *Fenimorea* has been described in great detail by Gallon (2016: 144, 146), and the species described herein comports with all the characteristics of the genus. *Fenimorea* is well represented in the western Atlantic, with more than 25 species having been assigned to the genus, many of them rather recently (Gallon 2016). Of these, 11 have been reported from the GOM.

SYSTEMATICS

Class	Gastropoda Cuvier, 1795
Subclass	Caenogastropoda Cox, 1960
Order	Neogastropoda Wenz, 1938
Superfamily	Conoidea Flemming, 1822
Family	Drilliidae Olsson, 1964
Genus	<i>Fenimorea</i> Bartsch, 1934
Type species:	<i>Fenimorea janetae</i> Bartsch, 1934, by original designation.

Fenimorea falloni Garcia, new species
(Figures 1-3)

Description. Shell large for the genus, up to 53.6 mm in length, fusiform (average width/length ratio 0.31); last whorl 50% or less of shell length, anteriorly truncated. Protoconch eroded. Teleoconch of 11 whorls; early whorls convex, progressively shouldered, becoming constricted at suture on later whorls; suture appressed. Axial sculpture of seven or eight rounded ribs on early whorls; ribs increasing to fourteen on last whorl, the tenth, situated about the last fourth of the whorl, becoming strongly varicoid (Figure 1c); ribs as wide as interspaces, almost evanescent at subsutural sulcus; numerous, weak axial threads covering surface

of whorls. Spiral sculpture of numerous narrow, strong threads; threads becoming beaded when crossed by axial elements of lesser strength (Figure 1d); the latter taking the shape of the anal sinus at subsutural sulcus. Aperture rather wide for the genus, approximately 50% of shell width; outer lip thin, with shallow stromboid notch; anal sinus deep, U-shaped, with weak parietal callous; columellar callous smooth, slightly raised; anterior canal short, wide. Shell color is white.

Type material. Holotype (Figure 1 a-b) ANSP 494641, 52 mm, dredged at type locality; paratype 1 (Figure 2) EFG 32849, 53.5 mm, dredged at type locality; paratype 2 (Figure 3), 51.0 mm, west of Tampa, Florida, 183 m, P. Gallon collection.

Type locality. Off Cabo Catoche, northern Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico, in 100 m.

Distribution. Eastern Gulf of Mexico: off Tampa, Florida, USA; and off northern Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico.

Etymology. Named for Mr. Phillip (Phil) J. Gallon Jr., of Farmingdale, New York, for his years of dedication to the study of Drillidae.

Diagnosis. Shell large for the genus, reaching 53.6 mm in length, entirely white; whorls with strong shoulder and beaded spiral threads.

Discussion. The following species of *Fenimorea*, and their maximum reported sizes (Gallon 2016), have been recorded from the Gulf of Mexico:

Fenimorea abscondita Gallon, 2016 - 35.8 mm
Fenimorea contracta Gallon, 2016 - 15.3 mm
Fenimorea crocea Gallon, 2016 - 15.6 mm
Fenimorea elongata Gallon, 2016 - 25 mm
Fenimorea fucata (Reeve, 1845) - 26.1 mm
Fenimorea kathyae Tippett, 1995 - 36.2 mm
Fenimorea moseri (Dall, 1889) - 31.7 mm
Fenimorea pagodula (Dall, 1889) - 22.3 mm
Fenimorea sunderlandi (Petuch, 1987) - 53.2 mm

Fenimorea tessellata Gallon, 2016 - 39.4 mm
Fenimorea tippetti Gallon, 2016 - 21.2 mm

The new species can be readily differentiated from most of the above species by its large size, strong microsculpture, and white coloration. Although *Fenimorea moseri* has a white morph, it is smaller, has sharper axial costae, and a more slender outline. The new species compares most closely to *Fenimorea sunderlandi* (Petuch, 1987) (see Gallon (2016: pl. 97, fig. 1).

Fenimorea falloni can only be confused with *F. sunderlandi* (Figures 4-7), which attains almost the same size as the new species. However, *F. sunderlandi* has reddish spiral bands interrupted by white axial ribs; has weaker microsculpture and a weaker varicoid rib; has whorls with a more rounded shoulder and sharper axial ribs; and the axial ribs are stronger than the new species at sutural sulcus. The last whorl of *F. sunderlandi* averages approximately 54% of the shell length (Gallon 2016:201); that of the new species averages less than 50%.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am grateful to Phil Gallon for allowing me to use two of his images: that of paratype 2 of *Fenimorea falloni* (Figure 3), and that of the holotype of *Fenimorea sunderlandi* (Figure 4).

LITERATURE CITED

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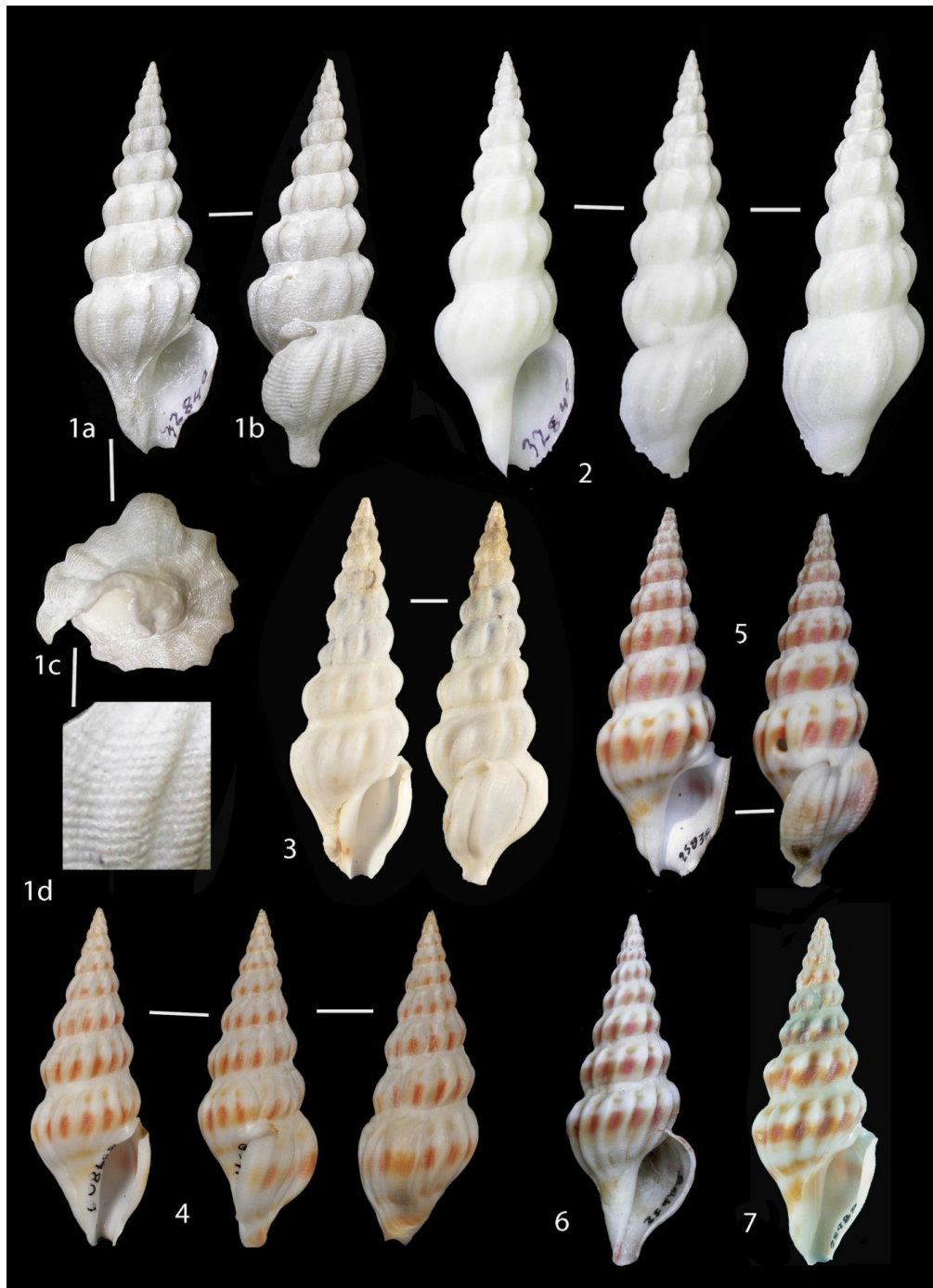


Plate 1. *Fenimorea falloni* and its congeners. Figures 1-3: *Fenimorea falloni* n. sp. **1**= Holotype, ANSP 494641, off Cabo Catoche, northern Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico, 100 m, 52.0 mm. **2**= Paratype 1, same locality, EFG 32849, 53.6 mm. **3**= Paratype 2, west of Tampa, Florida, 183 m, 51.0 mm, P. Fallon collection. Figures 4-7: *Fenimorea sunderlandi* (Petuch, 1987). **4**= Holotype, USNM 859800, 50 km S. of Apalachicola, Franklin Co., Florida, 39.8 mm. **5**= Off Louisiana, 27°58.34'N, 92°22.42'W, in 68-86 m, 48.2 mm, EFG 25825. **6, 7**= Campeche Bank, Mexico, 22°16.57'N, 91°23.06'W, in 114-102 m, 53.2 mm & 51.3 mm, EFG 25988.