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Description of four new *Nataliamarginella* and one *Punctamarginella* species (Marginellidae: *Marginella*), from the Eastern Cape, South Africa

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ABSTRACT Five new species in the genus *Marginella* from the Eastern Cape, South Africa are described. Four species in the subgenus *Nataliamarginella* S.G. Veldsman, 2017: *M. (N.) mbasheensis* n. sp., *M. (N.) mlambomkuluensis* n. sp., *M. (N.) mtataensis* n. sp., and *M. (N.) muratovi* n. sp.; and one species in the subgenus *Punctamarginella* S.G.Veldsman, 2017 *M. (P.) transovula* n. sp. The new species are compared to their closest congeners within their respective subgenus with regards to their shell morphological features and locality. The species described here are all found deep water (50-550 m) along the central-northern Eastern Cape, between the Great Kei River (50 km north of East London) and Mbotyi (25 km north of Port St. Johns), South Africa, a portion of the region previously known as Transkei. Most of the closest congeners regarding shell morphology are found in KwaZulu-Natal at least 70 km north-east and further, with a region previously named Pondoland separating them. Very few *Marginella* species are adapted to live in the specific habitat of the Pondoland region.

KEYWORDS *Marginella*, *Nataliamarginella, Punctamarginella,* Marginellidae*,* Eastern Cape, South Africa

INTRODUCTION

Several research programs were conducted by the Natal Museum, Pietermaritzburg, during the 1980s. Most of these were commanded by the R.V. Meiring Naudé research vessel, dredging the sea-bed, collecting and cataloging everything found. Many shells were collected during these dredging's at depths ranging from 60 to 550 m. Numerous of these are yet to be described, such as the five species discussed here.

Four of the species described here belong to the Marginellid subgenus *Nataliamarginella* S.G. Veldsman, 2017, characterized by small to moderately large species (8-40 mm), obconic to slightly elongated with fairly rounded shoulders. The spire is usually high, slightly stepped to very stepped. The aperture is narrow to moderately wide, callus present on the columella and has no posterior notch or labial denticles. The four new *Nataliamarginella* species are: *M. (N.) mbasheensis* n. sp., *M. (N.) mlambomkuluensis* n. sp., *M. (N.) mtataensis* n. sp., and *M. (N.) muratovi* n. sp. Each of them will be compared to their closest related congener under each species description.

The fifth species described here belong to the subgenus *Punctamarginella* S.G. Veldsman, 2017, characterized by small (6-13 mm), conical shaped species with a low spire. Shells have a thick labrum, strongly developed posterior notch and labial denticles. The aperture is moderately wide to narrow with callus on the columella. The new *Punctamarginella* species is: *M. (P.) transovula,* and compared to several closely related species.

The species within both these two subgenera were mainly known from KwaZulu-Natal with few species occurring in Mozambique (Veldsman 2017, 2019). More recently Aiken (2019) described a new species from the northern parts of the Eastern Cape, *Marginella xoraensis* Aiken, 2019 that are designated here to belong to the subgenus *Nataliamarginella*. The five species described here are all found in deep water (50-550 m) along the central-northern Eastern Cape, between the Great Kei River (50 km north of East London) and Mbotyi (25 km north of Port St. Johns), South Africa (Figure 1), a portion of the region previously known as Transkei. The larger river systems inland along this piece of coast have large catchment areas flowing over Karoo sedimentary rocks, and subsequently depositing high volumes of sediments into the ocean (Veldsman 2019). Although it has a relatively narrow coastline, the large amounts of sediment form sufficient sandy strata for the habitat of the *Marginella* species (Veldsman 2019). A large biodiversity of *Marginella* species occurs in this area.

Further north of Mbotyi up to the Mzamba River, just south of Port Edward the region previously known as Pondoland is situated. The coast along Pondoland is associated with hard rock and high cliffs. The continental slope is extremely steep with gradients up to 12° reflecting structural geological control of this area since the break-up of the western Gondwana landmass some 25 to 30 million years before the present (Scrutton & Du Plessis 1973; Dingle & Scrutton 1974). Flemming (1978) reports that the seabed consists of a smooth, continuous sand sheet that is occasionally interrupted by rocky outcrops. The continental shelf along this stretch of coast is further characterised by many submarine canyons (Green *et al*. 2009), providing natural marine ecosystem breaks. Hence, no sand dune systems can form along this stretch of coastline, and there are very few areas that have suitable habitat for *Marginella* species. Only a few *Marginella* species are adapted to inhabit these smaller sand pockets between the rocks. North of Mzamba River, in southern KwaZulu-Natal the habitat is much more suitable for *Marginella* species (Veldsman 2019), and is well known for the high biodiversity of species occurring there.

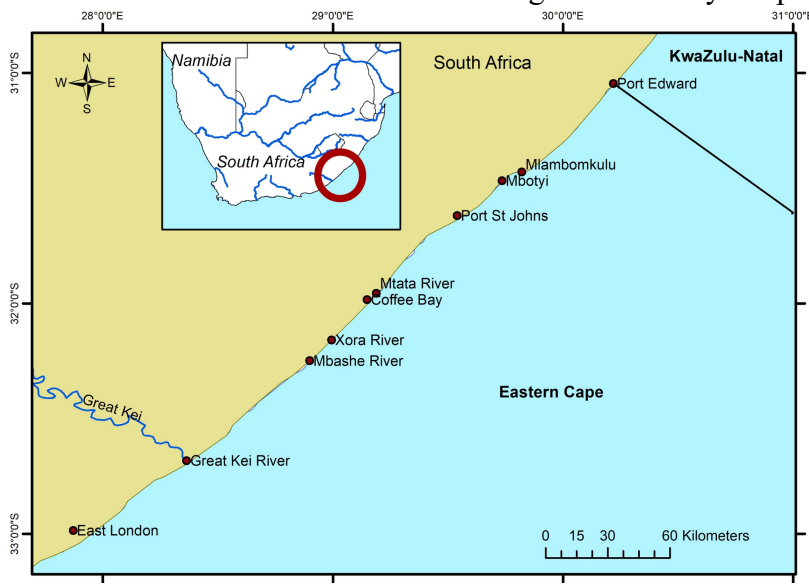

Figure 1. Locality map indicating the region where the five new species occur, Eastern Cape, South Africa.

METHODS

Marginella species have a very narrow habitat-specific distributional range along the South African coast, and are found in very shallow waters up to depths of about 600 meters. Therefore, they are found mainly in areas with a sandy substrate, mud-flats, or sandbanks, large enough to sustain a population. Thus, the locality, together with shell morphological characteristics are useful in the grouping and describing species (Veldsman 2019).

Many taxonomic characters define *Marginella* species, where species within the same subgenus share several of these, such as the type of labial denticles, posterior notch and callus on columella. Other shell morphological features are used here to differentiate species from each other, but not limited to, such as the shoulder shape and width, general shape of the shell, spire height and characteristics, aperture shape and width, shape of the labrum, markings, coloration and striae on body whorl. Further to the shell morphological features, location is very important as noted before, *Marginella* species are very localized and sometimes biogeographically separated from each other.

Shells larger than 16 mm were measured with a pair of digital calipers (RS Pro Electronic Digital Caliper 150mm/6", South Africa). To ensure precision, each measurement was taken in triplicate. Shells smaller than 16 mm were photographed using an Olympus SZ61 microscope (SC100 Olympus camera, Münster, Germany) and digitally measured (Stream Imaging Software, Olympus). All the type material of the new species were photographed by the author at the Natal Museum.

SYSTEMATICS

Phylum Mollusca Linnaeus,1758
Class Gastropoda Cuvier, 1795
Subclass Caenogastropoda Cox, 1960
Order Neogastropoda Wenz, 1938
Superfamily Volutoidea Rafinesque, 1815
Family Marginellidae Fleming, 1828
Genus *Marginella* Lamarck, 1799
Subgenus *Nataliamarginella* Veldsman, 2017
Subgenus *Punctamarginella* Veldsman, 2017

Marginella (Nataliamarginella) mbasheensis
S.G. Veldsman, n. sp.
(Figures 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.5, 2.6 & 2.7)

Description. The shell is small (10-12 mm), elongated ovate-biconical shaped, has a low angled rounded shoulder. Has a thick labrum, smooth and off-white colored, with no posterior notch or labial denticles. Callus is highly developed on the columella. Spire low and broad, spire whorls convex and slightly stepped. Wide protoconch, off-white to light grey color. Columella rather straight with four thick continuous plications, which take up half the length of the aperture, off-white color. Aperture narrow and straight, off-white color. Background color of dorsum of the body whorl off-white to light creamy colored. Body whorl has vague, very thin, light colored creamy to light grey lines around the body whorl, occurring from the shoulder to the lower third, followed by a broad clear off-white band, then by a thin darker brown to grey colored band, followed again by vague, very thin, light colored creamy to light grey lines towards the base (anterior side) of the shell. No lines or markings visible on shoulder, spire whorls or the labrum.

Distribution. Type locality of *M. (N.) mbasheensis* n. sp. is dredged 295-350m off Mbashe River, approx. 36 km south-west of

Coffee Bay, Eastern Cape, South Africa. All specimens studied occur between the Great Kei River and Coffee Bay in deep water ranging from 240-370m depth.

Type material. The type material of the holotype and paratypes of *M. (N.) mbasheensis* are as follows:

Holotype: 10.95 x 5.97 mm (Figure 2.1); off Mbashe River (32°23.6'S & 28°59.2'E), approx. 36 km south-west of Coffee Bay, dredged 295-350 m, 1985; Coll. Natal Museum South Africa (NMSA), ID No: P1477/T4439.

Paratype 1: 10.48 x 6.09 mm (Figure 2.2); off Mbashe River (32°23.6'S & 28°59.2'E), dredged 295-350 m, 1985; Coll. NMSA: P1478/T4440.

Paratype 2: 11.39 x 5.87 mm (Figure 2.3); off Bulungulu River (32°14.2'S & 29°08.6'E), approx. 22 km south-west of Coffee Bay, dredged 300-370 m, 1985; Coll. NMSA: C8548/T4441.

Paratype 3: 11.11 x 5.95 mm (Figure 2.5); off Nqabara Point (32°25.0'S & 28°58.3'E), approx. 44 km south-west of Coffee Bay, dredged 330-340 m, 1984; Coll. NMSA: C6445/T4442.

Paratype 4: 11.76 x 6.31 mm (Figure 2.6); off Shixini Point (32°31.4'S & 28°51.9'E), approx. 35 km north-east of the Great Kei River, dredged 240 m, 1984; Coll. NMSA: C6332/T4443.

Paratype 5: 12.12 x 6.46 mm; off Shixini Point (32°31.4'S & 28°51.9'E), dredged 240 m, 1984; Coll. NMSA: P1479/T4444.

Paratype 6: 11.75 x 6.07 mm (Figure 2.7); off Shixini Point (32°31.4'S & 28°51.9'E), dredged 240 m, 1984; Coll. NMSA: P1480/T4445.

Paratype 7: 10.88 x 5.89 mm; off Mendu Point (32°24.0'S & 28°59.0'E), approx. 45 km south-west of Coffee Bay, dredged 250 m, 1984; Coll. NMSA: C6278/T4446.

Paratype 8: 11.90 x 6.25 mm; off Mendu Point (32°24.0'S & 28°59.0'E), dredged 250 m, 1984; Coll. NMSA: P1481/T4447.

Paratype 9: 10.09 x 5.76 mm; off Mendu Point (32°24.0'S & 28°59.0'E), dredged 250 m, 1984; Coll. NMSA: P1482/T4448.

Paratype 10: 11.41 x 5.91 mm; off Bulungulu River (32°14.2'S & 29°08.6'E), dredged 300-370 m, 1985; Coll. NMSA: P1483/T4449.

Paratype 11: 8.66 x 4.59 mm, Juvenile; off Mbashe River (32°23.6'S & 28°59.2'E), dredged 295-350 m, 1985; Coll. NMSA: C9129/T4450.

Etymology. *Marginella (N.) mbasheensis* n. sp. is named for the Mbashe River, approx. 67 km north-east of the Great Kei River and 36 km south-west of Coffee Bay (Figure 1).

Discussion. *Marginella (N.) mbasheensis* n. sp. is a very distinct species and is not closely related to any of the other species in the subgenus, except maybe the color bands around the body whorl compare to that of *M. (N.) natalcinerea* Massier, 1993 (Figure 2.4). The latter species however is much larger and has a higher spire, and occur very far north-east (more than 300 km) on the Tugela Bank, north of Durban, KwaZulu-Natal, in a totally different habitat.

Marginella (Nataliamarginella) mtataensis
S.G. Veldsman, n. sp.
(Figures 3.1, 3.2 & 3.3)

Description. The shell is small (10-12 mm), ovate-biconical shaped, has a low angled rounded shoulder. Thick labrum, smooth and off-white background color with dark brown markings on top, with no posterior notch or labial denticles. Spire low and broad, spire whorls convex and slightly stepped. Wide protoconch, light grey color. Columella straight with four thick continuous plications, which take up half the length of the aperture, off-white color. Callus developed on the columella. Aperture narrow and straight, off-white color. Background color of dorsum of the body whorl off-white colored. Background of the body whorl off-white to creamy colored, with brown speckled pattern presented in thin bands around the body whorl. The thin speckled lines become lighter colored towards the last third of the body whorl at anterior side, presented as a wide band, followed by dark brown lines. These dark brown lines are presented as a wide band, mainly visible on aperture side. The last portion towards the base of the shell have similar speckled bands than that of the first two thirds of the shell. The shoulder has a darker speckled band presented as larger blocks. The spire has brown speckled bands similar to that found around the body whorl.

Distribution. Type locality of *M. (N.) mtataensis* n. sp. is dredged 135-165 m off Ubombo, approx. 10 km north-east of Coffee Bay, nearly across the Mtata River, Eastern Cape, South Africa. All specimens studied occur between Port St. Johns and the Great Kei River, in deep water ranging from 130-165 m depth.

Type material. The type material of the holotype and paratypes of *M. (N.) mtataensis* are as follows:

Holotype: 10.68 x 5.82 mm (Figure 3.1); off Ubombo (31°57.4'S & 29°23.5'E), dredged 135-165 m, 1982; Coll. Natal Museum South Africa (NMSA), ID No: C3280/T4454.

Paratype 1: 10.62 x 5.76 mm (Figure 3.2); off Nthlonyane, approx. 7 km north-east of Mbashe River, approx. 30 km south-west of Coffee Bay (32°17.08'S & 29°03.15'E), dredged 130 m, 1982; Coll. NMSA: P1485/T4455.

Paratype 2: 11.24 x 6.15 mm (Figure 3.3); off Nthlonyane (32°17.08'S & 29°03.15'E), dredged 130 m, 1982; Coll. NMSA: P1486/T4456.

Paratype 3: 10.57 x 5.26 mm; off Nthlonyane (32°17.08'S & 29°03.15'E), dredged 130 m, 1982; Coll. NMSA: P1487/T4457.

Etymology. *Marginella (N.) mtataensis* n. sp. is named for the Mtata River, approx. 10 km north-east of Coffee Bay, Eastern Cape (Figure 1).

Discussion. *Marginella (N.) mtataensis* n. sp. is closely related and very similar in size to *M. (N.) parkrynieensis* J.H. Veldsman & S.G. Veldsman, 2012 (Figures 3.6 & 4.6) and *M. (N.) wallaceorum* Lussi, 2013 (Figures 3.4 & 3.5). *Marginella (N.) mtataensis* is slightly narrower than *M. (N.) wallaceorum,* not as ovate in shape, and slightly more curved at the anterior end. *Marginella (N.) mtataensis* is slightly smaller in size than *M. (N.) parkrynieensis,* where *M. (N.) parkrynieensis* is straighter in general shape, with a shorter spire length in relation to shell

length than *M. (N.) mtataensis*. One main shell morphological feature differentiating *M. (N.) mtataensis* from the other two is that its aperture is narrower and straighter. Another point differentiating *M. (N.) mtataensis* is biogeographical, as the habitat of this species is at least 80 km south-west from the southern KwaZulu-Natal two species (*M. (N.) wallaceorum* and *M. (N.) parkrynieensis*, with Pondoland separating them where none of the three species occur there.

Marginella (Nataliamarginella) mlambomkuluensis S.G. Veldsman, n. sp.
(Figures 4.1, 4.2 & 4.3)

Description. The shell is small (13-14 mm), elongated ovate-biconical shaped, has a low angled rounded shoulder. Has a thick labrum, smooth and off-white background color with dark brown markings on top, with no posterior notch or labial denticles. Spire high and moderately broad, spire whorls convex and slightly stepped. Wide protoconch, off-white to light grey color. Callus is highly developed on the columella. Columella rather straight with four thick continuous plications, which take up half the length of the aperture, off-white color. Aperture narrow and straight, off-white color. Background of the body whorl off-white to creamy colored, with brown speckled pattern presented in thin bands around the body whorl. The thin speckled lines become lighter colored, presented as a wide band below the shoulder and towards the last third of the body whorl, followed by a wide dark brown line around the body whorl towards the anterior side. The last portion towards the base (anterior side) of the shell have similar speckled bands than the first two thirds of the shell. The shoulder has a darker speckled band presented as larger blocks or flecks. The spire has brown speckled bands similar to that around the body whorl.

Distribution. Type locality of *M. (N.) mlambomkuluensis* n. sp. is dredged 200 m off Mbotyi, Eastern Cape, South Africa. All specimens studied occur from just north of Mbotyi to around Coffee Bay, in deep water ranging from 200-280 m depth.

Type material. The type material of the holotype and paratypes of *M. (N.) mlambomkuluensis* are as follows:

Holotype: 14.33 x 7.12 mm (Figure 4.1); off Mbotyi (31°33.0'S & 29°51.8'E), dredged 200 m, 1986; Coll. Natal Museum South Africa (NMSA), ID No: C9750/T4451.

Paratype 1: 13.76 x 6.96 mm (Figure 4.2); off Waterfall Bluff (31°30.1'S & 29°55.7'E), dredged 230-250 m, 1986; Coll. NMSA: C9857/T4452.

Paratype 2: 13.68 x 6.69 mm (Figure 4.3); off Whale Rock (32°02.9'S & 29°19.7'E), dredged 250-280 m, 1985; Coll. NMSA: P1484/T4453.

Etymology. *Marginella (N.) mlambomkuluensis* n. sp. is named for the Mlambomkulu River, approx. 34 km north-east of Port St. Johns and approx. 9 km north-east of Mbotyi (Figure 1) that forms the Waterfall Bluff. The Waterfall Bluff is one of the few places in the world where the river forms a waterfall that falls straight into the ocean.

Discussion. *Marginella (N.) mlambomkuluensis* n. sp. compare to *M. (N.) gracilenta* S.G. Veldsman, 2015 (Figures 4.4, 4.5 & 4.7) with general shape and size, however the latter species has a higher spire and the body whorl is slimmer. *Marginella (N.) mlambomkuluensis* n. sp. has a straighter aperture than *M. (N.) gracilenta* and the coloration on the body whorl

is different than the pattern of the body whorl of *M. (N.) gracilenta* that consists of fine dotted lines with no prominent bands around body whorl. The two species are further separated by Pondoland, at least 70 km of coast, with *M. (N.) gracilenta* occurring only in southern KwaZulu-Natal.

Marginella (Nataliamarginella) muratovi
S.G. Veldsman, n. sp.
(Figures 5.1, 5.2 & 5.3)

Description. The shell is moderately large (17-22 mm), biconical shaped, has a moderately angled rounded shoulder. Has a thick labrum, smooth and off-white background color with markings dark brown markings on top, with no posterior notch or labial denticles. Callus is highly developed on the columella. Spire high and sharp, spire whorls convex and stepped. Wide protoconch, off-white to light grey color. Columella slightly bend with four thick continuous plications, which take up half the length of the aperture, off-white color. Aperture wide and slightly bend, off-white color. Background of the body whorl off-white to creamy colored, with brown speckled pattern presented in thin bands around the body whorl. The thin speckled lines become lighter colored presented as a wide band below the shoulder and around the middle, followed by a slightly darker band towards the anterior side. The shoulder has a darker speckled band presented, flowing over onto the spire.

Distribution. Type locality of *M. (N.) muratovi* n. sp. is dredged 74 m off Mncwasa Point (approx. 12 km south-west of Coffee Bay), Eastern Cape, South Africa. All specimens studied occur in deep water ranging from 74-165 m depth.

Type material. The type material of the holotype and paratypes of *M. (N.) muratovi* are as follows:

Holotype: 19.79 x 10.50 mm (Figure 5.1); off Mncwasa Point (32°05.12'S & 29°06.15'E), dredged 74 m, 1982; Coll. Natal Museum South Africa (NMSA), ID No: C2246/T4435.

Paratype 1: 21.96 x 11.67 mm (Figure 5.2); off Mncwasa Point (32°05.12'S & 29°06.15'E), dredged 74 m, 1982; Coll. NMSA: C2758/T4436.

Paratype 2: 20.55 x 9.86 mm (Figure 5.3); off Mgazi (Mngazi River) (31°43.05'S & 29°31.05'E), dredged 92 m, 1982; Coll. NMSA: C2344.

Paratype 3: 17.70 x 8.04 mm; off Whale Head (32°01.12'S & 29°18.03'E), dredged 150-165 m, 1982; Coll. NMSA: P1500/T4437.

Paratype 4: 18.31 x 9.53 mm; off Whale Head (32°01.12'S & 29°18.03'E), dredged 150-165 m, 1982; Coll. NMSA: P1501/T4462.

Paratype 5: 20.12 x 10.00 mm; off Whale Rock (31°58.8'S & 29°16.8'E), dredged 90 m, 1985; Coll. NMSA: C9464/T4438.

Etymology. *Marginella (N.) muratovi* n. sp. is named for Igor Muratov from the Natal Museum, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, for all his assistance in the past, especially with photographs of type material.

Discussion. *Marginella (N.) muratovi* n. sp. can be compared to *M. (N.) xoraensis* Aiken, 2019 (Figures 5.6 & 5.7) and *M. (N.) thos* S.G. Veldsman, 2013 (Figures 5.4 & 5.5) with general shape. *Marginella (N.) muratovi* n. sp. is similar to *M. (N.) thos* in size, and on average

larger than *M. (N.) xoraensis*. *Marginella (N.) xoraensis* also occur within the Eastern Cape and probably in the same habitat; *M. (N.) xoraensis* is dredged off Xora, approx. 12 km south-west of Mncwasa River. *Marginella (N.) muratovi* n. sp. has a broader and sharper edged shoulder than *M. (N.) xoraensis*, its aperture is wider and slightly more bent, and the body whorl coloration is very different. *Marginella (N.) xoraensis* is a light pale creamy colored shell scattered with dark markings. *Marginella (N.) thos* is slightly narrower than *M. (N.) muratovi* n. sp. and has a narrower slightly more bent aperture. Although the color pattern of the last two mentioned species, are very similar, slight differences between them can be observed. Further, *M. (N.) thos* occur in southern KwaZulu-Natal, at least 70 km north-east of *M. (N.) muratovi* n. sp. with Pondoland separating them, and none of the three species discussed here occur there.

Marginella (Punctamarginella) transovula
S.G. Veldsman, n. sp.
(Figures 6.1, 6.2 & 6.3)

Description. The shell is small (17-22 mm), ovate biconical shaped, has a rounded shoulder; has a thick labrum, smooth and off-white background color with no visible markings, strongly developed posterior notch and labial denticles. Callus is highly developed on the columella. Spire low, very wide and blunt, spire whorls very convex and stepped. Wide protoconch, off-white to light grey color. Columella straight with four thick continuous plications, which take up half the length of the aperture, off-white color. Aperture narrow and straight, off-white color. Background of the body whorl off-white to light creamy colored, with grey to brown finely speckled pattern presented in thin bands around the body whorl. The shoulder grey to brown finely speckled pattern, flowing over onto the spire.

Distribution. Type locality of *M. (P.) transovula* n. sp. is dredged 380-400 m off Sandy Point (across Wavecrest, approx. 16 km north-east of the Great Kei River), Eastern Cape, South Africa. All specimens studied occur in deep water ranging from 380-550 m depth.

Type material. The type material of the holotype and paratypes of *M. (P.) transovula* are as follows:

Holotype: 12.26 x 6.84 mm (Figure 6.1); off Sandy Point (32°41.9'S & 28°42.1'E), dredged 380-400 m, 1984; Coll. Natal Museum South Africa (NMSA), ID No: C7007/T4458.

Paratype 1: 13.56 x 7.67 mm (Figure 6.2); off Nthlonyane (approx. 7 km north-east of Mbashe River (32°18.2'S & 29°06.2'E), dredged 550 m, 1985; Coll. NMSA: C8664/T4459.

Paratype 2: 13.60 x 8.16 mm; off Nthlonyane (approx. 7 km north-east of Mbashe River (32°18.2'S & 29°06.2'E), dredged 550 m, 1985; Coll. NMSA: P1690/T4460.

Paratype 3: 12.71 x 7.49 mm (Figure 6.3); off Rame Head (31°56.02'S & 29°18.03'E), dredged 150-165 m, 1982; Coll. NMSA: C1878/T4461.

Etymology. The name *Marginella (P.) transovula* n. sp. is combined as follows: "*trans*" related to the name Transkei, what the larger area here was called in the past, and "*ovula*" for its oval shape.

Discussion. *Marginella (P.) transovula* n. sp. concur with regards to general shell morphological features to most of the species within the subgenus *Punctamarginella*. This species however is slightly different in general

shape, coloration and size to all the other species. The coloration compares slightly to *M. (P.) verdascai* Hayes & Rosado, 2007 (Figures 6.4 & 6.5). Its closest relatives are probably *M. (P.) leoi* S.G. Veldsman, 2013 (Figure 6.7) and *M. (P.) palleukos* Aiken, 2014 (Figure 6.6), but is slightly larger, has a broader protoconch and prominent coloration differences visible. One major point is biogeographical that separates this species from the rest, with all the other species occurring in KwaZulu-Natal with Pondoland separating them, and none of the species in this subgenus occur there. There is at least a stretch of 170 km coast between this species and the rest. This new species is the first in this subgenus to date that is identified to occur in the Eastern Cape, a new distribution for this subgenus.

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Figure 2. **1** = *M. (N.) mbasheensis* (10.95 x 5.97 mm) – Holotype; off Mbashe River, dredged 295-350 m; Coll. NMSA (P1477/T4439). **2** = *M. (N.) mbasheensis* (10.48 x 6.09 mm) – Paratype 1; off Mbashe River, dredged 295-350 m; Coll. NMSA (P1478/T4440). **3** = *M. (N.) mbasheensis* (11.39 x 5.87 mm) – Paratype 2; off Bulungulu River, approx. 22 km south-west of Coffee Bay, dredged 300-370 m; Coll. NMSA (C8548/T4441). **4** = *M. (N.) natalcinerea* (16.21 x 8.14 mm); off Durban, Tugela Bank, trawled; Veldsman Collection. **5** = *M. (N.) mbasheensis* (11.11 x 5.95 mm) – Paratype 3; off Nqabara Point, approx. 44 km south-west of Coffee Bay, dredged 330-340 m; Coll. NMSA (C6445/T4443). **6** = *M. (N.) mbasheensis* (11.76 x 6.31 mm) – Paratype 4; off Shixini Point, approx. 35 km north-east of the Great Kei River, dredged 240 m; Coll. NMSA (C6332/T4443). **7** = *M. (N.) mbasheensis* (11.76 x 6.31 mm) – Paratype 6; off Shixini Point, approx. 35 km north-east of the Great Kei River, dredged 240 m; NMSA (P1480/T4445).

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Figure 3. **1** = *M. (N.) mtataensis* (10.68 x 5.82 mm) – Holotype; off Ubombo, dredged 135-165 m; Coll. NMSA (C3280/T4454). **2** = *M. (N.) mtataensis* (10.62 x 5.76 mm) – Paratype 1; off Nthlonyane, approx. 7 km north-east of Mbashe River, approx. 30 km south-west of Coffee Bay, dredged 130 m; Coll. NMSA (P1485/T4455). **3** = *M. (N.) mtataensis* (11.24 x 6.15 mm) – Paratype 2; off Nthlonyane, approx. 7 km north-east of Mbashe River, approx. 30 km south-west of Coffee Bay, dredged 130 m; Coll. NMSA (P1486/T4456). **4** = *M. (N.) wallaceorum* (11.53 x 6.19 mm) – Holotype; off Port Edward, KZN, dredged 125 m; Coll. NMSA (W9482/T3159). **5** = *M. (N.) wallaceorum* (10.81 x 5.91 mm); off Pumula, KZN, dredged 100 m; Veldsman Collection. **6** = *M. (N.) parkrynieensis* (12.21 x 6.65 mm); off Ramsgate, KZN, dredged 95-100 m; Veldsman Collection.

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Figure 4. **1** = *M. (N.) mlambomkuluensis* (14.33 x 7.12 mm) – Holotype; off Mbotyi, dredged 200 m; Coll. NMSA (C9750/T4451). **2** = *M. (N.) mlambomkuluensis* (13.76 x 6.96 mm) – Paratype 1; off Waterfall Bluff, dredged 230-250 m; Coll. NMSA (C9857/T4452). **3** = *M. (N.) mlambomkuluensis* (13.68 x 6.69 mm) – Paratype 2; off Whale Rock, dredged 250-280 m; Coll. NMSA (P1484/T4453). **4** = *M. (N.) gracilenta* (15.70 x 7.50 mm) – Holotype; off Pumula, KZN, dredged 100 m; Coll. NMSA (P0326/T4031). **5** = *M. (N.) gracilenta* (14.53 x 6.68 mm) – Paratype 1; off Pumula, KZN, dredged 100 m; Veldsman Collection. **6** = *M. (N.) parkrynieensis* (11.67 x 6.17 mm); off Pumula, KZN, dredged 100 m; Veldsman Collection. **7** = *M. (N.) gracilenta* (13.99 x 6.71 mm) – Paratype 3; off Shelly Beach, KZN, dredged 100 m; Veldsman Collection.

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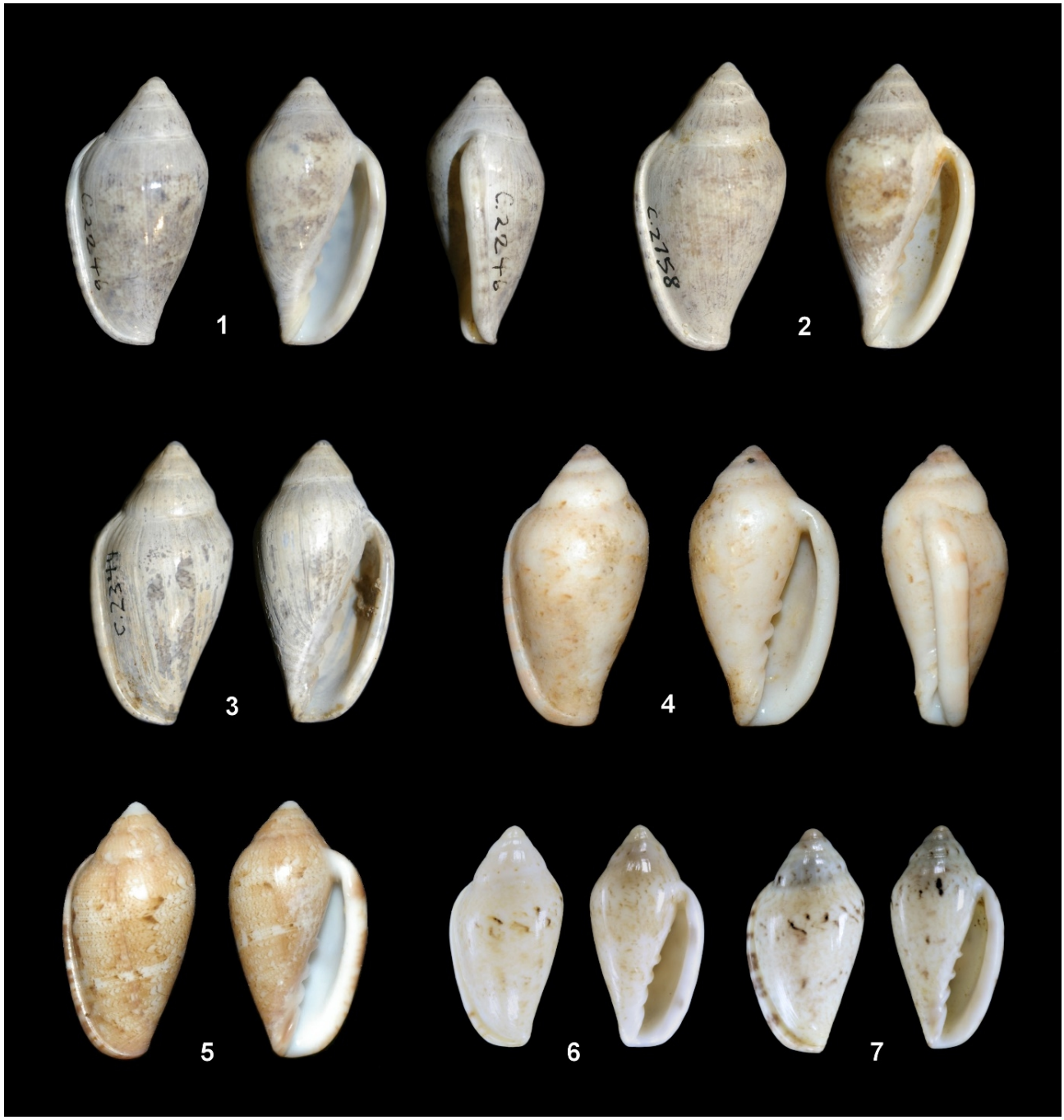

Figure 5. **1** = *M. (N.) muratovi* (19.79 x 10.50 mm) – Holotype; off Mncwasa Point, dredged 74 m; Coll. NMSA (C2246/T4435). **2** = *M. (N.) muratovi* (21.96 x 11.67 mm) – Paratype 1; off Mncwasa Point, dredged 74 m; Coll. NMSA (C2758/T4436). **3** = *M. (N.) muratovi* (20.55 x 9.86 mm) – Paratype 2; off Mgazi (Mngazi River), dredged 92 m; Coll. NMSA (C2344). **4** = *M. (N.) thos* (21.63 x 11.53 mm) – Holotype; off Hibberdene, KZN, dredged 100 m; Coll. NMSA (W9318/T3142). **5** = *M. (N.) thos* (19.05 x 10.61 mm) – Paratype 2; off Hibberdene, KZN, dredged 100 m; Veldsman Collection. **6** = *M. (N.) xoraensis* (15.90 x 7.10 mm) – Holotype; off Xora, dredged 60-80 m; Coll. NMSA (P1137/T4309); photo acknowledged: R. Aiken and M. Page. **7** = *M. (N.) xoraensis* (16.60 x 8.90 mm) – Paratype 1; off Xora, dredged 60-80 m; R. Aiken Collection; photo acknowledged: R. Aiken and M. Page.

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Figure 6. **1** = *M. (P.) transovula* (12.26 x 6.84 mm) – Holotype; off Sandy Point, dredged 380-400 m; Coll. NMSA (C7007/T4458). **2** = *M. (P.) transovula* (13.56 x 7.67 mm) – Paratype 1; off Nthlonyane (approx. 7 km north-east of Mbashe River, dredged 550 m; Coll. NMSA (C8664/T4459). **3** = *M. (P.) transovula* (12.71 x 7.49 mm) – Paratype 3; off Rame Head, dredged 150-165 m; Coll. NMSA (C1878/T4461). **4** = *M. (P.) verdascai* (6.66 x 4.17 mm) – Holotype; between Inhaca Island and Ponto do Ouro, Mozambique, dredged 125-145 m; Coll. NMSA (L7354/T2188). **5** = *M. (P.) verdascai* (6.06 x 4.10 mm) – Paratype; between Inhaca Island and Ponto do Ouro, Mozambique, dredged 125-145 m; Coll. NMSA (L7355/T2189). **6** = *M. (P.) palleukos* (10.70 x 5.90 mm) – Holotype; southern KwaZulu-Natal, dredged 135 m; Coll. NMSA (W9651/T3345). **7** = *M. (P.) leoi* (8.73 x 5.35 mm) – Holotype; 2.2 km north of Shelly Beach, KZN, beach collected; Coll. NMSA (W9115/T3001).