

**Description of four new species of Marginellidae from the East Coast  
Province, South Africa: *Marginella nigromaculata*,  
*M. persicum*, *M. rubescens* and *M. ignifer***

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**ABSTRACT** Four new marginellid species, *Marginella nigromaculata*, *M. persicum*, *M. rubescens* and *M. ignifer*, are described from the East Coast Province, South Africa. The four new species are compared to *Marginella cosmia* Bartsch, 1915, *M. roseolineata* Turton, 1932, *M. fulvocincta* Turton, 1932, *M. eucosmia* Bartsch, 1915 and *M. transkeiensis* S.G.Veldsman, 2013.

**KEYWORDS** *Marginella*, *cosmia*, *eucosmia*, *fulvocincta*, *ignifer*, *lineatolabrum*, *lorenzi*, *nigromaculata*, *persicum*, *roseolineata*, *rubescens*, *transkeiensis*, East Coast Province, South Africa

## INTRODUCTION

As previously noted by the author in 2016, the small *Marginella* species from the East Coast Province, South Africa [Sub-Province and Province coastal divisions according to Veldsman (2014a & 2014b)] were discussed by many authors for more than a hundred years. Several recent studies (Veldsman 2013 and Veldsman *et al.* 2014) on members of this group from the East Coast Province (Figure 1) highlighted the existence of the following species: *Marginella cosmia* Bartsch, 1915, *M. roseolineata* Turton, 1932, *M. fulvocincta* Turton, 1932, *M. eucosmia* Bartsch, 1915 and *M. transkeiensis* S.G.Veldsman, 2013. Several other species, including *M. lineatolabrum* Gaskoin, 1840 and *M. lorenzi* Bozzetti, 1995 (Cossignani 2006 and Aiken 2007) are also known from older publications. The author in 2013, with assistance of other *Marginella* researchers (pers. comm. R. Aiken and J.H. Veldsman 2012), has already pointed out that the name *M. lineatolabrum* was erroneously applied to the shell now known as *M. transkeiensis*. *Marginella lineatolabrum* is

believed to correspond to one of the West African *Marginellas* (Veldsman 2013). *Marginella lorenzi* Bozzetti, 1995 is now thought to be a junior synonym of *M. fulvocincta*.

*Marginella cosmia* is, in several of the older collections, known as either “*Marginella strigata* Sowerby, 1889” (Figure 2.6) or “*Marginella helena* Turton, 1933.” The name ‘*strigata*’ is already assigned to a much earlier described shell, *Cryptospira strigata* (Dillwyn, 1817), and Turton (1933) recognized this homonymy and renamed it as *M. helena*. The original description of *M. strigata* Sowerby, 1889 has been compared to the description of *M. cosmia* Bartsch, 1915, and also to the earlier name *M. helena*, proving that *M. helena* is a synonym of *M. cosmia*.

*Marginella cosmia*, *M. roseolineata*, *M. fulvocincta*, *M. eucosmia* and *M. transkeiensis* are semi-oval to oval shaped with a thick lip. All five of the species have a slightly developed posterior notch and slightly developed labial denticles, and all five have a callus covering the

plicae and collumella. Their main differences lay in their color pattern, each of them species-specific.

*Marginella cosmia* (Figures 2.6, 2.7, 2.8 & 2.9) is small in size (on average 10-12 mm), has a rounded shoulder and low spire, and has a wide aperture, with an off-white to creamy coloration. Dark brown to pinkish markings are also present on the plicae, particularly the last two plicae. The labrum is thick and moderately straight to slightly concave, off-white in background color, with brownish markings on both sides of the lip. The apex is off-white to creamy, and the spire has axially striped brown markings. The background color of the body whorl is off-white to cream with axially arranged stripes, continuing directly from the striped markings on the spire straight down to the base of the shell. The axially arranged stripes are thin, evenly spaced and, in most shells, relatively far apart from each other. No prominent bands are present around the body-whorl.

*Marginella fulvocincta* (Figures 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 4.9 & 4.10) is small in size (on average 10-12 mm), slightly rounded to angular shoulder and high spire. This species has a wide aperture, with off-white coloration. The lip is thick and concave, off-white background color, with distinct pink markings on the upper side of the lip. No markings are present on the aperture side of the lip or on the plicae. The apex is off-white in color with thin pink spiral lines on the spire. The background color of the body whorl is off-white with thin pink spiral lines.

*Marginella roseolineata* (Figures 3.10, 5.6, 5.7, 5.9 & 5.10) is small in size (on average 11-12 mm), rounded shoulder and high spire, has a moderately wide aperture, and is off-white to pinkish in coloration. Dark pink to reddish markings are present between the last two plicae

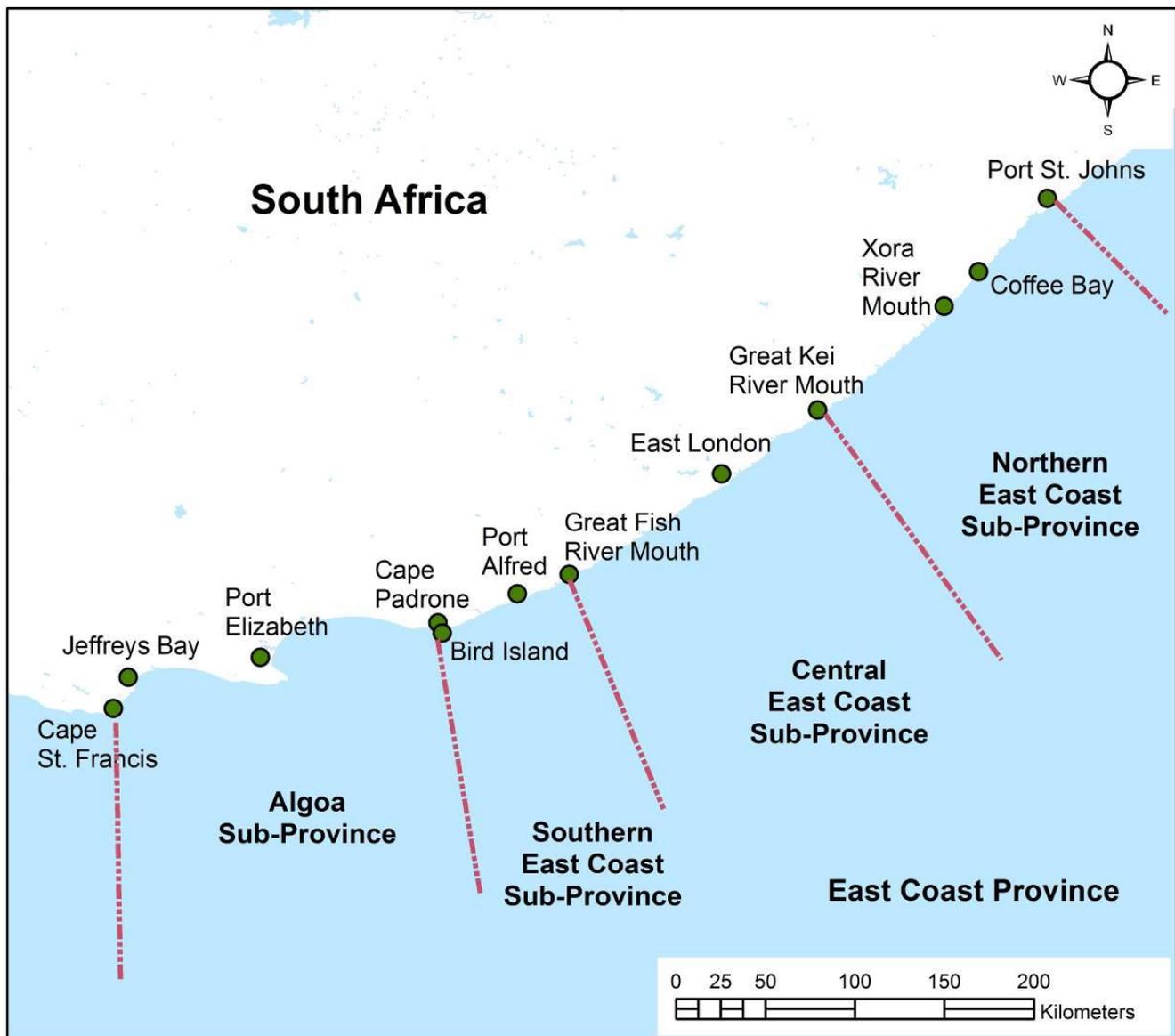
and at the base. The lip is thick and moderately straight to slightly concave, off-white in background color, with dark pink markings on both sides. The apex is off-white, with many thin dark pink to reddish spiral lines on the spire. The background color of the body whorl is off-white with thin dark pink-to-reddish spiral lines around the body-whorl. Two prominent light colored bands are present around the body-whorl, one on the shoulder and the other approximately one third from the base.

*Marginella eucosmia* (Figures 2.10 & 5.8) is small in size (on average 10-12 mm), with a slightly rounded-to-angular shoulder and a moderately high spire. This species has a wide aperture, with a distinct off-white coloration. The lip is thick and slightly concave, off-white background color, with pink markings on both sides. Pinkish markings are present between the lower two plicae and at the base. The apex is off-white with a full color pattern on the spire, with a brick-like pattern consisting of red-brown blocks with white and black inserted spots. The background color of the body whorl is off-white, sometimes with a very faint color pattern visible over the first half of the body-whorl. The lower half of the body-whorl consists of a red-brown block-like pattern arranged in spiraling lines around the body-whorl, with white and black inserted spots. See Veldsman (2016) for more examples.

*M. transkeiensis* (Figure 3.6, 3.7, 3.8 & 3.9) is small in size (on average 11-12 mm), and has a rounded broad shoulder and low spire. This species has a moderately wide aperture, with an off-white to pinkish coloration. Dark pink to reddish markings are present between all the plicae and at the base. The lip is thick and moderately straight to slightly convex, off-white background color, with dark pink markings. The apex is off-white, with a band of reddish coloration on the spire. The background color of

the body whorl is off-white with thin spiral lines forming prominent bands around the body-whorl. A light colored band is present below the shoulder, followed by a broad light pink to reddish colored band with thin darker reddish lines around the body-whorl, followed by a light colored band around the middle and the last third of the shell (on aperture side) is a dark reddish band becoming lighter colored on dorsal side.

Through further research on this group, four new species were identified, hence the description of: *Marginella nigromaculata* new species, *M. persicum* new species, *M. rubescens* new species and *M. ignifer* new species, from the East Coast Province, South Africa are present here.



**Figure 1.** The East Coast Province, illustration of the Sub-Provinces and major towns where specimens were collected (modified after Veldsman 2014a & 2014b).

**Systematics**Family: **Marginellidae** Flemming, 1828Genus: *Marginella* Lamarck, 1799*Marginella nigromaculata* S.G.Veldsman,  
new species

**Description.** The shell is small in size (on average 10-12 mm), fusiform-ovate to semiovate in shape with an angular shoulder. The shell surface is smooth, with a spire high, and a wide protoconch. The shell has a slightly developed posterior notch, and slightly developed labial denticles. The columella has four continuous plications, the lower (fourth) plica ending at base of the shell, dark grey to black markings between the last two plicae and at the base. There is callus covering the plicae. The aperture is narrow and is an off-white color with dark grey. The lip is moderately thick, and is an off-white color with a dark grey to blackish markings on both sides of the lip. The apex is off-white, and the spire has axially striped brown markings on dorsal side becoming a thick dark brown with black markings band on the aperture side. The background color of the body whorl is off-white with thin spiral lines forming prominent bands around the body-whorl. There is a light colored band below the shoulder, followed by a broad light brown to cream colored band with thin darker brown lines around the body-whorl (forming a small block like pattern), followed by a light colored band and around the middle and then a dark brown band (only visible on aperture side) and the last third of the shell (on aperture side) is a dark cream to light brown band becoming lighter colored on dorsal side. The dark brown and black axially arranged zig-zag lines follow all the way from the spire down to the base. The dorsal side overall has very faded coloration.

**Type and locality.** Type locality of the holotype of *M. nigromaculata* new species, is Xora River Mouth (32°09'50''S & 28°59'40''E), Northern East Coast Sub-Province, East Coast Province, South Africa; beach collected.

The holotype of *M. nigromaculata* new species is illustrated in Figure 2.1. The type material is as follows:

- Holotype: 11.27 x 6.30 mm (Figure 2.1); Xora River Mouth (32°09'50''S & 28°59'40''E), Northern East Coast Sub-Province, East Coast Province; Beach collected; Coll. Natal Museum South Africa (NMSA), ID No: P0878/T4210. Donated by S.G. Veldsman.
- Paratype 1: 11.37 x 6.52 mm (Figure 2.2); Xora River Mouth, Northern East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.
- Paratype 2: 10.79 x 6.15 mm (Figure 2.3); Gonubie (9km north-east of East London), Central East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.
- Paratype 3: 12.01 x 6.80 mm (Figure 2.4); Xora River Mouth, Northern East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Aiken Collection.
- Paratype 4: 11.69 x 6.82 mm; Xora River Mouth, Northern East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.
- Paratype 5: 11.66 x 6.40 mm; East London, Central East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.
- Paratype 6: 10.47 x 6.25 mm; Xora River Mouth, Northern East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.

- Paratype 7: 11.72 x 6.70 mm; Xora River Mouth, Northern East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Aiken Collection.
- Paratype 8: 11.15 x 6.55 mm; East London, Central East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.
- Paratype 9: 11.60 x 6.64 mm; Haga-Haga, Central East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; L. Swart Collection.
- Paratype 10: 11.05 x 6.05 mm (Figure 2.5); Marshstrand (near Haga-Haga), Central East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.
- Paratype 11: 11.34 x 6.27 mm; Kwelera (15km north-east of East London), Central East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Aiken Collection.
- Paratype 12: 11.34 x 6.45 mm; Gonubie (9km north-east of East London), Central East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.
- Paratype 13: 10.83 x 6.18 mm; Xora River Mouth, Northern East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Aiken Collection.
- Paratype 14: 11.04 x 6.27 mm; Xora River Mouth, Northern East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.
- Paratype 15: 10.89 x 6.22 mm; Xora River Mouth, Northern East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Aiken Collection.
- Paratype 16: 10.97 x 6.33 mm; Broomstick Farm (Cintsa – 24km north-east of East London), Central East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; L. Swart Collection.

- Paratype 17: 10.36 x 6.04 mm; Xora River Mouth, Northern East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.
- Paratype 18: 11.16 x 6.37 mm; East London, Central East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.
- Paratype 19: 10.91 x 6.35mm; Kwelera (15km north-east of East London), Central East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Aiken Collection.
- Paratype 20: 10.90 x 6.16mm; East London, Central East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.

*Marginella rubescens* S.G. Veldsman,  
new species

**Description.** The shell is small in size (on average 11-13 mm), fusiform-ovate in shape with a slightly angular to rounded shoulder. The shell surface is smooth, with a spire high, and a wide protoconch. The shell has a slightly developed posterior notch, and slightly developed labial denticles. The columella has four continuous plications, the lower (fourth) plica ending at base of shell, with dark pink markings on all four plicae. The callus covers the plicae. The aperture is narrow, and is off-white in color with pinkish coloration. The lip is thick, off-white in color with dark pink to reddish markings on both sides of the lip. The apex is off-white, and the spire has a light pink to reddish color with reddish thin spiral lines and axial pink markings. The background color of the body whorl is off-white to pinkish with thin spiral lines forming prominent bands around the body-whorl. There is a light colored band below the shoulder (with darker pink inserts), followed by a broad pinkish colored band with thin reddish lines around the body-

whorl and thicker pink zig-zag axial lines, followed by a light colored band and around the middle again followed by a broad pinkish colored band with thin reddish lines around the body-whorl and thicker pink zig-zag axial lines.

**Type and locality.** Type locality of the holotype of *M. rubescens* new species, is Xora River Mouth (32°09'50''S & 28°59'40''E), Northern East Coast Sub-Province, East Coast Province, South Africa; beach collected.

The holotype of *M. rubescens* new species is illustrated in Figure 3.1. The type material is as follows:

Holotype: 11.69 x 6.47 mm (Figure 3.1); Xora River Mouth (32°09'50''S & 28°59'40''E), Northern East Coast Sub-Province, East Coast Province; Beach collected; Coll. Natal Museum South Africa (NMSA), ID No: P0879/T4211. Donated by S.G. Veldsman.

Paratype 1: 11.84 x 6.24 mm (Figure 3.2); Xora River Mouth, Northern East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.

Paratype 2: 11.29 x 6.61 mm; East London, Central East Coast Sub-Province; Dredged 100m; Veldsman Collection.

Paratype 3: 11.91 x 6.47 mm (Figure 3.3); Xora River Mouth, Northern East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Aiken Collection.

Paratype 4: 11.81 x 6.73 mm; Xora River Mouth, Northern East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.

Paratype 5: 11.54 x 6.79 mm; Xora River Mouth, Northern East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Aiken Collection.

Paratype 6: 11.68 x 6.75 mm (Figure 3.4); Xora River Mouth, Northern East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.

Paratype 7: 11.24 x 6.25 mm; Xora River Mouth, Northern East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.

Paratype 8: 11.91 x 6.83 mm (Figure 3.5); Xora River Mouth, Northern East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.

Paratype 9: 11.23 x 6.23 mm; Xora River Mouth, Northern East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.

Paratype 10: 11.86 x 6.79 mm; Broomstick Farm (Cintsa – 24km north-east of East London), Central East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; L. Swart Collection.

Paratype 11: 11.47 x 6.65 mm; Xora River Mouth, Northern East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.

Paratype 12: 12.84 x 7.32 mm; Xora River Mouth, Northern East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.

Paratype 13: 9.81 x 5.63 mm; Xora River Mouth, Northern East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.

Paratype 14: 11.12 x 6.37 mm; Xora River Mouth, Northern East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.

Paratype 15: 10.05 x 5.95 mm; Xora River Mouth, Northern East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Aiken Collection.

Paratype 16: 12.40 x 7.04 mm; Broomstick Farm (Cintsa - 24km north-east of East London), Central East

- Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; L. Swart Collection.
- Paratype 17: 12.43 x 7.40 mm; Broomstick Farm (Cintsa - 24km north-east of East London), Central East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; L. Swart Collection.
- Paratype 18: 11.58 x 7.10 mm; Broomstick Farm (Cintsa - 24km north-east of East London), Central East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; L. Swart Collection.
- Paratype 19: 12.72 x 7.01mm; Broomstick Farm (Cintsa - 24km north-east of East London), Central East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; L. Swart Collection.
- Paratype 20: 12.07 x 6.81 mm; East London, Central East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; L. Swart Collection.

*Marginella ignifer* S.G. Veldsman,  
new species

**Description.** The shell is small in size (on average 11-13 mm), fusiform-ovate in shape with an angular shoulder. The shell surface is smooth, with a high spire, and a wide protoconch. The shell has a slightly developed posterior notch, and slightly developed labial denticles. The columella has four continuous plications, the lower (fourth) plica ending at base of shell, with dark reddish-brown markings between the last two plicae and at base. The callus covers the plicae. The aperture is narrow, and is off-white in color. The lip is moderately thick and off-white in color with pinkish markings on dorsal side, and bears no markings on aperture side. The apex is off-white, and the spire has axially striped pink markings on dorsal side which become a thick dark red-brown band on the aperture side. The background color of the body whorl is off-white and bears thin

reddish spiral lines forming around the body-whorl. There is a light colored band below the shoulder, followed by a broad band containing the thin reddish spiral bands and flame-like pink axial markings, followed by a light colored band and around the middle and then a dark reddish band (only visible on aperture side) and again followed by a broad band containing the thin reddish spiral bands and flame-like pink to reddish axial markings.

**Type and locality.** Type locality of the holotype of *M. ignifer* new species, is Xora River Mouth (32°09'50''S & 28°59'40''E), Northern East Coast Sub-Province, East Coast Province, South Africa; beach collected.

The holotype of *M. ignifer* new species is illustrated in Figure 4.1. The type material is as follows:

- Holotype: 11.15 x 5.88 mm (Figure 4.1); Xora River Mouth (32°09'50''S & 28°59'40''E), Northern East Coast Sub-Province, East Coast Province; Beach collected; Coll. Natal Museum South Africa (NMSA), ID No: P0880/T4212. Donated by S.G. Veldsman.
- Paratype 1: 11.75 x 6.07 mm (Figure 4.2); Coffee Bay; Northern East Coast Sub-Province, East Coast Province; Veldsman Collection.
- Paratype 2: 12.89 x 6.91 mm (Figure 4.3); East London, Central East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Aiken Collection.
- Paratype 3: 12.45 x 6.70 mm (Figure 4.4); East London, Central East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.
- Paratype 4: 10.94 x 5.79 mm (Figure 4.5); Xora River Mouth, Northern East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.

- Paratype 5: 12.12 x 6.26 mm; East London, Central East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.
- Paratype 6: 11.06 x 5.81 mm; Xora River Mouth, Northern East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.
- Paratype 7: 10.98 x 5.69 mm; Coffee Bay; Northern East Coast Sub-Province, East Coast Province; Veldsman Collection.
- Paratype 8: 13.28 x 7.15 mm; Broomstick Farm (Cintsa - 24km north-east of East London), Central East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; L. Swart Collection.

*Marginella persicum* S.G. Veldsman,  
new species

**Description.** The shell is small in size (on average 10-12 mm), fusiform-ovate to slightly oval in shape with a slightly angular to rounded shoulder. The shell surface is smooth, with a spire high, and a wide protoconch. The shell has a slightly developed posterior notch, and slightly developed labial denticles. The columella has four continuous plications, the lower (fourth) plica ending at base of shell, with dark pink markings between the last two plicae and at the base. The callus covers the plicae. The aperture is narrow and is an off-white color. The lip is moderately thick, and is off-white in color with pinkish markings on both sides of the lip. The apex is off-white, and the spire has pink and yellow to cream markings. The background color of the body whorl is yellowish to creamy with pinkish zig-zag axial markings. There is a light colored band below the shoulder that bears prominent dark brown to black markings, followed by a zone of yellowish to creamy coloration and pinkish zig-zag axial markings, followed by a thin light colored band around the

middle and then a thin dark pink band with dark brown and black spots around the body-whorl, followed by a zone of yellowish to creamy coloration and pinkish zig-zag axial markings.

**Type and locality.** Type locality of the holotype of *M. persicum* new species, is East London (33°07'58''S & 28°07'41''E), Central East Coast Sub-Province, East Coast Province, South Africa; dredged 100m, on sand.

The holotype of *M. persicum* new species is illustrated in Figure 5.1. The type material is as follows:

- Holotype: 11.58 x 6.30 mm (Figure 5.1); East London (33°07'58''S & 28°07'41''E), Central East Coast Sub-Province; Dredged 100m; Coll. Natal Museum South Africa (NMSA), ID No: P0881/T4213. Donated by S.G. Veldsman.
- Paratype 1: 10.94 x 6.23 mm (Figure 5.2); East London, Central East Coast Sub-Province; Dredged 100m; Veldsman Collection.
- Paratype 2: 10.46 x 5.81 mm; Xora River Mouth, Northern East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.
- Paratype 3: 10.42 x 6.11 mm; Xora River Mouth, Northern East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.
- Paratype 4: 9.81 x 5.20 mm; East London, Central East Coast Sub-Province; Dredged 100m; Veldsman Collection.
- Paratype 5: 11.44 x 6.47 mm (Figure 5.3); East London, Central East Coast Sub-Province; Dredged 100m; Veldsman Collection.
- Paratype 6: 10.70 x 5.95 mm (Figure 5.4); Xora River Mouth, Northern

- Paratype 7: East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Aiken Collection. 10.14 x 5.85 mm; North of Great Fish River Mouth, Central East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.
- Paratype 8: 11.19 x 6.65 mm; Haga-Haga, Central East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; L. Swart Collection.
- Paratype 9: 10.92 x 6.35 mm (Figure 5.5); Kwelera (15km north-east of East London), Central East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.
- Paratype 10: 12.22 x 6.80 mm; Broomstick Farm (Cintsa – 24km north-east of East London), Central East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; L. Swart Collection.
- Paratype 11: 9.79 x 5.85 mm; Xora River Mouth, Northern East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; Veldsman Collection.
- Paratype 12: 11.32 x 6.69 mm; Broomstick Farm (Cintsa - 24km north-east of East London), Central East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; L. Swart Collection.
- Paratype 13: 11.01 x 6.57 mm; Broomstick Farm (Cintsa - 24km north-east of East London), Central East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; L. Swart Collection.
- Paratype 14: 11.54 x 6.58 mm; Broomstick Farm (Cintsa - 24km north-east of East London), Central East Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; L. Swart Collection.
- Paratype 15: 10.90 x 6.29 mm; Broomstick Farm (Cintsa - 24km north-east of East London), Central East

Coast Sub-Province; Beach collected; L. Swart Collection.

#### Etymology.

- The name “nigromaculata” refers to the black markings and spots on the shells.
- The name “rubescens” refers to the reddish color of the shells.
- The name “ignifer” refers to the flame-like pattern on the shells.
- The name “persicum” refers to the peachy-apricot color seen on the shells.

#### DISCUSSION

All of these species are very similar in shape ranging from fusiform oval, semi-oval to oval shaped with a thick lip. However, some have broader shoulders and shorter spires than the rest, whereas others are slender with longer spires. All have a slightly developed posterior notch, slightly developed labial denticles and callus covering the plicae and collumella. Their main differences lay in their color pattern, each of them consistent to their own species-specific variation. The main differences are discussed in Tables 1 to 3, all comparisons are made with relation to each other and not meant to be a measure between other *Marginella* species not discussed in this article.

The following small *Marginella* from the East Coast of South Africa are not discussed, as they are morphologically different that they do not have labial denticles or a posterior notch developed: *M. minuscula*, *M. spadix* and *M. dimidiata*; refer to Veldsman (2016) for discussion on this group.

	<i>M. cosmia</i>	<i>M. eucosmia</i>	<i>M. nigromaculata</i>
<b>Spire</b>	Spire low.	Moderately high spire.	Spire high.
<b>Shoulder</b>	Wide, rounded shoulder.	Wide, slightly rounded to angular shoulder.	Moderately wide, angular shoulder.
<b>Plicae coloration</b>	Brown to pink markings between last two plicae and at base.	Pink markings between last two plicae and at base.	Dark grey to black markings between last two plicae and at base.
<b>Lip markings</b>	Brownish markings on both sides of the lip.	Pink markings on both sides of the lip.	Dark grey to black markings on both sides of the lip.
<b>Spire coloration</b>	Axially striped brown markings all around the spire.	Full color pattern, with a block-like pattern consisting of red-brown blocks with white and black inserted spots.	Axially striped brown markings on dorsal side becoming a thick dark brown with black markings band on the aperture side.
<b>Body-whorl coloration and pattern</b>	Background color is off-white to creamy.	Background color is off-white, sometimes with a very faint color pattern visible over the first half of the body-whorl.	Background color is off-white with thin spiral lines forming prominent bands around the body-whorl.
	<p>Axially arranged stripes, continuing directly from the striped markings on the spire straight down to the base of the shell. The axially arranged stripes are thin, evenly spaced, in most shells relatively far apart from each other. No prominent bands around the body-whorl or below the shoulder.</p> 	<p>The lower half of the body-whorl consists of a red-brown block-like pattern arranged in spiraling lines around the body-whorl, with white and black inserted spots. No band below shoulder.</p> 	<p>Light colored band below the shoulder, followed by a broad light brown to cream colored band with thin darker brown lines around the body-whorl (forming a small block like pattern), followed by a light colored band and around the middle and then a dark brown band (only visible on aperture side) and the last third of the shell (on aperture side) is a dark cream to light brown band becoming lighter colored on dorsal side. Dark brown and black axially arranged zig-zag lines follow all the way from the spire down to the base. The dorsal side overall has very faded coloration.</p> 

**Table 1.** Comparison of *Marginella cosmia*, *M. eucosmia*, and *M. nigromaculata* new species

	<i>M. roseolineata</i>	<i>M. fulvocincta</i>	<i>M. transkeiensis</i>
<b>Spire</b>	Spire high.	Spire high.	Low spire.
<b>Shoulder</b>	Moderately wide, rounded shoulder.	Moderately wide, rounded shoulder.	Wide, rounded broad shoulder.
<b>Plicae coloration</b>	Dark pink to reddish markings between last two plicae and at base.	No markings on plicae.	Dark pink markings on all the plicae and at base.
<b>Lip markings</b>	Dark pink markings on both sides of the lip.	Pink markings only on dorsal side of lip. No markings on aperture side of lip.	Dark pink markings on both sides of the lip.
<b>Spire coloration</b>	Many thin dark pink to reddish spiral lines on spire.	Thin pink spiral lines on the spire.	Reddish thick spiral band around spire.
<b>Body-whorl coloration and pattern</b>	Background color of the body whorl is off-white with thin dark pink to reddish spiral lines around the body-whorl.	Background color is off-white.	Background color is off-white with thin spiral lines forming prominent bands around the body-whorl.
	<p>Two prominent light colored bands around the body-whorl, one on the shoulder and the other approximately a third from the base.</p> 	<p>Thin pink spiral lines around the body-whorl with a thicker light colored band around the middle.</p> 	<p>Light colored band below the shoulder, followed by a broad light pink to reddish colored band with thin darker reddish lines around the body-whorl, followed by a light colored band around the middle and the last third of the shell (on aperture side) is a dark reddish band becoming lighter colored on dorsal side.</p> 

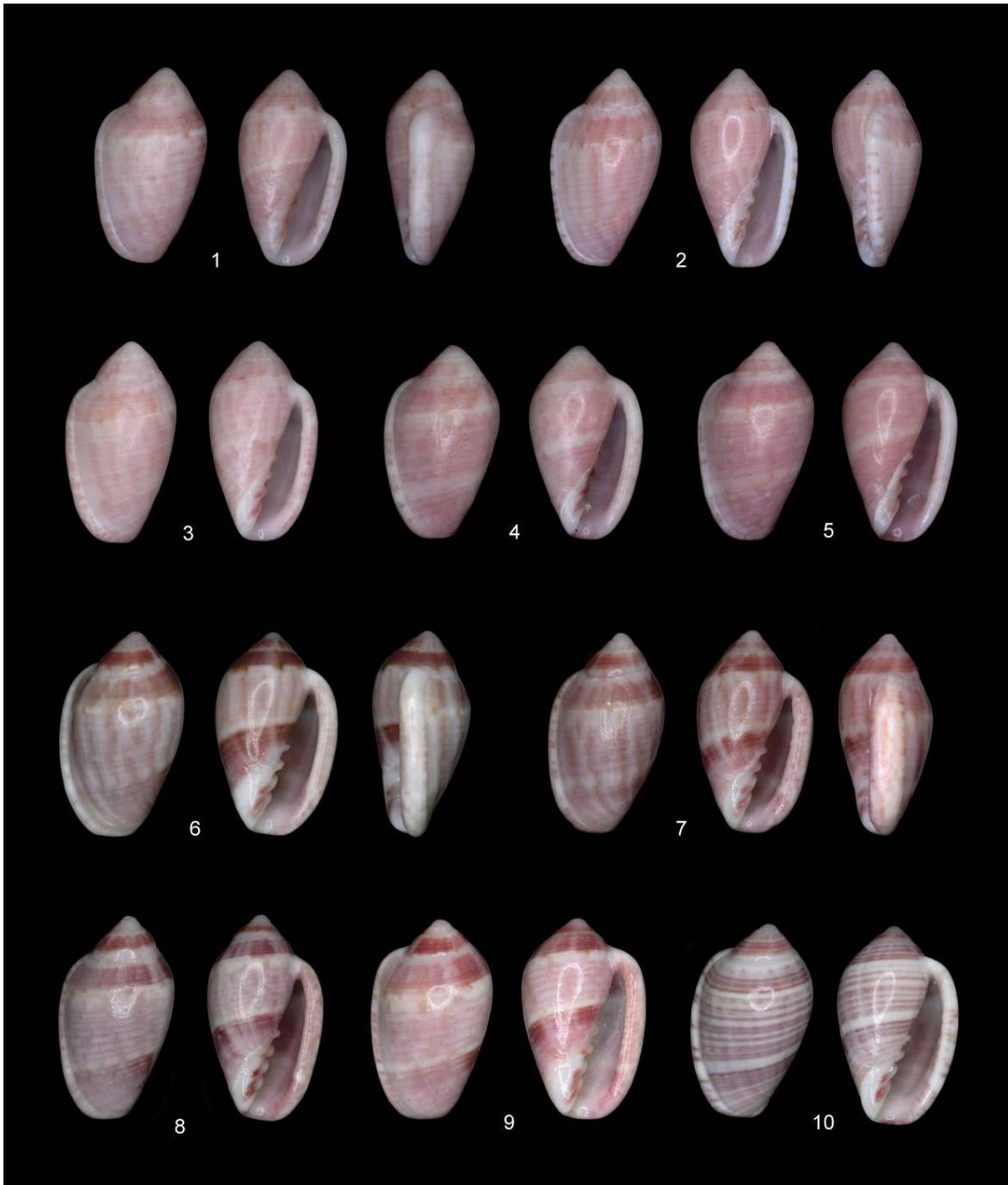
**Table 2.** Comparison of *Marginella roseolineata*, *M. fulvocincta*, and *M. transkeiensis*

	<i>M. rubescens</i>	<i>M. ignifer</i>	<i>M. persicum</i>
<b>Spire</b>	Spire high.	Spire high.	Spire high.
<b>Shoulder</b>	Moderately wide, slightly angular to rounded shoulder.	Narrow, angular shoulder.	Narrow, slightly rounded to angular shoulder.
<b>Plicae coloration</b>	Dark pink markings on all the plicae and at base.	Dark reddish-brown markings between last two plicae and at base.	Dark pink markings between last two plicae and at base.
<b>Lip markings</b>	Dark pink markings on both sides of the lip.	Pink markings only on dorsal side of lip. No markings on aperture side of lip.	Pink markings on both sides of the lip.
<b>Spire coloration</b>	Light pink to reddish color with reddish thin spiral lines and axial zig-zag pink markings.	Axially striped pink markings on dorsal side becoming a thick dark red-brown band on the aperture side.	Pink and yellow to cream markings with fine spotting.
<b>Body-whorl coloration and pattern</b>	Background color is off-white to pinkish with thin spiral lines forming prominent bands around the body-whorl.	Background color is off-white with thin reddish spiral lines forming around the body-whorl.	Background color of the body whorl is yellowish to creamy with pinkish zig-zag axial markings.
	<p>Light colored band below the shoulder (with darker pink inserts), followed by a broad pinkish colored band with thin reddish lines around the body-whorl and thicker pink zig-zag axial lines, followed by a light colored band and around the middle again followed by a broad pinkish colored band with thin reddish lines around the body-whorl and thicker pink zig-zag axial lines.</p> 	<p>Light colored band below the shoulder, followed by a broad band containing the thin reddish spiral bands and flame-like pink axial markings, followed by a light colored band and around the middle and then a dark reddish band (only visible on aperture side) and again followed by a broad band containing the thin reddish spiral bands and flame-like pink to reddish axial markings.</p> 	<p>Light colored band below the shoulder with prominent dark brown to black markings, followed by a zone of yellowish to creamy coloration and pinkish zig-zag axial markings, followed by a thin light colored band around the middle and then a thin dark pink band with dark brown and black spots around the body-whorl, followed by a zone of yellowish to creamy coloration and pinkish zig-zag axial markings.</p> 

**Table 3.** Comparison of *Marginella rubescens* new species, *M. ignifer* new species, and *M. persicum* new species



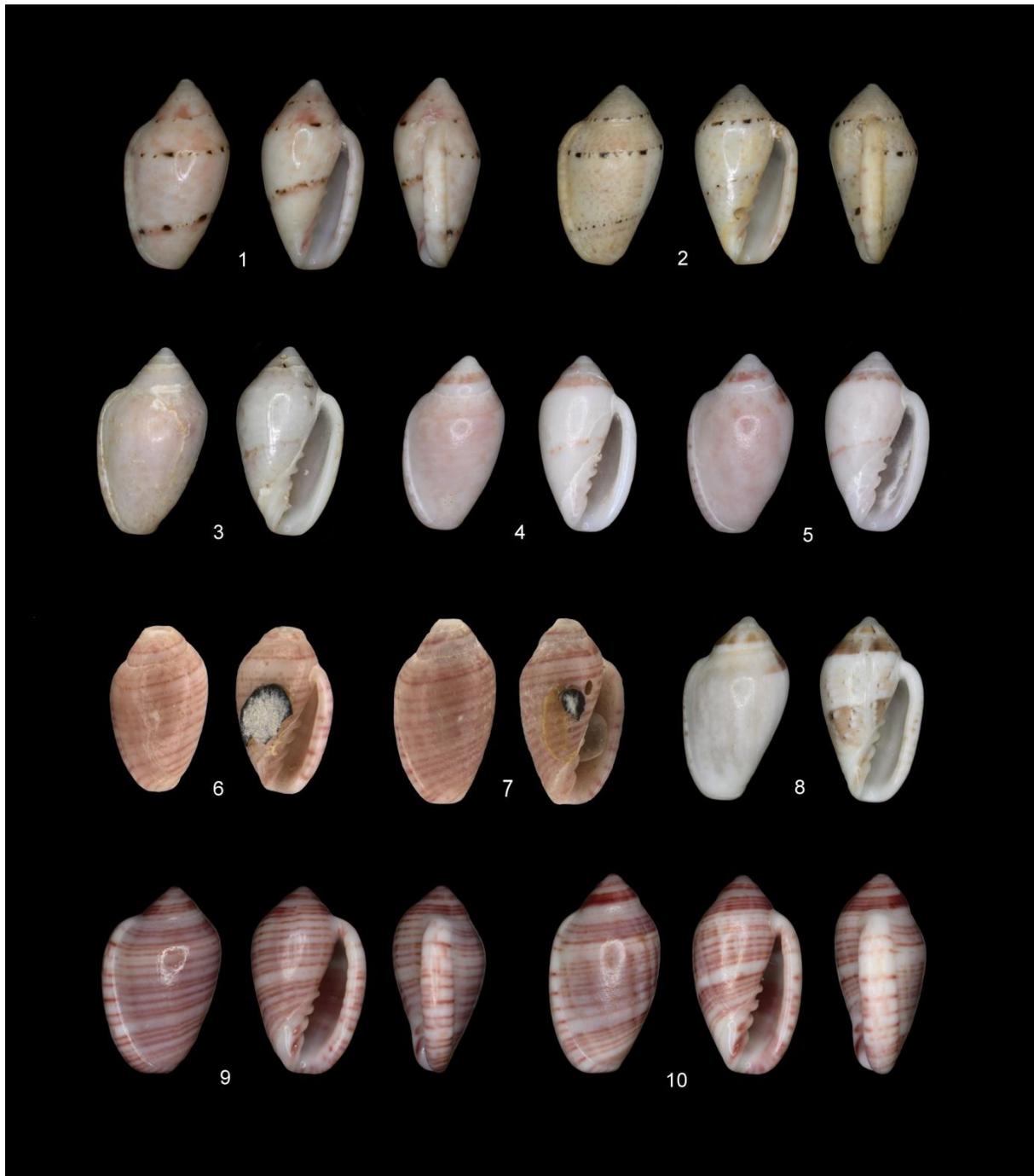
**Figure 2:** **1.** *Marginella nigromaculata* (11.27 x 6.30 mm) – Holotype; Xora River Mouth, beach collected; Coll. Natal Museum South Africa (NMSA), ID No: P0878/T4210. **2.** *M. nigromaculata* (11.37 x 6.52 mm) – Paratype 1; Xora River Mouth, beach collected; Veldsman Collection. **3.** *M. nigromaculata* (10.79 x 6.15 mm) – Paratype 2; Gonubie, beach collected; Veldsman Collection. **4.** *M. nigromaculata* (12.01 x 6.80 mm) – Paratype 3; Xora River Mouth, beach collected; Aiken Collection. **5.** *M. nigromaculata* (11.05 x 6.05 mm) – Paratype 10; Marshstrand, beach collected; Veldsman Collection. **6.** *M. cosmia* – ex. *M. strigata* Sowerby, 1889, Holotype; Algoa Bay, probable Holotype, in Bairstow collection at Oxford University Museum (courtesy of Sammy De Grave, Oxford University Museum). **7.** *M. cosmia* (11.01 x 6.23 mm); Jeffreys Bay, beach collected; Veldsman Collection. **8.** *M. cosmia* (10.52 x 5.98 mm); East London, beach collected; Veldsman Collection. **9.** *M. cosmia* (11.07 x 6.42 mm); East London, beach collected; Veldsman Collection. **10.** *M. eucosmia* (11.16 x 5.98 mm); Xora River Mouth, beach collected; Aiken Collection.



**Figure 3:** 1. *Marginella rubescens* (11.69 x 6.47 mm) – Holotype; Xora River Mouth, beach collected; Coll. Natal Museum South Africa (NMSA), ID No: P0879/T4211. 2. *M. rubescens* (11.84 x 6.24 mm) – Paratype 1; Xora River Mouth, beach collected; Veldsman Collection. 3. *M. rubescens* (11.91 x 6.47 mm) – Paratype 3; Xora River Mouth, beach collected; Aiken Collection. 4. *M. rubescens* (11.68 x 6.75 mm) – Paratype 6; Xora River Mouth, beach collected; Veldsman Collection. 5. *M. rubescens* (11.91 x 6.83 mm) – Paratype 8; Xora River Mouth, beach collected; Veldsman Collection. 6. *M. transkeiensis* (12.25 x 7.39 mm) – Holotype; Xora River Mouth, beach collected; Coll. Natal Museum South Africa (NMSA), ID No: W9320/T3145. 7. *M. transkeiensis* (11.85 x 6.90 mm) – Paratype 3; Xora River Mouth, beach collected; Veldsman Collection. 8. *M. transkeiensis* (12.24 x 6.86 mm) – Paratype 6; Xora River Mouth, beach collected; Veldsman Collection. 9. *M. transkeiensis* (11.96 x 7.34 mm) – Paratype 13; Xora River Mouth, beach collected; Aiken Collection. 10. *M. roseolineata* (11.41 x 6.66 mm); East London, dredged 100m; Veldsman Collection.



**Figure 4:** 1. *Marginella ignifer* (11.15 x 5.88 mm) – Holotype; Xora River Mouth, beach collected; Coll. Natal Museum South Africa (NMSA), ID No: P0880/T4212. 2. *M. Ignifer* (11.75 x 6.07 mm) – Paratype 1; Coffee Bay; Veldsman Collection. 3. *M. ignifer* (12.89 x 6.91 mm) – Paratype 2; East London, beach collected; Aiken Collection. 4. *M. ignifer* (12.45 x 6.70 mm) – Paratype 3; East London, beach collected; Veldsman Collection. 5. *M. ignifer* (10.94 x 5.79 mm) – Paratype 4; Xora River Mouth, beach collected; Veldsman Collection. 6. *M. fulvocincta* (13.00 x 6.00 mm) – Holotype; Port Alfred, beach collected; Coll. Oxford University Museum (courtesy of Sammy De Grave, Oxford University Museum). 7. *M. fulvocincta* (10.90 x 6.55 mm); East London, dredged 100m; Veldsman Collection. 8. *M. fulvocincta* (11.03 x 6.70 mm); Kwelera, beach collected; Veldsman Collection. 9. *M. fulvocincta* (10.28 x 5.90 mm); Xora River Mouth, beach collected; Veldsman Collection. 10. *M. fulvocincta* (12.04 x 6.92 mm); Xora River Mouth, beach collected; Veldsman Collection.



**Figure 5:** 1. *Marginella persicum* (11.58 x 6.30 mm) – Holotype; East London, dredged 100m; Coll. Natal Museum South Africa (NMSA), ID No: P0881/T4213. 2. *M. persicum* (10.94 x 6.23 mm) – Paratype 1; East London, dredged 100m; Veldsman Collection. 3. *M. persicum* (11.44 x 6.47 mm) – Paratype 5; East London, dredged 100m; Veldsman Collection. 4. *M. persicum* (10.70 x 5.95 mm) – Paratype 6; Xora River Mouth, beach collected; Aiken Collection. 5. *M. persicum* (10.92 x 6.35 mm) – Paratype 9; Kwelera, beach collected; Veldsman Collection. 6. *M. roseolineata* (10.00 x 5.50 mm) – Holotype; Port Alfred, beach collected; Coll. Oxford University Museum (courtesy of Sammy De Grave, Oxford University Museum). 7. *M. roseolineata* – Paratype; Port Alfred, beach collected; Coll. Oxford University Museum (courtesy of Sammy De Grave, Oxford University Museum). 8. *M. eucosmia* (11.31 x 6.87 mm); Kwelera, beach collected; Aiken Collection. 9. *M. roseolineata* (11.38 x 6.86 mm); Xora River Mouth, beach collected; Veldsman Collection. 10. *M. roseolineata* (12.12 x 6.62 mm); Xora River Mouth, beach collected; Veldsman Collection.

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