

HOUART, R., GARRIGUES, B. & RYALL, P. (2026): Taxonomic Review of the Family Muricidae of Tropical West Africa. -- 415 pp., 134 color plates, 132 text-figs [mainly distribution maps], 3 tabs, hardback 4 ** 78.00 €

A total of 120 living species and subspecies of Muricidae from West Africa, its off- and in-shore islands, including the islands of Ascension and St. Helena, are described, commented and illustrated. All of them and their synonyms are listed with mention and illustration of the type material. The type locality for the valid taxa is also mentioned and when wrong or unknown have been corrected or fixed. The distribution range is also mentioned and graphically illustrated by locality maps; a large number of range extensions were discovered. The habitat is given for most of the species.

New taxa: *Claremontiella saotomensis* n. sp., *Coralliophila afonsoi* n. sp., *Coralliophila horroi* n. sp., *Coralliophila waldoi* n. sp., *Coralliophila xicoi* n. sp., *Emozamia simonknechti* n. sp., *Babelomurex ryalli* n. sp., *Hexaplex rolani* n. sp., *Typhinellus gorii* n. sp.

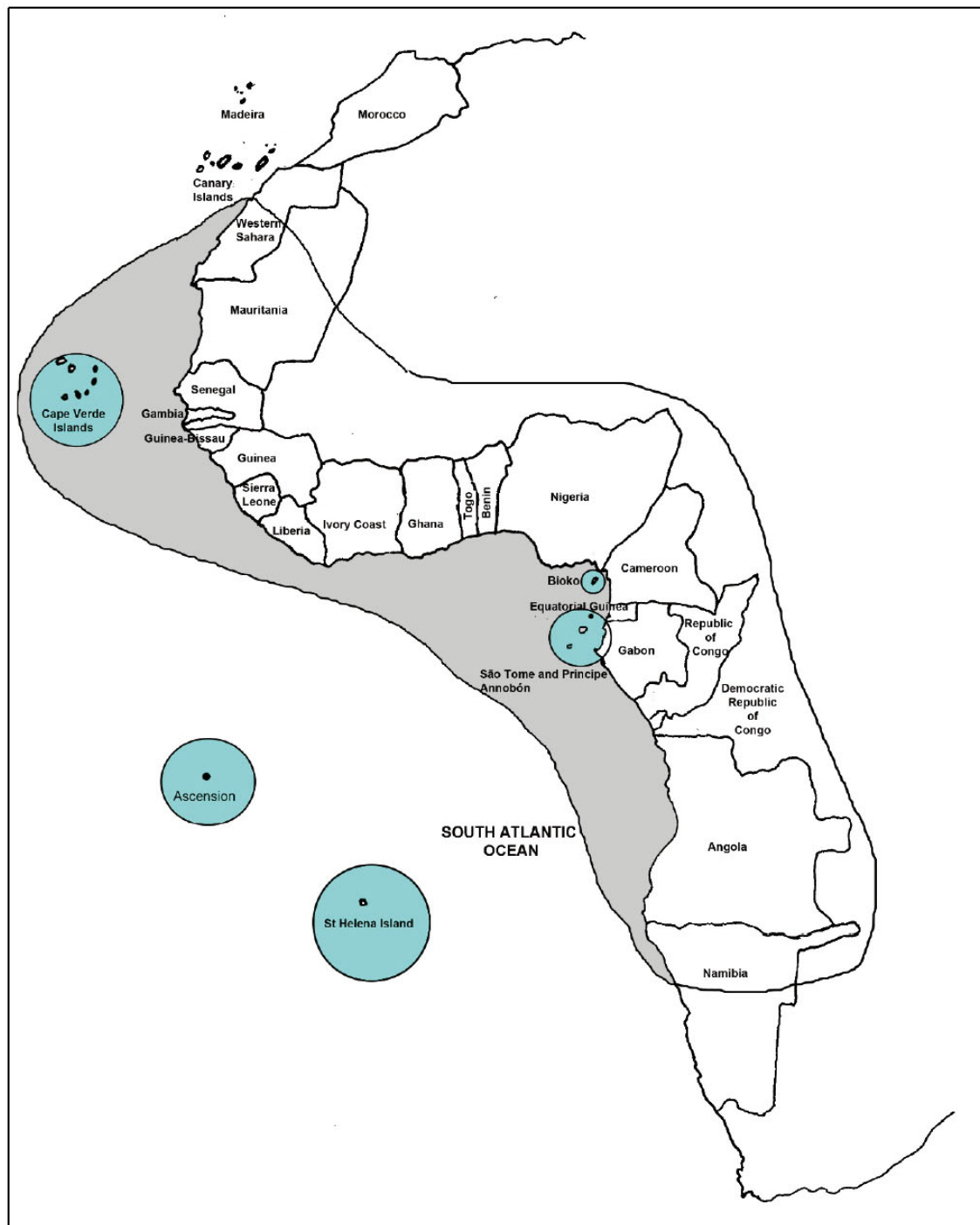


Fig. 1: Studied area of the West African mainland including the off-shore islands.

2. Material

The material consists of two parts. Type material is illustrated for many species together with an indication of their museum repository in initials. Other specimens shown are mostly from the authors' collections, or from other collections where scarce material is illustrated. Again, initials indicate the source of the material or photos herein illustrated.

Shell structure and terminology

The characters used to describe the shell morphology include the maximum size reached by the species, the general aspect, a brief description of the protoconch, followed by details of the axial and spiral sculptures, the aperture and the siphonal canal and the colour.



Fig. 21: Distribution of *Muricopsis haidari*.

Distribution. Cap Vert, Dakar, Senegal, 27-35 m. in rocks/shipwreck.

Description. Shell up to 8.95 mm in length at maturity (holotype), slender, lanceolate, heavy, nodose. Spire very high with 1.40-1.45 protoconch whorls, up to 5 narrow, strongly shouldered, nodose teleoconch whorls. Protoconch small, shouldered, whorls carinate, with a strong, single keel adapically.

Axial sculpture of teleoconch whorls consisting of high, strong, broad, rounded, nodose ribs. Last whorl with six ribs. Spiral sculpture of strong high cords, decreasing in strength and height on abapical whorls. Last whorl with IP split, P1, s1, P2, s2, P3, s3, P4, s4, P5, P6, ADP, MP; cords more strongly developed at intersection with axial ribs; P1-P3 low, broad, P4 and P5 high, strong; P4-P6 giving rise to small spinelets on axial ribs. Additional spiral sculpture consisting of numerous, small striae.

Aperture small, ovate; columellar lip broad, smooth, rim partially erect, adherent at adapical extremity; anal notch broad, deep; outer lip weakly erect, crenulated, with strong narrow rounded denticles of similar size within. Siphonal canal short, broad, weakly recurved dorsally, narrowly open, with ADP and MP narrow, ending as small short spinelets on axial ribs.

Shell beige or light ochre with brown band at shoulder, between P4 and P5, and P5 and P6; crest

of axial ribs light brown (paratype) or yellow-ochre (holotype); aperture glossy white with light brown or yellowish patches.

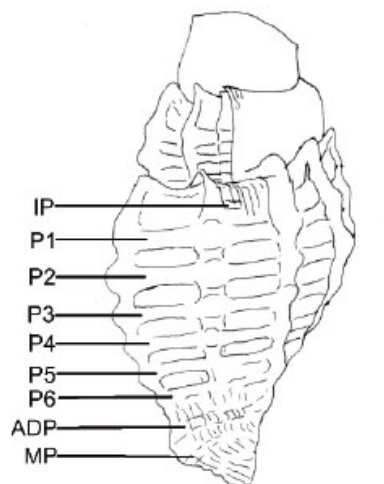


Fig. 22: Spiral cords morphology of *Muricopsis haidari*, juvenile (2.1 mm), paratype CRH. Scale bar: 500 μ m.



Fig. 23: Operculum of *Muricopsis haidari*, paratype CRH. Scale bar: 0.5 mm.

Remarks. *Muricopsis haidari* is sympatric with *M. fusiformis fusiformis* and *M. seminolensis* VOKES & HOUART, 1986. *Muricopsis haidari* is very different from *M. fusiformis fusiformis* and does not need to be compared here. It differs from *M. seminolensis* in being smaller, more slender, by having lower and broader primary spiral cords, fewer or absent secondary spiral cords, narrower axial ribs, and a higher last teleoconch whorl. It

