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First record of *Paphia textile* (Gmelin, 1791) (Bivalvia: Veneridae) in the northern Adriatic Sea

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Keywords:
Bivalvia, Veneridae, *Paphia*, Adriatic Sea, Italy, Lessepsian migrant

Introduction:

During the last century many formerly exotic molluscs had been able to form natural populations in the Mediterranean Sea. The most popular members in the Adriatic Sea introduced by mankind for commercial purpose and now commonly found are *Tapes philippinarum* (Adams & Reeve, 1850) and *Crassostrea gigas* (Thunberg, 1793). Other well known molluscs like *Rapana venosa* (Valenciennes, 1846) or *Anadara inaequivalvis* (Bruguiere, 1789) have been introduced accidentally, most probably through shipping (*www.ciesm.org/atlas*).
Since the opening of the Suez Canal in 1869 many species found their way into the Mediterranean Sea as Lessepsian migrants, among them *Paphia textile* (Gmelin, 1791), originally distributed from Queensland, the Philippines to the Red Sea. Specimens have been found in Egypt: Port Said (Moazzo, 1939), Bardawil lagoon (Barash & Danin, 1977), Israel: Haifa (Haas, 1948; Barash & Danin, 1972), Palestine: Gaza (Haas, 1948) and South Turkey: Karatas (Niederhöfer & Enzenross, 1991).
In June 2003 the author obtained a specimen of *Paphia textile* from Giovanni Grigolon †, a fellow Italian collector who studied the northern Adriatic mollusc fauna for decades. In spring 2003 the shell was taken live in deep water off Grado, northern Italy, by a fisherboat. The present record extends the distribution range of *Paphia textile* to the Adriatic Sea.

Description:
The description of the shell is similar as cited in *www.ciesm.org/atlas*. Shell 41,3 mm in length, 24,1 mm in height and 16,3 mm in breadth; solid, equivalve, inequilateral. Umbones well in the anterior part of shell. Outline elongate, almost twice longer than high. Dorsal margin sloping to a narrowed posterior margin; anterior rounded slightly acute. Well defined lunule slightly depressed. Surface shining. Sculpture smooth with growth lines only. Pallial sinus round pointing to the beaks reaching half the shell's height. Internal margin smooth. Colour externally beige, pale yellow with a characteristic zig-zag pattern in brown. Internally white.

Discussion:
All these characters are diagnostic for *Paphia textile*. This species can clearly be distinguished from the congener *Paphia undulata* (Born, 1778). The latter shows a characteristic undulated sculpture, oblique to the growth lines (Barash & Danin, 1972), less elevated outline and less inflated valves.
The fact that to my knowledge only one specimen has been taken by fisherboats in Grado/Italy suggest that *Paphia textile* is either rare in the northern Adriatic or inhabits deeper water not reachable by conventional fishing methods.

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Summary:

A member of Veneridae, *Paphia textile* (Gmelin, 1791) is recorded from the northern Adriatic Sea for the first time.