

POSSIBLE SEXUAL DIMORPHISM IN OVULIDAE: *PRIMOVULA CONCINNA* (A. ADAMS & REEVE, 1848)

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Possible Sexual Dimorphism In Ovulidae: Primovula concinna (A. Adams & Reeve, 1848)

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During a nightdive in front of Mactan Island's Hadsan resort, on 31 January 2006, the first author observed 2 ovulids at a depth of 6 m in soft corals. The time was about 1 hour after sunset.

Both specimen were crawling on the top of a soft coral of which we show here a similar species. The soft coral patch was about two square meters, but despite careful searching, no other specimen were found.

Examining the shells revealed a strong difference in shape of the shells. It probably concerns a male and female, but there is no certainty about this. The shells moved on the branches of the soft coral very near to each other and we assume they belong to the same species at least.

We here figure in detail the specimen, as this is a key to variability in the genus, and probably also a key to the conchological differences between both sexes.

It concerns shells of *Primovula concinna* (A. Adams & Reeve, 1848). The type has been figured by Higo, Callomon & Goto (2001). Other figures can be found in Okutani (2000), the Kaicher cards (card 5905) and Xiutong in Zhongyan (2004).

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Fig. 1: Primovula concinna (A. Adams & Reeve, 1848).

Left: Specimen 1. 6.5 mm.

Right: Specimen 2. 5.7 mm.



Fig. 2: *Primovula concinna* (A. Adams & Reeve, 1848). Specimen 1. 6.5 mm.

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Fig. 3: Primovula concinna (A. Adams & Reeve, 1848). Specimen 2. 5.7 mm.



Fig. 4: Soft coral similar to the one in which the specimen were found.

4 WWW.CONCHOLOGY.BE