

SYNONYMIZATION OF *GULELLA REESI* (PRESTON, 1914) AND *GULELLA GERMAINI* (CONNOLLY, 1929) FROM WEST AFRICA

1914 *Ennea reesi*¹ p. 135. [type: Onoha or Lokar, Opobo District, S. Nigeria]

1915 *Ennea (Enneastrum) girardi*² p. 284. [type: Fernando Poo, Bahia de S. Carlos]

1916 *Ennea (Enneastrum) girardi*³ p.189, pl. vi. Figs. 2-6. (redis.)

1929 *Gulella germaini*⁴ p. 169, p.173.

Original description of *reesi*: "shell perforate, cylindrically claviform, rather thin and vitreous, pale yellowish-green; whorls 7½, the first four and half regularly increasing, the fifth increasing in length, but proportionately less in breadth, the last two also increasing in length, but decreasing in breadth, the upper whorls sculptured with transverse and distant, spiral, scratch-like striae, the lower obliquely, transversely costulate, the costulae being much more marked in the sub-sutural region, except on the last whorl, where they become finer, more closely set and well marked throughout its whole length; suture impressed; umbilicus moderately narrow; columellar margin obliquely descending; labrum white, narrowly expanded, the converging margins joined by a thickish and well-defined parietal callus; aperture obliquely sub-triangular, armed with a projecting, parietal lamella-like tooth, two denticles on the inner margin of the columella lip, the lower in each case being the stronger" (Preston, 1914).

Preston (1914) described *Ennea reesi* from southern Nigeria and made some corrections to the description in 1916⁵. He included the description of two denticles on the inner margin of the outer lip which were omitted in the original description. Germain (1915) described a similar species *Ennea girardi* from Fernando Poo, but Connolly (1929) showed that that name had already been used for another species of *Ennea* by Kobelt in 1904. Germain's original description was not accompanied by any illustration, and the description was amended and provided

with illustrations in a subsequent paper in 1916. Connolly introduced the name *G. germaini* as a replacement name (without providing a redescription), so the species is known as *G. germaini* Connolly, 1929. However, Preston's *E. reesi* did not appear subsequently in the literature on West African land snails. The specimen (from Preston's photograph) collected by Rees from Onoha in Opobo District, southern Nigeria measures: shell height 6.25 mm, diameter 3 mm and whorls 7½ while Germain's specimen measures; height 4.5 mm, diameter 2.25 mm and whorls 6-7. Specimens collected from different parts of southern Nigeria measure; shell height 5.27-7.02 mm, diameter 2.43-3.11 mm and whorls 6-7. The shape of the shell and nature of the aperture of the specimen drawn and photographed by Germain (1916) is similar to that of Preston (1914) and to many other shells collected by me from different parts of southern Nigeria. I believe that Preston's *E. reesi* and Connolly's *E. germaini* are identical with *reesi* having priority.

¹ Preston HB 1914 *Proc. Malac. Soc. London* **11**: 134-136.

² Germain ML 1915 *Bull. Mus. Nat. hist. nat. Paris* **xxi**: 283-290.

² Germain ML 1915 *Bull. Mus. Nat. hist. nat. Paris* **xxi**: 283-290.

³ Germain ML 1916 *Ann. Mus. Genova* **67**: 189-191.

⁴ Connolly M 1929 *Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.* (10) **3**: 165-178, pl. 5.

⁵ Preston HB 1916 *Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.* (8) **17**: 259-260.

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