

NOTES ON THE GENERA *AMORIA* GRAY, 1855, AND
ZEBRAMORIA IREDALE, 1924,
(GASTROPODA: VOLUTIDAE), WITH DESCRIPTIONS
OF NEW SPECIES

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Plate 28. Figs. 1-7

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ABSTRACT

Some notes on the nomenclature, distribution and characteristics of several species of the genera *Amoria* Gray and *Zeboramoria* Iredale are given. Two new species of *Amoria* are described from eastern Australian localities.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Amoria* Gray is one of the most varied groups of the Family Volutidae, with a number of elegant and richly coloured species, distributed around the coasts of Australia. The genus does not extend beyond Australian waters. *Amoria* is a group which appears to be in a state of active evolutionary divergence, as compared with other Volutidae, because of the number and variety of its species, the variation in morphology and wide geographic range of individual species, and the comparative closeness in characters of some pairs of species. A revision of the genus was published by Ludbrook (1954) in which many difficult taxonomic problems were solved, and for the most part her results are still acceptable.

However, recent research at various museums in Australia and overseas has enabled the determination of some points on which Ludbrook was uncertain, while in one or two minor instances her conclusions have been found to be incorrect. Further, the acquisition of much new material in this genus from a number of collectors during recent years has revealed the occurrence of some new species which are described below, and has provided better information on the distribution and morphology of some species. A number of Western Australian volutes were collected by the 1960 Hawaiian-Western Australian Expedition in the M.V. *Davina* and while these included a number of species of *Amoria*, a report on them will be published elsewhere. Particular thanks are due to Mrs. R. Kerslake, Mr. Clifton S. Weaver, Mr. and Mrs. W. Goode, Mr. T. Nielsen and Mr. F. McCamley, for their help in making specimens of animals and shells available for study. For convenience, the species are dealt with in the order adopted by Ludbrook (1954).

Genus ***Amoria*** Gray, 1855

Amoria Gray, 1855, p. 64. Type species by subsequent designation (Harris, 1897, p. 108). *Voluta turneri* "Gray" = Griffith and Pidgeon.