

# A new gastropod species of the skeneimorph genus *Dillwynella* from the Atlantic Ocean

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## Introduction

*Dillwynella* (Mollusca: Gastropoda: Skeneidae) is a marine genus known from natural wood fall and algal holdfast from the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean, with *Dillwynella modesta* (Dall, 1889) as type species. Since recently seven species of this genus are known. Beside *D. modesta* three are described from the New Zealand region and four from Sagami Bay. The depth range differs between 120–1200 m. Beside the type species this is the second species from the Atlantic Ocean.

## Results

*Dillwynella* sp. nov. (holotype will be deposited in: The Field Museum of National History, Chicago, U.S.A.) from the Gulf of Mexico is the second species in the Atlantic. It was found on natural wood fall in a depth of 610 m. With a maximum diameter of 5.5 mm, it is the largest species of this genus. Description was undertaken on an adult shell. SEM pictures were taken of dried softparts, radula (both holotype) and protoconch (paratype).



**Figure 3** ● Type locality of *Dillwynella* sp. nov.: 27°44.09'N, 91°14.49'W (source: google earth)

## Discussion

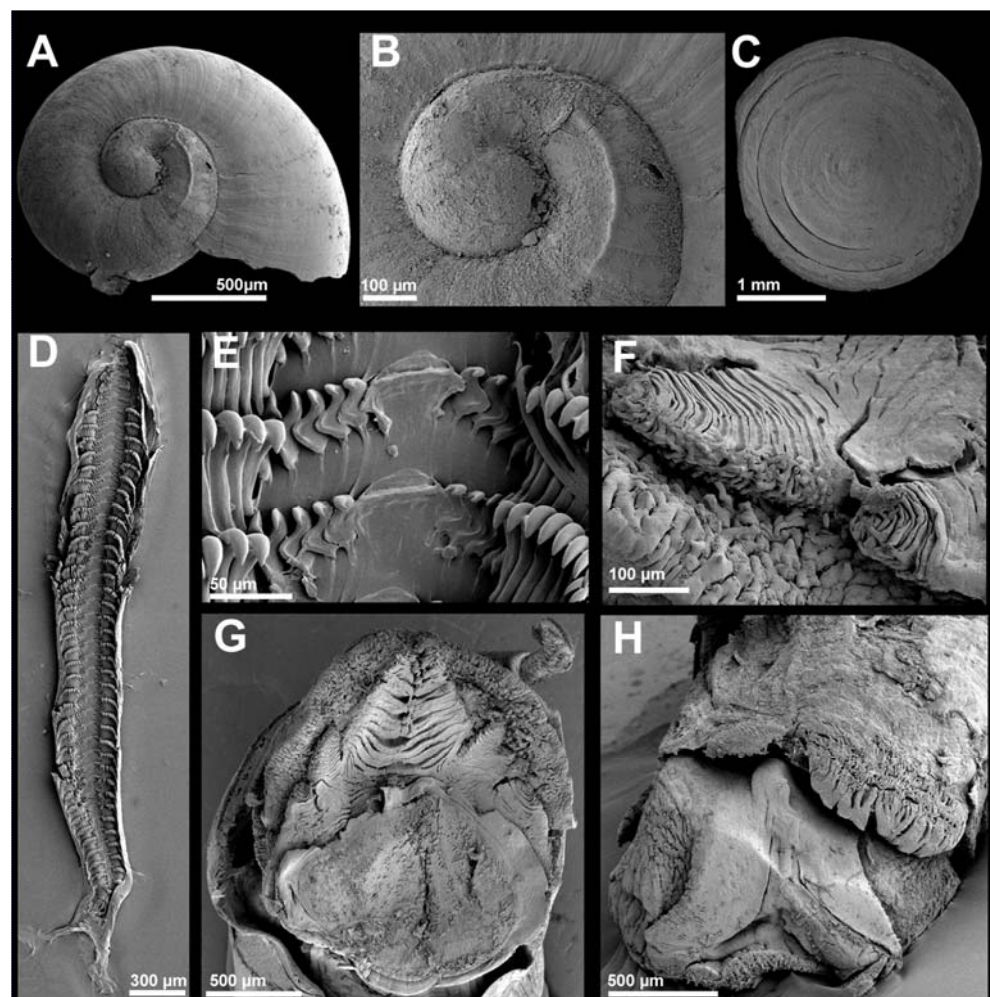
The presence of an epipodial sense organ at the base of the papillate epipodial tentacles, described by Crisp (1981) and histology shown for microgastropods in Kunze *et al.* (2008), underlines the position of this genus in the Trochoidea/Turboidea (Bouchet & Rocroi 2005). To solve its precise position in this group and confirm the position in the Skeneidae more information like microanatomical or sequencing are needed.

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**Figure 1** *Dillwynella* sp. nov. macrophotographs of the teleoconch (holotype)



**Figure 2** *Dillwynella* sp. nov. SEM-images: A juvenile shell; B protoconch; C operculum, D-E radula; F-G softparts (F epipodial tentacles; G view to the foot, H front view with propodium)

## References

- Bouchet, P. & Rocroi, J.-P. (2005) Classification and nomenclator of gastropod families. *Malacologia*, 47, 1–397.
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