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A New *Cerion* from Bimini, Bahamas (Mollusca)

BY WILLIAM J. CLENCH¹

During a study of the colonies of *Cerion* on Bimini, Bahama Islands, Ernst Mayr found a population that differs from previously described forms. In order to supply a name for use in a forthcoming population study of the Bimini *Cerion* (Mayr and Rosen), the new *Cerion* is here-with described as follows.

Cerion eximium leneri, new subspecies

Figures 1 and 2

DESCRIPTION: Shell cylindrical, solid, tapering, rimately perforated and finely sculptured. Color a pale cream and mottled irregularly with brown. Interior of aperture colored a brownish cream. Whorls $10\frac{1}{2}$ to 11, the first $2\frac{1}{2}$ white and smooth, the remainder mottled with brown and having fine and irregular growth lines. The first seven whorls form a convex cone to the spire; the remaining whorls are nearly parallel sided. Spire produced at an angle of about 65 degrees. Aperture subcircular. Parietal tooth centered and small. Columellar tooth about halfway on the columella and very small. Lip thickened and reflected backward for a very short distance. Sculpture consisting of irregular axial growth lines on the earlier whorls, the last $1\frac{1}{2}$ whorls with numerous fine and irregular axial ribs.

¹ Research Associate in Mollusks, Department of Fishes and Aquatic Biology, the American Museum of Natural History; and Curator of Mollusks, Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, Harvard University.

LENGTH	WIDTH	WHORLS	
31 mm.	13.5 mm.	10½	Holotype
30.5	13.5	10½	Paratype
30.4	13.0	11	Paratype
26.5	12.5	10	Paratype

Types: Holotype, Museum of Comparative Zoölogy No. 186830 from the southern tip of East Bimini, Bimini Islands, Bahamas. Paratypes from the same locality in the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, the United States National Museum, the American Museum of Natural History, the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, and the Museo Poey, Universidad de Habana, Cuba.



FIG. 1. A specimen of *Cerion eximium lernerii*, new subspecies, from the type locality.

It gives me great pleasure to name this handsome *Cerion* in honor of Mr. Michael Lerner, founder of the Lerner Marine Laboratory at Bimini.

REMARKS: This new subspecies constitutes the third known *Cerion* from the Bimini Islands. It differs from both *C. pillsburyi* Pilsbry and Vanatta and *C. biminiense* Henderson and Clapp by being nearly smooth, these latter two species being strongly costate on all whorls other than the nuclear whorls. It also differs from both of these species by being

strongly mottled with brown, *C. pillsburyi* being nearly white with but a faint brownish tinge, while *C. biminiense* is almost a uniform brownish.

In relationship *C. eximium leneri* is very close to typical *C. eximium* Maynard from Eleuthera and Cat Island, differing mainly in the extent

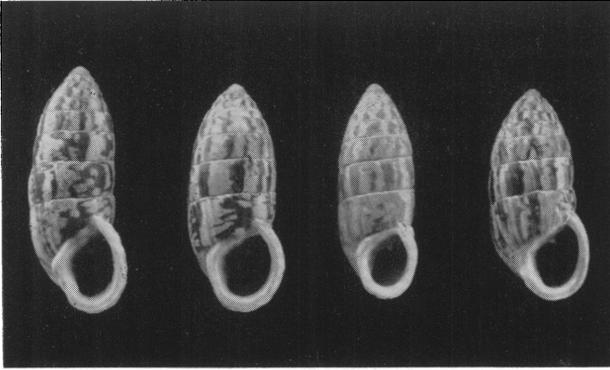


FIG. 2. Variation in pattern and shell shape in a toptypical series of *Cerion eximium leneri*, new subspecies.

of the mottled coloration and in not having the backward extension of the lip as pronounced as it is in the typical form.

We also have a lot similar to this form from Paradise Point, North Bimini Island.

A statistical analysis of biometric data will be published by Mayr and Rosen.

