Two New Species of the Genus *Caldukia* **Burn & Miller, 1969**

(Mollusca : Gastropoda : Opisthobranchia)

from New Zealand Waters

BY

MICHAEL C. MILLER

Department of Zoology, University of Auckland, Private Bag, Auckland, New Zealand

(21 Text figures)

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Caldukia* **Burn & Miller, 1969** was established to embrace 3 species of janolid nudibranch, one Australian and two from New Zealand, which could not be placed in any of the known genera. *Caldukia* is distinguished from the other genera of the family Janolidae (*Zephyrina* Quatrefages, 1844; *Janolus* Bergh, 1884; *Anthopella* Hoyle, 1902; a new genus (*Miller, in press*) by the shape of the rhinophoral club (short and stout with a small series of primary lamellae, each with regularly disposed rows of secondaries), the lack of an inter-rhinophoral crest, a radula of the formula 6·1·6 with the lateral teeth strongly cuspidate, and very strong unequal jaws with a few large horny teeth. A fairly complete comparison of the genera has already been made (Marcus, 1955, 1958; **Burn & Miller, 1969**; **Miller, in press**). The Australian species, which is the type of the genus, was first described a little over a decade ago and at that time was provisionally assigned to the genus *Proctonotus* **Alder & Hancock, 1844** (Burn, 1958); although the two New Zealand species were first discovered in 1961, original descriptions of them are only now being presented.

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CLASSIFICATION

NUDBRANCHIA

Arminacea

PACHYGNATHA

JANOLIDAE

DESCRIPTIONS

*Caldukia albolineata* **Miller, spec. nov.**

Morphology: Length, extended, 11 mm (only one specimen collected). Body soft, lanceolate in outline (anterior end blunt); low, back slightly arched with a large elliptical swelling, the pericardium, in the centre, which is confluent posteriorly with a prominent longitudinal ridge (the dorsal sinus) which runs part way to the anus (Figure 1). Rhinophores one-sixth to one-seventh of the length of the body; peduncle very short; club stout with 6 sloping primary lamellae (lamellae of the two sides of the rhinophore widely separate anteriorly, but approximate posteriorly), each with an upper and lower row of small plates arranged alternately, and the rachis is produced apically as a cylindrical truncate process about one-third of the height of the rhinophore (Figure 2). Oral tentacles are short, blunt triangular lobes. Cerata linear, apices pointed, non-caducous and very mobile (Figure 3); the largest, when extended, roughly one-fifth of the length of the body; inserted in 3 staggered longitudinal rows, cerata smallest at the edge of the notum, increase in size centripetally (Figure 4). Foot rounded at the front; tail short, tapers to a fine point. Anus at the tip of a large papilla situated in the mid-line near the
Colour: Body translucent, pale dull yellow; hermaphrodite and female accessory glands show through as a central opaque mass. Rhinophores pale dull yellow, apical process covered with opaque white. Each ceras with a dark brown diverticulum, centre of inner surface with a narrow lumpy stripe of opaque white running from the base to the tip, flanked by fairly large spots of the same pigment (Figure 3). Dorsal surface of tail with a wedge-shaped patch of opaque white.

Alimentary System: Figure 5. Oral tube short and wide, leads to the massive, ovate (when viewed from above),
dorso-ventrally flattened buccal bulb. Salivary glands huge, folliculose, lie closely applied to the sides of the oesophagus and ventro-lateral walls of the stomach (in the one specimen examined the condition of the salivary glands was probably abnormal, the left gland extended behind the stomach along the main posterior duct of the digestive gland and ended at the origin of the second left lateral duct – the right gland was very small and barely reached the stomach). Oesophagus short, wide and muscular, runs from the centre of the upper surface of the buccal bulb to the fairly large banana-shaped muscular stomach which lies to the left of the mid-line. There are 3 main stomachal ducts of the digestive gland; the right and left anterior ducts are short and each opens into a wide longitudinal duct which extends along the edge of the anterior half of the notum on the left side and two-thirds on the right. Short lateral branches, simple and divided, arise along the sides of the longitudinal duct, a few on the inner side and many on the outer. The posterior duct, which shares a common opening into the stomach with the left anterior duct, is long; it runs along the left side of the gonad and then, just before the hind end of the pericardium, starts to bend over to the mid-line of the body, giving off as it does so, two lateral ducts to the left side. On reaching the mid-line, the main duct bends sharply, giving off as it does the first right lateral duct, to run posteriorly above the intestine, sending branches to the left side. It veers gradually to the left side of the anus and then curves to the right around the posterior end of the notum sending off short branches; all but the most posterior of the lateral ducts branch. Diverticula arise singly from the longitudinal ducts and side branches. Each diverticulum is simple and extends almost to the tip of the ceras (Figure 6). The intestine arises on the left side from the posterior end of the stomach; it bends immediately through 180° and then describes a half circle around the front of the pericardium as it passes to the right side. On the right side the intestine continues to bend and passes below the posterior end of the pericardium to return to the left; it then bends again to run to the anus.

**Buccal Armature: Radula** (Figure 7). Formula 6·1·6; the one specimen examined had a radula of 28 (including 6 developing) rows. Central tooth smallish, roughly trapezoidal; posterior face concave, upper edge notched to form a broad semilunar median cusp with a small apical denticle; the notched edge is serrulate and there is a denticle on each of the corners. The lateral teeth are peg-like; the inner 5 (2 and 3 are the largest) are fairly similar in shape with a broad cuspidate crown, the middle cusp being very large, and a somewhat sinuous and slightly tapered base (short in 5) bent towards the margin of the radula; the sixth (the outermost) is very small, almost rectangular with a single (median) cusp. Jaws (Figure 8). Strong, unequal, united dorsally by a thick band of chitin. Right jaw long, fairly narrow and curved with 4 large horny teeth at the anterior end. Left slightly shorter than the right, but broader and angular, with 2 large teeth.

**Nervous System:** Although worked out in some detail it is not described here; the most important features are the long optic nerves and the fused cerebral and pleural ganglia.
Preserved ceras (stained with borax carmine and cleared with cedar-wood oil) showing diverticulum of digestive gland

Kidney: Figure 5. This organ lies dorsally between the front end of the pericardium and the anus; it is thin walled and consists of a long central sac and a number of lateral diverticula, some reaching almost to the edge of the notum; the anterior diverticula are long and irregularly lobed, those to the posterior are short and simple. The renopericardial duct (organ) is small and

Figure 5

Dorsal view of the general anatomy

an = anus  bb = buccal bulb  cns = central nervous system
he = heart  in = intestine  ki = kidney
ldg = left digestive gland  ot = oral tube  pc = pericardium
pe = penis  rd = renopericardial duct
rdg = right digestive gland  rp = renal pore
sg = salivary gland  st = stomach
Figure 7

*Calduka albolineata*

Radular teeth, half row

C = central (rhachidian)  
L₁ = innermost lateral  
L₆ = outermost lateral

links the pericardium with the first large right diverticulum. The renal pore opens at the tip of the last large right diverticulum.

Reproductive System: Figure 9. Hermaphrodite gland of 4 follicles, each joins separately, by a long ductule, to the common hermaphroditic duct which runs forward to the ampulla. The ampulla is ovoidal with a small chamber (or pouch) on the right side into which opens the hermaphroditic duct and, by a short narrow duct, a small vesicle (the fertilization chamber). The vas deferens and oviduct arise separately, the former from the front end of the ampulla, the latter from the front end of the side chamber. The first third of the vas deferens is a narrow duct, the remainder is a very wide glandular portion (the prostate); the penis is conical and unarmed (Figure 10). The oviduct runs to the right, constricts and then forks, one of the branches leads to the albumen gland, the other to the female atrium. The bursa copulatrix is ovoid and is connected to the atrium by a long narrow duct, the vagina.

Locality and Habitat: New Zealand, the South Island: Otago Harbour, Aquarium Point, one specimen on the under surface of a rock in the sublittoral fringe, 20 January 1961.
Figure 9

Caldukia albolineata

Reproductive system, unravelled

am = ampulla  
bc = bursa copulatrix  
fa = female atrium

fc = fertilization chamber  
fgm = female gland mass

hd = hermaphrodite duct  
hg = hermaphrodite gland

ov = oviduct  
po = pouch  
pr = prostate

ps = penial sheath  
va = vagina  
vd = vas deferens

Type: Holotype – a microscope slide of the radula and a colour photograph (35 mm Kodachrome transparency) of the one living animal collected at Aquarium Point, deposited in the Dominion Museum, Wellington (M. 22177).

Caldukia rubiginosa Miller, spec. nov.

Morphology: Figure 11. Extended length up to 12 mm. As the previous species except for the following details: rhinophores with up to 7 lamellae, lowest very small (Figure 12); cerata fusiform (Figures 13, 14), in up to 4 rows. Colour: Dorsal part of the body, rhinophores, distal portion of cerata, opaque reddish brown; cerata transparent (except at base), upper half yellow, lower half colourless, latter divided by a band of opaque white (with blue iridescence) which is broad to the centre of the body and narrow to the outside, diverticula apricot or pale brown; upper region of the side of the foot speckled with reddish brown, lower region, tail and sole transparent yellow or apricot – hermaphrodite gland visible as opaque pink bodies.
Figure 10
_Caldukia albolineata_

Penis, preserved (stained with borax carmine, cleared in cedar-wood oil)

\[\text{pe} = \text{penis} \quad \text{ps} = \text{penial sheath} \quad \text{pr} = \text{prostate}\]

**Alimentary System:** As _Caldukia albolineata_ spec. nov. There is, however, a right post-anal branch of the digestive gland.

**Buccal Armature:** Radula (Figure 15). A 9 mm animal had a radular formula of 23 (including 5 developing rows) \(\times 6:1:6\). Teeth very similar to those of _C. albolineata_: central with weak serrulations, central cusp without an apical denticle, no denticles at the corners; laterals rather uneven in outline, inner 4 teeth with a small flange developed on both the inner and outer sides of the central cusp. Jaws (Figure 16): as in _C. albolineata_, but the right jaw is slightly more angular.

**Kidney:** Large, filling the dorsal region of the body cavity from the middle of the pericardium to the anus. More branched than in _C. albolineata_ and the branches are so compacted as to give the organ an alveolate appearance.

**Reproductive System:** Figures 17, 18. Very similar in plan to that of _Caldukia albolineata_. However, the ampulla is oblong, the hermaphroditic duct does not enter by way of a lateral swelling and there is no vesicle (fertilization chamber) at the side; also, a short, narrow, common duct leaves the front end of the ampulla and this bifurcates into vas deferens and oviduct.

**Locality and Habitat:** New Zealand, the North Island: Goat Island Bay, near Leigh; on the under surfaces of rocks in the sublittoral fringe, feeding on the polyzoan

_Beania magellanica_ (Busk); six specimens, one spawn band, 28 August 1961; two specimens, several spawn bands, 26 October 1961; two specimens, 26 February 1963.
Type: Holotype: a specimen collected at Goat Island Bay, near Leigh, deposited in the Dominion Museum, Wellington, New Zealand (M. 22178).

Food and Feeding Habits: *Caldukia rubiginosa* feeds on the polyzoan *Bania magellanica* (Busk) which it tears apart with its large, strong dentate jaws. A single zooid is attacked — this and adjacent zooids are first smothered with mucus. When feeding, the mouth is opened wide and the buccal bulb thrust forward so that the jaws and radula are protruded (Figure 20). Jaw and radular movements are synchronized with those of the buccal bulb; when the latter is thrust forward the jaws and the two halves of the radula open, when withdrawn, they close. The polyzoan zoecium, which is usually grasped about the middle, is fractured by the large horny teeth

1 Mentioned briefly in Morton & Miller (1968) on p. 412 but the species is not named.
of the jaws closing upon it and drawing it into the buccal cavity, assisted by a sharp contraction of the head on the firmly fixed foot. This is repeated many times until the zooid, or part of it, is torn from the colony (Figure 21). The polypide is completely macerated during the tearing process. The radula acts as a conveyor belt and transports the detached zooid, or fragment, to the oesophagus. The whole action is very rhythmical, there being an active phase of 10-25 seconds during which the animal makes 4 to 8 thrusts with its buccal mass, followed by a resting phase of 60-70 seconds. The nudibranch may take up to 35 minutes to detach a single zooid. The zoecia of the zooids ingested are not altered as they pass through the
Colour and colour pattern clearly distinguish the two species of *Caldukia*, described here, from each other and...
from the type species, C. affinis (Burn). Briefly stated: C. rubiginosa has a reddish brown body and cerata with colourless, yellow and opaque white (blue iridescence) zones; C. albolineata has a dull yellow body and a single opaque white line down each ceras; and C. affinis has a reddish fawn body marked mid-dorsally with yellow and fawn cerata speckled with minute red spots. The colours and patterns appear to be constant in C. rubiginosa and C. affinis. There are only minor morphological and anatomical differences between the three species. Most important of these is the shape of the radular teeth, particularly the central and the first and sixth laterals. In C. albolineata the central is broad with a wide median cusp, which, like the corners, is apiculate and serrulate. This tooth in C. rubiginosa differs in being longer (when viewed from above) and without the denticles on the cusp and the corners (though these may have been worn off in the animal examined). Caldukia affinis has a central tooth with a narrow blunt cusp and no denticles or serrulations. The first lateral tooth of C. affinis is almost rectangular, but in the other two species it has a comma-shaped base (like lateral teeth 2 to 5 of all 3 species); the median cusps of the first to fourth lateral teeth of C. rubiginosa have small side flanges. The sixth tooth of C. affinis has a fairly long, pointed and bent base, whereas in the other 2 species it is very short and blunt. The jaws differ only slightly in outline. In the few specimens examined there were minor variations in the branching of the digestive gland, but these did not appear to be constant enough to be used to separate the species. The reproductive system is fundamentally similar in the 3 species; however, that of C. albolineata differs from the systems of the other 2 species in the following 2 respects: (1) the male and female ducts leave the ampulla separately, i.e., there is no anterior common duct, and (2) the fertilization chamber is a vesicle at the side of the ampulla.

SUMMARY

Two new species of the janolid nudibranch genus Caldukia Burn & Miller are described, viz. C. albolineata and C. rubiginosa. The anatomy of C. albolineata is given in some detail and the feeding habits of C. rubiginosa, which preys on the polyzoan Beania magellanica (Busk), are briefly described. The two new species and the type of the genus, C. affinis (Burn) are compared; colour and pattern are the principal distinguishing characteristics; small differences in the radular teeth and reproductive system are of secondary importance.

LITERATURE CITED


