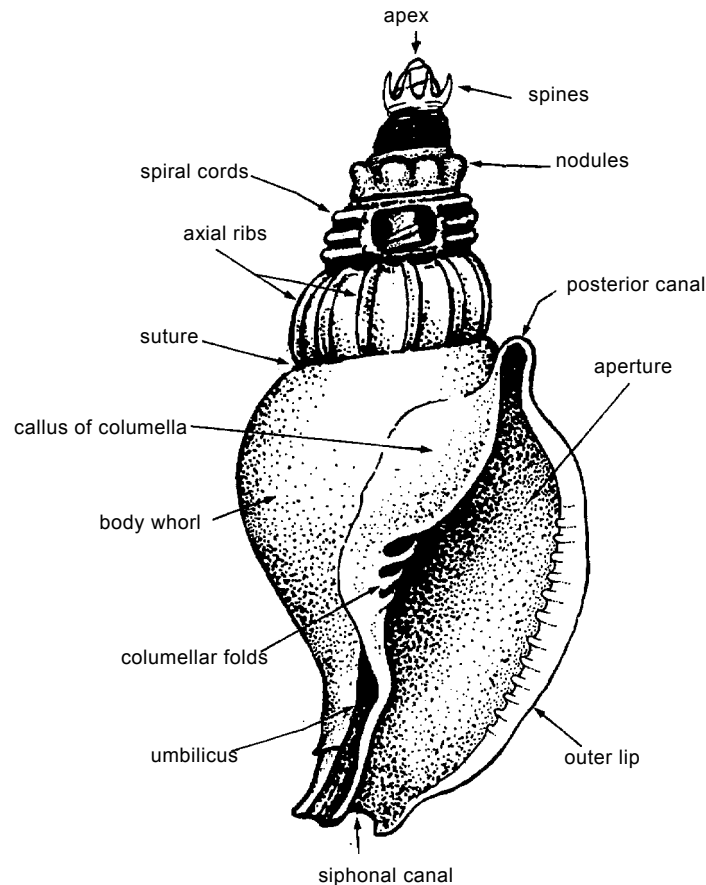


GASTROPODS

(Class Gastropoda - univalves, conches, whelks, etc.)

TECHNICAL TERMS AND GENERAL REMARKS

Gastropod Features



Glossary of Gastropod Terms

Aperture : the opening in the last whorl, providing an outlet for the head and foot.

Axial sculpture : ribs or growth lines that run parallel to the outer lip.

Operculum : a "trapdoor" grown on the posterior upper part of the foot of a snail. It may be hard and shelly or pliable and made of chitinous, or horny, material.

Periostracum : an outer layer of thin or thick chitinous material covering the outer shell. Sometimes with bristles or hairs.

Radula (plural - radulae) : microscopic hard teeth on a moveable ribbon in the mouth of molluscs, other than bivalves.

Spiral sculpture : cords or threads that encircle the whorls parallel to the sutures.

Spire : the whorls at the top, narrow end, where growth began.

Suture : continuous line on shell surface where the whorls join.

Umbilicus : a central cavity at the base or bottom of the shell.

Whorl : a turn or coil of a snail shell. The body whorl is the last and largest.

GASTROPODS

Even though the gastropod fauna taken in the various fishing operations is highly diversified, the present guide shows only edible species that are known to be found in markets, or those that may be considered of definite potential interest to fisheries.

CASSIDAE

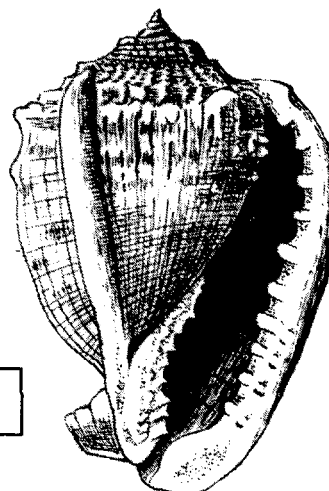
Cassis tessellata (Gmelin, 1791)

FAO names : **En** - Tessellate helmet; **Fr** - Casque à damier; **Sp** - Casco teselado.

Size : 26 cm

Habitat : in sandy bottoms from 1 to 50 m depth; rather common

Loc.name(s) :



2 or 3 spiral rows of knobs on shoulder

colour light tan with brown spots

CREPIDULIDAE

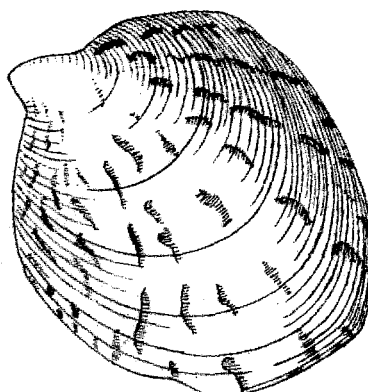
Crepidula goreensis (Gmelin, 1791)

FAO names : **En** - Goree slipper shell; **Fr** - Crépidule sandale; **Sp** - Concha sandalia.

Size : 4 cm.

Habitat : attached to other shells.

Loc.name(s) :



exterior smooth

colour white, rayed or speckled in brown

CYMATIIDAE

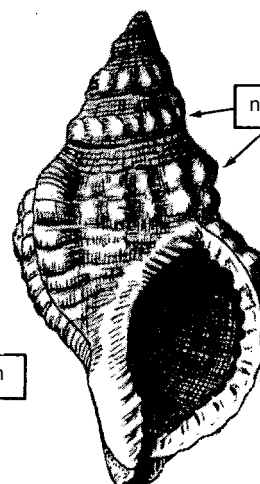
Charonia nodifera (Lamarck, 1816)

FAO names : **En** - Knobby triton; **Fr** - Triton noueux; **Sp** - Tritón buido.

Size : 30 cm

Habitat : coastal waters to 20 m depth.

Loc.name(s) :



nodular spiral cords

one rounded varix per whorl

colour brown, marbled with tan

FISSURELLIDAE

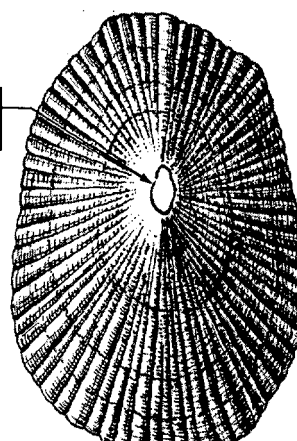
Fissurela nubecula (Linnaeus, 1758)

FAO names : **En** - Cloudy keyhole limpet; **Fr** - Fissurelle nuageuse; **Sp** - Fisurela nebulosa.

Size : 2.5 cm.

Habitat : on rocks exposed by the low tide.

Loc.name(s) :



orifice small and oval

numerous fine radial riblets

colour rose or violet with white rays

GASTROPODS

HALIOTIDAE

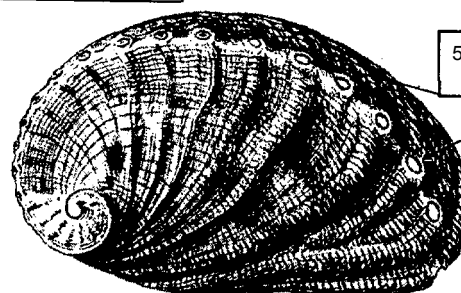
Haliotis tuberculata Linnaeus, 1758

FAO names : En - Tuberculate abalone; Fr - Ormeau tuberculeux; Sp - Oreja de mar.

Size : 8 cm.

Habitat : on rocks offshore.

Loc.name(s) :



interior iridescent, exterior rough

5 or 6 natural holes

colour brownish grey

MELONGENIDAE

Pugilina morio (Linnaeus, 1758)

FAO names : En - Giant hairy melongena; Fr - Mélongène noire; Sp - Melongena negra.

Size : 15 cm.

Habitat : in mangrove areas.

Loc.name(s) :



light spiral bands

colour dark brown, periostracum thick

MURICIDAE

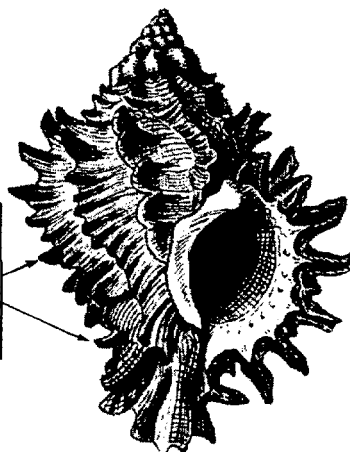
Murex angularis Lamarck, 1822

FAO names : En - Angular murex; Fr - Rocher anguleux; Sp - Cañailla africana.

Size : 5 cm.

Habitat : common among offshore rocks.

Loc.name(s) :



7-11 varices per whorl bearing about a dozen equal sized, tubular spines

colour yellow to brownish-black

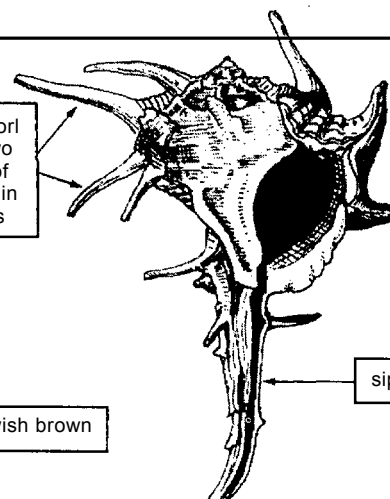
Murex cornutus Linnaeus, 1758

FAO names : En - Horned murex; Fr - Rocher cornu; Sp - Cañailla cornuda.

Size : 15 cm.

Habitat : among offshore rocks.

Loc.name(s) :



last whorl with two rows of long, thin spines

siphonal canal long

colour yellowish brown

GASTROPODS

MURICIDAE

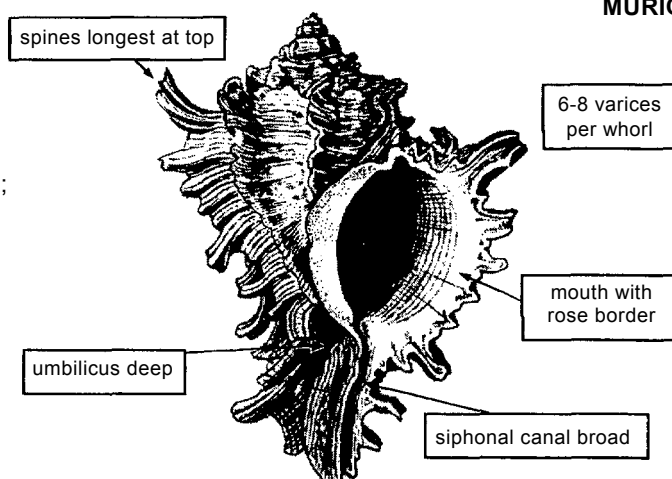
Murex duplex Röding, 1789

FAO names : **En** - Duplex murex; **Fr** - Rocher duplex;
Sp - Cañailla espinuda.

Size : 20 cm.

Habitat : offshore, among rocks.

Loc.name(s) :

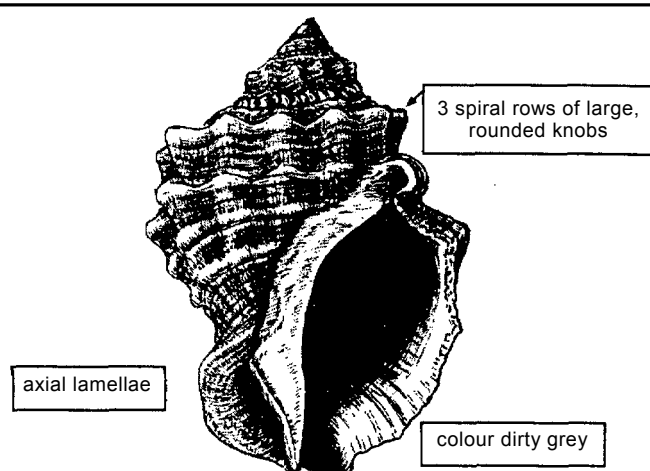
***Thais coronata*** (Lamark, 1816)

FAO names : **En** - Crowned rock shell; **Fr** - Ovarque couronnée; **Sp** - Púrpura coronada .

Size : 4 cm.

Habitat : common in mangrove areas.

Loc.name(s) :

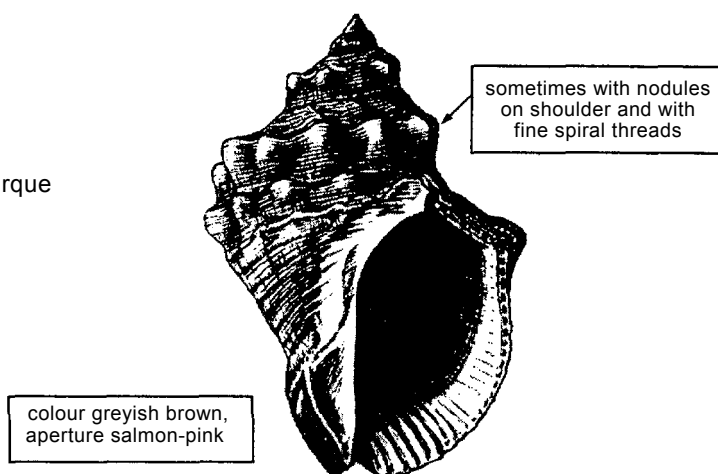
***Thais haemastoma*** (Lamarck, 1822)

FAO names : **En** - Red-mouthed rock shell; **Fr** - Ovarque bouche de sang; **Sp** - Boca roja.

Size : 6 cm.

Habitat : subtidal zone, on rocks.

Loc.name(s) :

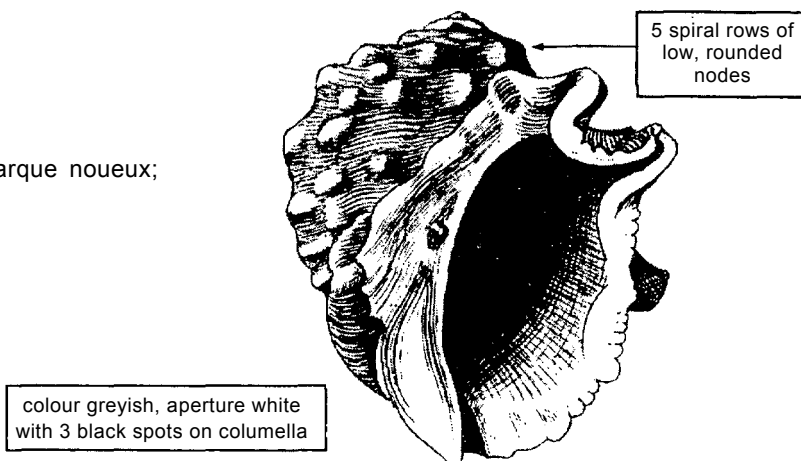
***Thais nodosa*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

FAO names : **En** - Nodose rock shell; **Fr** - Ovarque noueux; **Sp** - Púrpura nudosa.

Size : 5 cm.

Habitat : below the intertidal zone, on rocks.

Loc.name(s) :



GASTROPODS

NASSARIIDAE

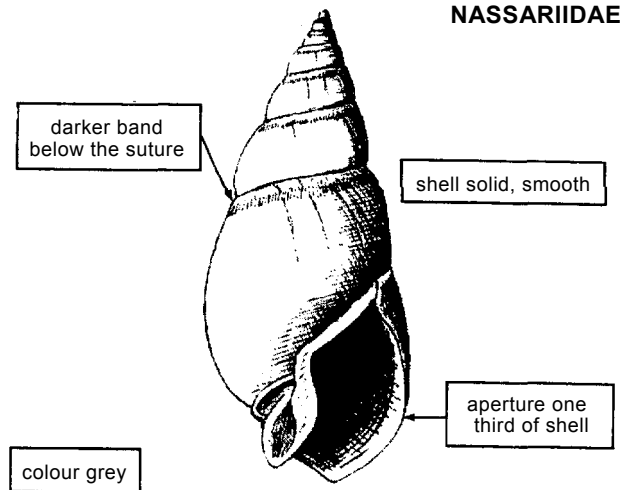
Bullia miran (Bruguière, 1789)

FAO names : **En** - Miran bullia; **Fr** - Bullie de miran; **Sp** - Bulia de Mirán.

Size : 2.5 cm.

Habitat : intertidal zone, in sandy mud bottoms.

Loc.name(s) :

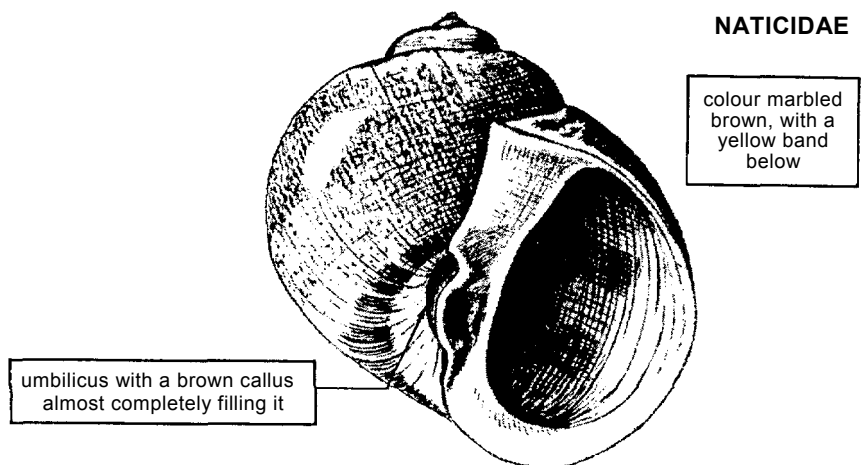
***Natica adansoni*** Blainville, 1825

FAO names : **En** - Adanson's moon snail; **Fr** - Natice d'Adanson; **Sp** - Nática de Adanson.

Size : 3 cm.

Habitat : intertidal zone, on sand.

Loc.name(s) :

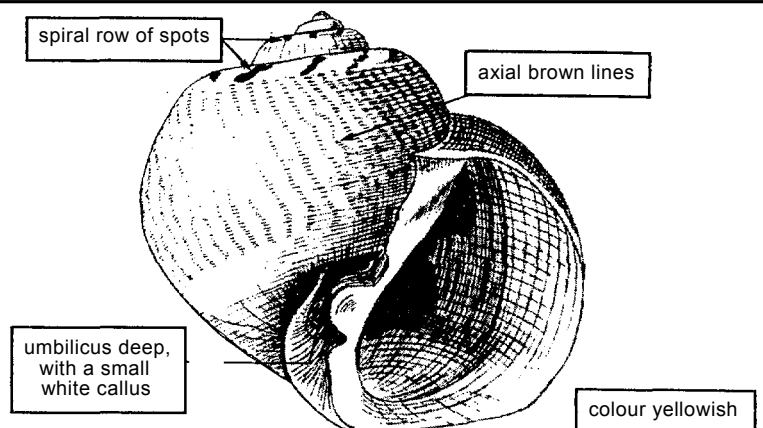
***Natica collaris*** Link, 1807

FAO names : **En** - Collar moon snail; **Fr** - Natice à collet; **Sp** - Nática engolada.

Size : 3 cm.

Habitat : below the intertidal zone, on sand.

Loc.name(s) :

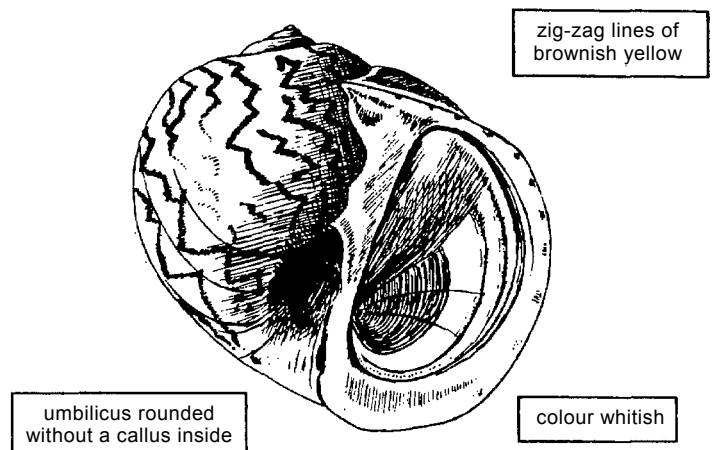
***Natica fulminea*** (Gmelin, 1791)

FAO names : **En** - Flamed moon snail; **Fr** - Natice flammée; **Sp** - Nática flamante.

Size : 3.5 cm.

Habitat : intertidal zone, on sand.

Loc.name(s) :



GASTROPODS

NATICIDAE

Natica marochiensis (Gmelin, 1791)

FAO names : **En** - Morocco moon snail; **Fr** - Natices du Maroc; **Sp** - Nática marroquí.

Size : 2.5 cm.

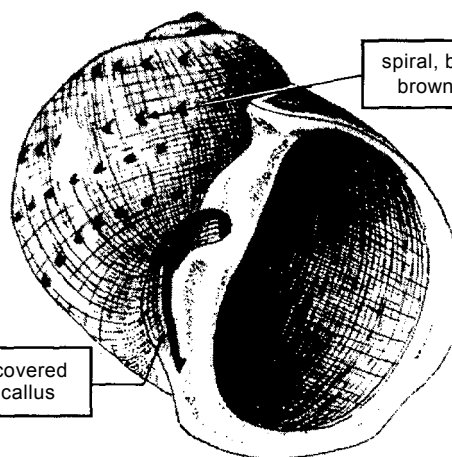
Habitat : intertidal zone, on sand.

Loc.name(s) :

umbilicus almost covered by a long, white callus

spiral, broken rows of dark brown dots and dashes

colour greyish brown

***Natica tigrina*** (Röding, 1798)

FAO names : **En** - Tiger moon snail; **Fr** - Natices tigrée; **Sp** - Nática atigrada.

Size : 3.5 cm.

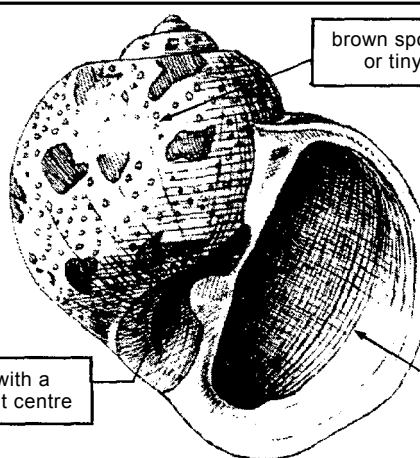
Habitat : intertidal zone, on sand.

Loc.name(s) :

umbilicus deep with a yellowish callus at centre

brown spots in spiral rows or tiny dots all over

aperture violet within

***Natica turtoni*** E.A. Smith, 1890

FAO names : **En** - Turton's moon snail; **Fr** - Natices de Turton; **Sp** - Nática de Turton.

Size : 3 cm

Habitat : intertidal zone, on sand.

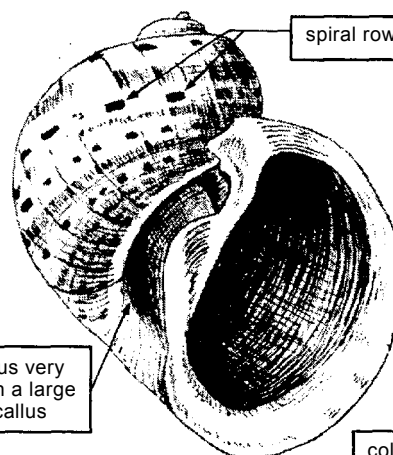
Loc.name(s) :

umbilicus very large, with a large white callus

spiral rows of brown dashes

aperture violet brown within

colour whitish

***Sinum concavum*** (Lamarck, 1822)

FAO names : **En** - Concave baby's ear; **Fr** - Natices concave; **Sp** - Sigarita cóncava.

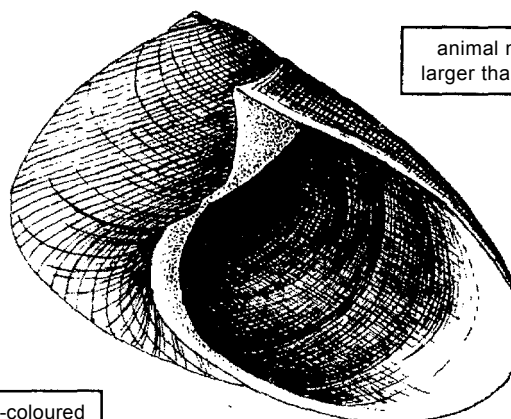
Size : 4.5 cm.

Habitat : intertidal zone, in sandy bottoms.

Loc.name(s) :

animal much larger than shell

shell tan-coloured



GASTROPODS

NERITIDAE

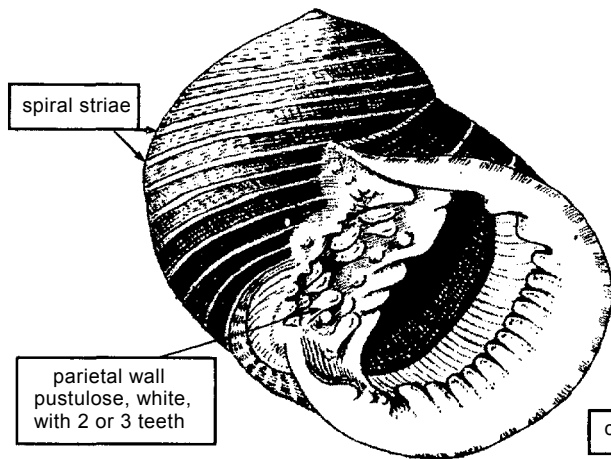
Nerita senegalensis (Gmelin, 1791)

FAO names : **En** - Senegal nerite; **Fr** - Nérîte du Sénégal; **Sp** - Nerita senegalesa.

Size : 5 cm.

Habitat : intertidal zone, on rocks.

Loc.name(s) :



colour blackish

PATELLIDAE

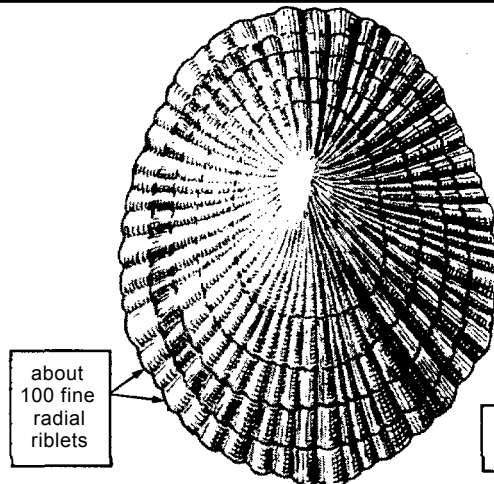
Patella safiana Lamarck, 1819

FAO names : **En** - Safian limpet; **Fr** - Patelle safian; **Sp** - Lepada safiana.

Size : 11 cm.

Habitat : intertidal zone, fixed to rocks.

Loc.name(s) :



shell oval
slightly
elevated
narrower
in front,
but shape
and
sculpture
variable

colour grey,
interior bluish grey

STROMBIDAE

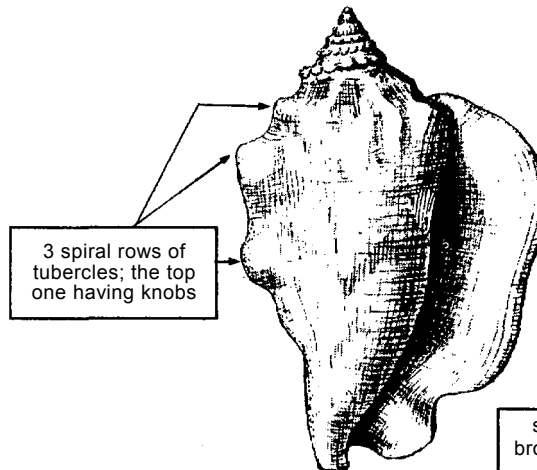
Strombus latus Gmelin, 1791

FAO names : **En** - West African stromb; **Fr** - Strombe d'Afrique occidentale; **Sp** - Cobo de Africa occidental.

Size : 14 cm.

Habitat : coastal waters to 10 m depth.

Loc.name(s) :



shell maculated in
brown, rose and white

VOLUTIDAE

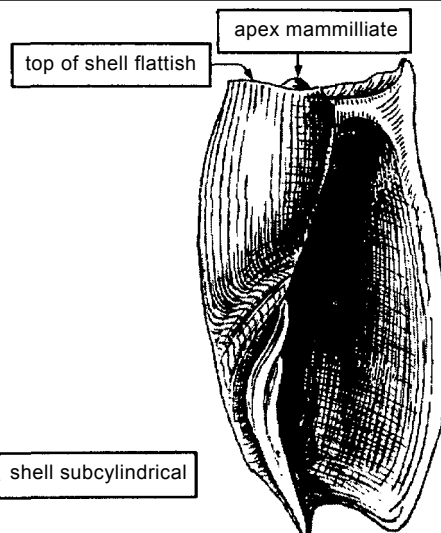
Cymbium cymbium (Linnaeus, 1758)

FAO names : **En** - Pig's snout volute; **Fr** - Volute trompe de cochon; **Sp** - Voluta trompa de cerdo.

Size : 15 cm.

Habitat : offshore waters, on sand.

Loc.name(s) :



outer
surface
glossy
smooth

colour pale
yellowish brown

GASTROPODS

VOLUTIIDAE

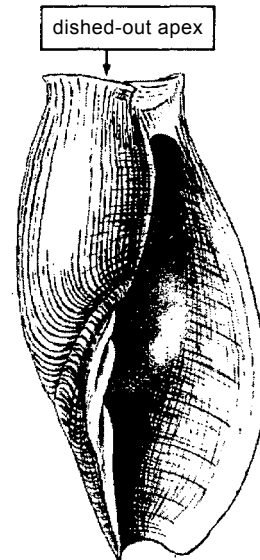
Cymbium glans (Gmelin, 1791)

FAO names : **En** - Elephant's snout volute; **Fr** -Volute trompe d'éléphant; **Sp** - Voluta trompa de elefante.

Size : 35 cm.

Habitat : offshore waters, on sand.

Loc.name(s) :



shell thin,
but strong,
cylindrical

colour greyish
brown, glossy

Cymbium pepo (Lightfoot, 1786)

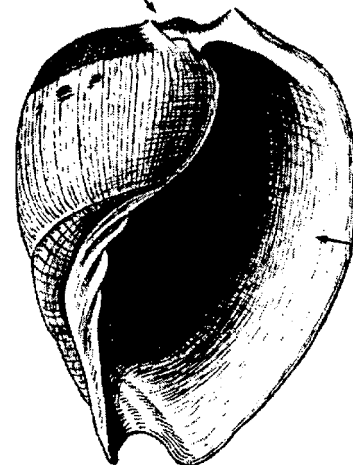
FAO names : **En** - Neptune's volute; **Fr** - Volute Neptune; **Sp** - Voluta de Neptuno.

Size : 27 cm.

Habitat : offshore waters, on sand.

Loc.name(s) :

apex hardly visible



shell globular

aperture very large

colour orange, periostracum brown