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ANNOTATED CHECKLIST OF MOLLUSKS OF CHESAPEAKE BAY
(Revised April 1956)

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This preliminary checklist has been prepared for the use of students and biologists working in the Chesapeake Bay area. The list is conservative and probably omits a number of species, especially small snails and parasitic groups like the pyrams. All species listed, with one or two exceptions, have been collected as live specimens by the author, and collections of each have been deposited in the U. S. National Museum. Species given in the literature but not yet confirmed by specimens in the National Museum have been purposely omitted.

The checklist includes all species collected in the brackish waters of Chesapeake Bay except certain fresh-water groups, e.g. the hydrobiids, which invade salty waters a short distance. The ocean shore of Virginia, both on Eastern Shore and the mainland, has been excluded.

The families are arranged in the order found in Johnson's checklist and the nomenclature follows Johnson except where Abbott or Johnsonia give changes. Ranges are taken mostly from Abbott, and extensions of ranges from those given by Abbott in his first edition are indicated by an asterisk.

The published list by Ferguson and Jones for the lower Bay in the vicinity of the Norfolk peninsula must be used with care because several mollusk names are erroneous or confused. In this list, apparently the genus Anomia is included twice, once as Acmaea; also, it is probably confused with Anadara. The angel-wing clam is listed by three synonymous generic names as though they were three distinct species in as many genera. Teredo navalis is rare in Chesapeake Bay and is not the common shipworm. Cardium magnum is probably confused with Dinocardium robustum which occurs from Virginia Beach southward. Brachidontes exustus probably refers to B. recurvus. Siliqua costata and Pecten edgecombensis have not been taken yet.

In the upper Bay, Dr. Frances Allen has recently published several short papers extending our knowledge of mollusk distribution in low salinity waters. Two preliminary mimeographed lists which include mollusks have been prepared at the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, Solomons, Maryland. One contains fossil and recent species collected in the vicinity of Solomons in June and July 1937 and identified by conchologists of the U. S. National Museum. The other is a list of common marine invertebrates which includes mollusks.

Many species common in Chesapeake Bay are represented in the National Museum by very scanty material, and good collections sent to the Museum or to the author would facilitate work on the molluscan fauna of Chesapeake Bay.

In the checklist abundance of living specimens is given as follows:

Rare - found only occasionally
Scarce - available upon search in known places
Common - likely to be found by students on any field trip if the proper habitat is visited
Abundant - found in large numbers at nearly all seasons
Very abundant - a dominant or ubiquitous species

Salinities are denoted by: LS = 0 to 15 ppt.; MS = 15 to 25 ppt.; HS = 25 to 35 ppt.; AS = all salinities in Bay.

Some literature on mollusks in Chesapeake Bay

1. Allen, J. Frances. 1954. Notes on the gastropods collected in the vicinity of Crisfield, Maryland. Naut. 67(3): 92-94.
2. Allen, J. Frances. 1954. Notes on the molluscan fauna of Galesville, Maryland. Naut. 67(4):108-112.
3. Allen, J. Frances. 1954. The influence of bottom sediments on the distribution of five species of bivalves in the Little Annessex River, Chesapeake Bay. Naut. 68(2):56-65.
4. Allen, J. Frances. 1955. A note on Amygdalum papyria Conrad in Maryland Waters of Chesapeake Bay. Naut. 68(3):83-87.
5. Allen, J. Frances. 1955. The occurrence of estuarine bivalves in an unusual habitat. Naut. 68(3):87-90.
6. Anonymous. 1937. Mollusca of the Solomons Island Region. (Typewritten copies only) Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, Solomons, Maryland.
7. Cowles, R. R. 1930. A biological study of the offshore waters of Chesapeake Bay. Bull. U. S. Bur. Fish. 46:277-381.
8. Ferguson, Frederick F., and E. Ruffin Jones, Jr. 1949. A survey of the shore-line fauna of the Norfolk Peninsula. The Amer. Mid. Nat. 41(2): 436-446.
9. Mansueti, Romeo, and Rudolf Scheltema. 1952. A provisional list of the common marine invertebrates found around the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, Maryland. (Mimeographed). Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, Solomons, Maryland.
10. Uhler, P. R. 1879. List of animals observed at Fort Wool, Virginia. Studies from the Biol. Laboratory, Johns Hopkins University, Session 1877-78: 17-34

Phylum Mollusca
Class Pelecypoda
Order Prionodesmacea

Family Solemyidae

Genus Solemya Lamarck 1818

1. Solemya velum Say 1822. Atlantic Awning Clam. Nova Scotia to Florida. Scarce to common in shallow waters near submerged aquatic flowering plants; MS.

Family Nuculidae

Genus Nucula Lamarck 1799

2. Nucula proxima Say 1822. Nut Clam. Nova Scotia to Florida and Texas. Rare; in deep water only; HS.

Family Nuculanidae (Ledidae)

Genus Yoldia Möller 1842

3. Yoldia limatula Say 1831. File Yoldia. Gulf of St. Lawrence to North Carolina. Rare; in deep water only; HS.

Family Arcidae

Genus Anadara Gray 1847 (Arca)

4. Anadara transversa Say 1822. Transverse Ark. Massachusetts to Texas. Common; solitary; MS.
5. Anadara ovalis Bruguière . Blood Ark. Massachusetts to West Indies and Gulf States. Common; MS.

Family Ostreidae

Genus Crassostrea Sacco 1897 (Ostrea)

6. Crassostrea virginica Gmelin 1792. Virginia Oyster. Prince Edward Island to the West Indies and Texas. Very abundant; AS.

Family Anomiidae

Genus Anomia Linné 1758

7. Anomia simplex Orbigny 1845. Jingle Shell. New York to the East Indies. Common on hard substrata; MS.

Family Mytilidae

Genus Mytilus Linné 1758

8. Mytilus edulis Linné 1758. Edible blue mussel. Arctic Ocean to South Carolina. Small specimens common in deep water in season but rare in shallow water and intertidally; maximum size about one inch; HS.

Genus Brachidontes Swainson 1840

9. Brachidontes recurvus Rafinesque 1820. Hooked Mussel. Cape Cod to West Indies. Abundant, particularly in low salinity waters on oysters and shells; AS.

- Genus *Amygdalum* Megerle 1811
10. *Amygdalum papyria* Conrad 1846. Paper Mussel. Chesapeake Bay to Florida and Texas. Scarce in shallow water among aquatic plants; AS.

- Genus *VolSELLa* Scopoli 1777
11. *VolSELLa demissa* Dillwyn 1817. Ribbed Mussel. Gulf of St. Lawrence to South Carolina. Very abundant; mostly intertidal; AS.

- Family Dreissenidae
Genus *Congeria* Partsch 1835 (Mytilopsis)
12. *Congeria leucophaeta* Conrad 1831. False Mussel. New York to Florida to Texas and Mexico. Common to very abundant on oyster shells in low salinity waters only; LS.

- Family Pectinidae
Genus *Aequipecten* P. Fischer 1887
13. *Aequipecten irradians* Lamarck . Bay Scallop. Nova Scotia to Florida and Texas. Rare since epidemic of disease of eelgrass in 1930's; HS.

Order Anomalodesmacea

- Family Pandoridae
Genus *Pandora* Chemnitz 1795
14. *Pandora trilineata* Say 1822. Say's Pandora. Chesapeake Bay to Florida and Texas. Rare; solitary; HS

- Family Lyonsiidae
Genus *Lyonsia* Turton 1822
15. *Lyonsia hyalina* Conrad 1831. Glassy Lyonsia. Nova Scotia to South Carolina. Solitary but fairly common; HS.

Order Teleodesmacea

- Family Corbidulidae (Cyrenidae and Cycladidae)
Genus *Polymesoda* Rafinesque 1820
16. *Polymesoda caroliniana* Bosc 1830. Marsh Clam. Virginia to north half of Florida and Texas. Low salinity brackish waters in marshes, marsh banks and stone ripraps of James River - Hampton Roads System only; LS.

- Family Carditidae
Genus *Venericardia* Lamarck 1801
- *17. *Venericardia tridentata* Say 1826. Three-toothed Cardita. Chesapeake Bay to Florida. Rare.

- Family Lucinidae
Genus *Lucina* Bruguiere 1797 (Phacoides)
- *18. *Lucina multilineata* Tuomey and Holmes 1857. Chesapeake Bay to both sides of Florida. Rare.

Family Leptonidae

Genus *Alignea* H. C. Lea 1843

19. *Alignea elevata* Stimpson 1851. Massachusetts to North Carolina. Rare; only one collection.

Family Cardiidae

Genus *Laevicardium* Swainson 1840

20. *Laevicardium mortoni* Conrad 1830. Morton's egg cockle. Cape Cod to Florida and the Gulf of Mexico. Abundant; hinged shells common on beaches particularly in winter; MS.

Family Veneridae

Genus *Mercenaria* Schumacher 1817

21. *Mercenaria mercenaria* Linne 1758. Quahog or Hard-shell Clam. Gulf of St. Lawrence to Florida and Gulf of Mexico. Abundant; MS.

Genus *Gemma* Deshayes 1853

22. *Gemma gemma* Totten 1834. Gem Clam. Nova Scotia to Florida, Texas and the Bahamas. Scarce usually, but very abundant on certain sandy beaches; AS.

Family Petricolidae

Genus *Petricola* Lamarck 1801

23. *Petricola pholadiformis* Lamarck 1818. False Angel Wing. Prince Edward Island to the West Indies and Texas. Common in restricted habitats; MS.

Family Tellinidae

Genus *Macoma* Leach 1819

24. *Macoma balthica* Linne' 1758. Little Round Clam. Arctic Seas southward in deep water to Georgia. Abundant in soft mud bottoms; AS.
25. *Macoma phenax* Dall 1900. Chesapeake Bay. Scarce.
26. *Macoma tenta* Say 1834. Cape Cod to Florida. Common in sandy mud.

Family Donacidae

Genus *Donax* Linné 1758

27. *Donax variabilis* Say 1822. Wedge or Butterfly Shell. Cape Henry to south Florida and Texas. Sporadic but abundant on wave-lashed sandy beaches of extreme lower Bay only.
28. *Donax fossor* (?) Say 1822. Long Island to Cape Charles.

Family Sanguinolariidae

Genus *Tagelus* Gray 1847

29. *Tagelus plebius* Solander. Stout Razor Clam. Cape Cod to south Florida and the Gulf states. Abundant in sandy or muddy bottoms; MS.
30. *Tagelus divisus* Spengler 1794. Fragile Stout Razor Clam. Massachusetts to Florida and Texas. Rare.

Family Solenidae

Genus *Ensis* Schumacher 1817

31. *Ensis directus* Conrad 1843. Razor clam. Laborador to South Carolina. Abundance?
- *32. *Ensis minor* Dall 1900. Chesapeake Bay (?) to both sides of Florida. Common (?) in sandy and muddy bottoms.

Family Mactridae

Genus *Spisula* Gray 1837 (*Mactra*)

33. *Spisula solidissima* Dillwyn 1817. Surf Clam. Nova Scotia to South Carolina. Restricted to mouth of the Bay on sandy shores.

Genus *Mulinia* Gray 1837

34. *Mulinia lateralis* Say 1822. Little Surf Clam. Maine to north Florida and Texas. Common on sandy beaches; AS.

Family Myacidae

Genus *Mya* Linné 1758

35. *Mya arenaria* Linne 1758. Mannose, Butterfish, Soft-shelled Clam. Laborador to North Carolina. Common to abundant in sandy to muddy bottoms; nearly AS.

Family Pholadidae

Genus *Barnea* Risso 1826 (*Pholas*)

36. *Barnea costata* Linne 1758. Angel Wing. Massachusetts to south Florida. Common; deep burrowers; MS.
37. *Barnea truncata* Say 1822. Fallen Angel Wing. Massachusetts to south Florida. Scarce except in certain clay bottoms; AS.

Genus *Martesia* Blainville 1824

38. *Martesia smithii* Tryon 1862. Boring Clam. New York to north half of Florida and to Texas. Apparently rare but borings in oyster shells fairly common; MS.

Family Teredidae

Genus *Bankia* Gray 1842

39. *Bankia gouldi* Bartsch 1908. Shipworm. New Jersey to Florida, Texas and the West Indies. Abundant in lower half of Bay; MS.

Class Gastropoda
Order Prosobranchiata

Family Epitoniidae

Genus Epitonium Bolten 1798

1. Epitonium rupicolum Kurtz 1860. Brown-banded Wentletrap. Cape Cod to Florida and Texas. Scarce; solitary; mostly empty shells.

Family Melanellidae

Genus Melanella Bowdich 1822 (Eulima)

2. Melanella intermedia Conraine 1835. Vineyard Sound to off Georgia. Rare.

Family Pyramidellidae

Genus Pyramidella Lamarck 1799

3. Pyramidella candida (?) Morch 1875. Chesapeake Bay to the Gulf of Mexico and West Indies. Rare.

Genus Turbonilla Risso 1826

4. Turbonilla lineolata (?) Bush 1899.
5. Turbonilla sp. (Subgenus Pyrgiscus)
6. Turbonilla interrupta Totten 1835. Casco Bay, Maine to the West Indies.

Genus Odostomia Fleming 1817

7. Odostomia impressa Say 1822 (Subgenus Menestho). Massachusetts Bay to Gulf of Mexico. Common Pyramid ecto-parasite on C. virginica in Chesapeake Bay; found on lips of oysters.

Genus Chrysallida Carpenter 1856 (Odostomia)

8. Chrysallida sp. (does not appear to be C. seminuda). Rare; host unknown.

Family Naticidae

Genus Polynices Montfort 1810

9. Polynices duplicatus Say 1822. Moon-shell. Cape Cod to Florida and the Gulf States. Scarce; solitary; burrowing in sand.

Genus Sinum

10. Sinum perspectivum Say . Ear Shell. Virginia to Florida and the Gulf States. Rare in Bay. HS.

Family Calyptraeidae

Genus Crepidula Lamarck 1799

11. Crepidula fornicata Linne 1767. Boat or Slipper Shell. Prince Island to Texas and West Indies. Common on oysters and other hard substrata; MS.
12. Crepidula convexa Say 1822. Convex Slipper Shell. Nova Scotia to Florida and Texas. Common to abundant on hard substrata and eelgrass; MS.
13. Crepidula plana Say 1822. Flat White Slipper Shell. Prince Edward Island to Texas. Scarce and sporadic; usually inside shells or crevices; MS.

Family Synceratidae
Genus Syncera Gray 1821

14. Syncera modesta H. C. Lea 1845. Found in salt marshes with Melampus.

Family Littorinidae
Genus Littorina Ferussac 1821

15. Littorina irrorata Say 1822. Marsh Periwinkle. Long Island to Florida to Texas. Abundant near high tide line in sedges and grasses bordering brackish waters.

Family Triphoridae
Genus Triphora Blainville 1828

16. Triphora nigrocincta C. B. Adams 1839. Massachusetts to Florida, Texas and the West Indies. Common on oyster bars; MS.

Family Cerithiopsidae
Genus Cerithiopsis Forbes and Hanley 1849

17. Cerithiopsis sp. Rare; found with Triphora.

Genus Seila A. Adams 1861

18. Seila adamsi H. C. Lea 1845. Massachusetts to Florida, Texas and the West Indies. Rare.

Family Cerithiidae
Genus Bittium Gray 1847

19. Bittium alternatum Say 1822. Gulf of St. Lawrence to Virginia. Very abundant on eelgrass in shallow water.

Family Muricidae

Genus Eupleura H. and A. Adams 1853

20. Eupleura caudata Say 1822. Rough oyster drill or borer. Massachusetts to Florida. Common on oyster grounds; MS.

Genus Urosalpinx Stimpson 1865

21. Urosalpinx cinerea Say 1822. Smooth oyster drill. Nova Scotia to southern Florida. Common on oyster grounds; MS.

Family Pyrenidae

Genus Anachis H. and A. Adams 1853

22. Anachis avara Say 1822. Dove Shell. New Jersey to Florida and Texas. Common but sporadic and gregarious; MS.

Genus Mitrella Risso 1826

23. Mitrella lunata Say 1826. Lunar Dove Shell. Massachusetts to Florida, Texas and the West Indies. Common on oyster grounds; MS.

Family Nassariidae

Genus Nassarius Dumeril 1806

- *24. Nassarius vibex Say 1822. Mottled Mud Snail. Chesapeake Bay to Florida, the Gulf States and the West Indies. Abundant on oyster grounds and tidal flats; AS.
25. Nassarius trivittatus Say 1822. New England Nassa. Nova Scotia to South Carolina. Rare in Chesapeake Bay; HS.
26. Nassarius obsoletus Say 1822. Eastern Mud Snail or Basket Shell. Gulf of St. Lawrence to northeastern Florida. Most common mud snail on intertidal flats; very abundant.

Family Melongenidae

Genus Busycon Roding 1798

27. Busycon carica Gmelin 1790. Knobbed Whelk or Conch. South shore of Cape Cod to central east Florida. Scarce; HS.
28. Busycon canaliculatum Linne 1758. Channeled Whelk. Cape Cod to St. Augustine, Florida. Common.

Family Marginellidae

Genus Marginella Lamarck 1799

- *29. Marginella guttata Dillwyn 1817. Chesapeake Bay to Florida and the West Indies. Rare; deep water; HS.

Family Terebridae

Genus Terebra Bruguiere 1789

30. Terebra dislocata Say 1822. Common Auger Shell. Virginia to Florida, Texas and the West Indies. Rare.

Family Turridae

Genus Mangelia Risso 1826

31. Mangelia plicosa C. B. Adams 1840. Massachusetts to the Gulf Coast of Florida. Common on oysters.

Family Retusidae

Genus Retusa Brown 1827

32. Retusa canaliculata Say 1822. Prince Edward Island to Florida and Texas. Scarce.
33. Retusa obtusa Montagu . Greenland to Florida. Scarce.

Family Atyidae

Genus Haminoea Turton and Kingston 1830

34. Haminoea solitaria Say 1822. Cape Cod to North Carolina. Sporadic; spring only.

Order Pulmonata
Family Ellobiidae

Genus Melampus Montfort 1810

35. Melampus bidentatus Say 1822. Salt Marsh Snail. Prince Edward Island to the Gulf of Mexico. Very abundant near high tide line in marshes.

Genus Detracia Gray 1840

36. Detracia floridana Pfeiffer 1856. Delaware Bay to Louisiana. Occurs nearer fresh water in salt marshes than Melampus.

Order Nudibranchia

Family Doridae

37. Unidentified.

Family Corambidae

Genus Corambella Balch 1899

- *38. Corambella depressa Balch 1899. Chesapeake Bay and Cold Spring Harbor New York.

