



Miste 2003, an impression

Birgitte and Eivind Palm*

During the winter rumours spread: "There is going to be a digging in Miste." At once our attention was awakened. We did have some very nice fossils in our collection from that place (a gift from a very generous collector), and we very much would like to find something ourselves, but when we spoke with other collectors they all told us, that Miste was over. No new diggings were to be done here. But some months later it was a reality, and we were very optimistic and talked to other Danes about the possibility and soon we were to be a little group of Danes going to the event.

There were, in fact four different teams of collectors, but as one of us had rented a bungalow - belonging to the camping-site - big enough for all of us, we soon decided to stay there.

We then went for the place and what an experience! The hole was 6 times bigger than in Heist-op-den-Berg and very much richer in fossils. It was really a pleasure to see. Sten (and his team) from Fredericia (he owns a museum there, that is indeed worth seeing!) had made a big and very expensive sieve and had rented a pump, so the equipment was in best order for us. He allowed us kindly to take part in the big sieve many times and as the waterflow was rather gentle, most of the fossils were secured in perfect conditions. In fact the only limit was what we could hold in the car (and that was a problem, because the material was wet).

Everything was just fine, except for the fact, that Birgitte had pneumonia all the time, and for that reason we had to go back to Denmark before planned.

But part of such an event is also meeting other collectors, just as crazy as ourselves and we spoke and met many interesting people, people, with whom we are going to keep in contact with in the future. In fact Herbert & Ellen Moths (whom we knew in advance) have already paid us a visit, and together we have been looking at some of the better specimens from the Miste trip.

Now we think that everybody has to do a lot of washing and cleaning, drying and sorting out all the fossils from the residue. And best of all: put names on the species. To us, that is the most interesting part of collecting, and we have already identified everything bigger than ca. 5 mm (nearly 300 species found by now). But there is a lot more material containing the smaller and just as interesting species.

And then it is always a pleasure to tell about the findings afterwards. So we have to tell you, that we have found one very nice and perfect *Morum* cf. *dunkeri* (Speyer), a little *Athleta ficulina* (Lamarck) (Ellen & Herbert Moths have found a beautiful, big one, pictured here!), two *Apio-cypraea subphysis septemtrionalis* (Schilder), five *Architectonica millegranum subcanaliculatum* (Orbigny), one

(a little smashed) *Bursa pelouatensis* (Cossmann & Peyrot), one part of *Babylonia brugadina* (Grateloup), one *Fusus subrugosus* (Orbigny), two *Oliva dufresnei* (Basterot), a couple of *Trigonostoma extractrix* (Boettger), one *Bursa pelouatensis* (Cossmann & Peyrot), one *Corallio-phila bracteata* (Brocchi) and one *Conus aquensis* (Orbigny), to mention a few. From Sten we got one very nice *Astraea belgica* Glibert. Carl Christian has also found one *Trivia westfalica* (Schilder). But more is still to be discovered in the future.

Interesting bivalves are few, but *Monia anitae* (Janse & Jansen) is not to be found in the Miste-book. We have found more specimens of this species, common in Heist-op-den-Berg. Other collectors have found the species as well. Also one *Limatula sulcata* (Brown) was present in the smaller material.

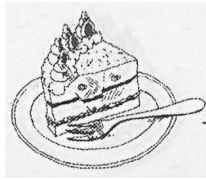
To help others, who try to put names on the nasty *Natica* species, it is worth knowing that Günter Wienrich (Wienrich, 1999) does not think that *Natica tigrina* and *Natica hoernesii* can be separated as two species. That, we think, could ease some headaches!

So, one thing is for certain: it was an experience for life, very well organised (and the weather was nice too!) and if there is ever to be another digging at Miste, we will be there! (but we have to finish what we have brought home first!).

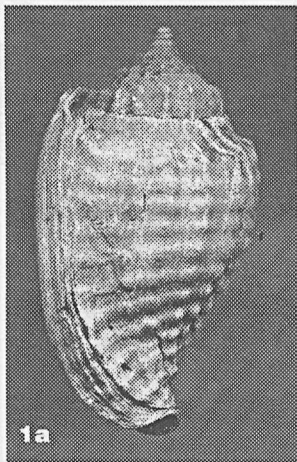
References

Wienrich, G., 1999. Die Fauna des marinen Miozäns von Kevelaer (Niederrhein). Band 2. Backhuys Publishers, Leiden. 384 pp.

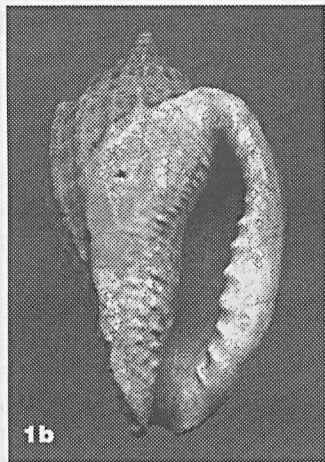
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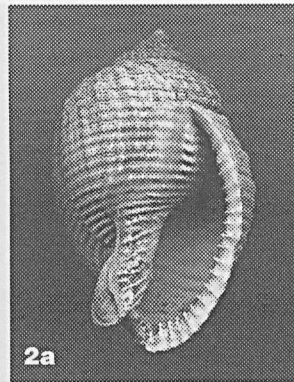
FOTO'S EIVIND PALM



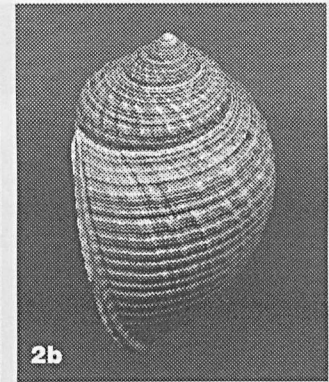
1a



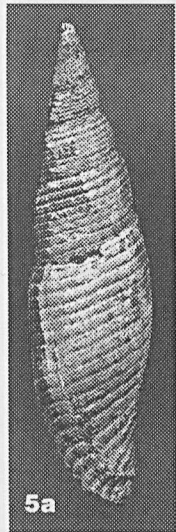
1b



2a



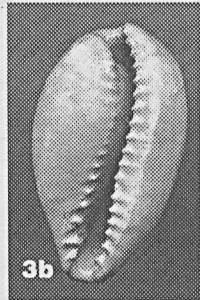
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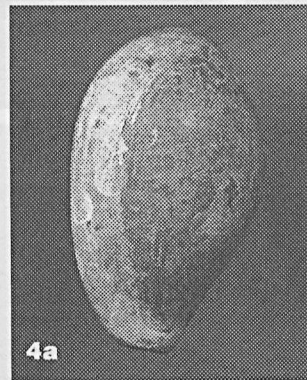
5a



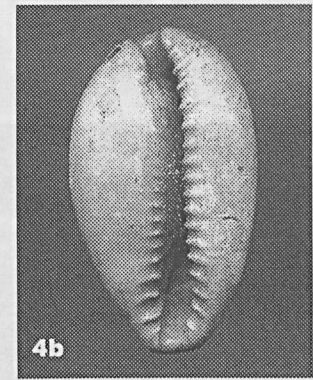
3a



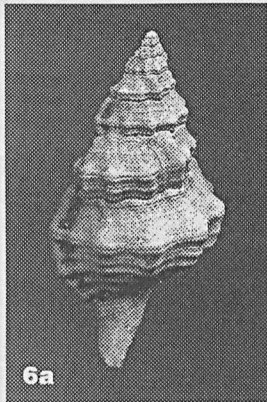
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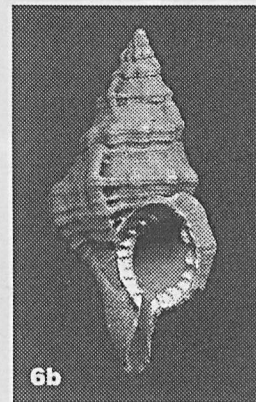
4a



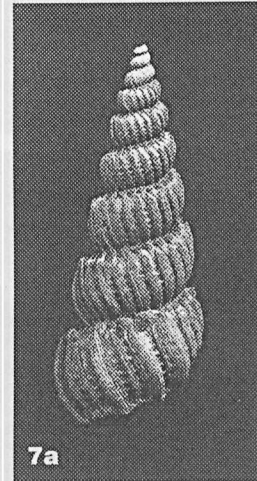
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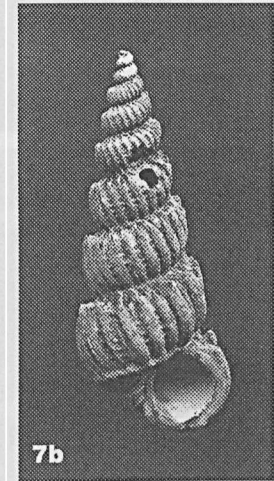
6a



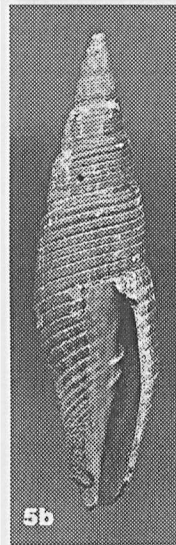
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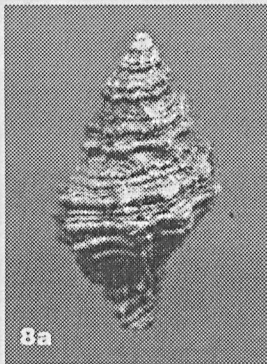
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7b



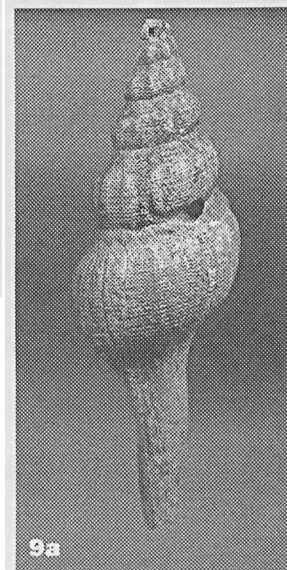
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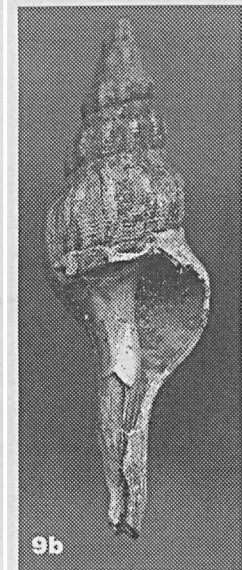
8a



8b



9a



9b

- 1a, b *Atleta ficuluna* (Lamarck)
 2a, b *Semicassis bicoronata*
 3a, b en 4a, b *Apiocyprea septemtrionalis* (Schilder)
 5a, b *Mitra grateloupi*
 6a, b *Charonia tarbelliniana*
 7a, b *Cirsotrema sallomacense nordicum* Glibert
 8a, b *Coralliophila bracteata* (Brocchi)
 9a, b *Fusus subrugosus* (Orbigny)

