Pliocene ostracods (Crustacea) from the Togakushi area, central Japan; palaeobiogeography of trans-Arctic taxa and Japan Sea endemic species

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ABSTRACT – Pliocene strata (4–3 Ma) in the Togakushi area, central Japan, yield significant ostracods, which allow investigation of the origins of high-latitude (Arctic–Atlantic) taxa and the Japan Sea endemic species, together with their post-Miocene history of extinction-speciation and migration. Three types of extinct species are found here: (1) cryophilic species in common with, or closely related to, species in Plio-Pleistocene assemblages described from the Japan Sea; (2) species closely related to, or comparable with, species that characterize Miocene Japan; and (3) species endemic to the Pliocene Japan Sea. Type (1) contains species closely related to high-latitude species known from the Arctic and northern Atlantic Oceans. Their presence suggests migration from the northwestern Pacific to the northern Atlantic through the Arctic seas since the Late Pliocene after the opening of the Bering Strait. Both Types (2) and (3) contain genera originating in the south, which show high specific diversity in regions affected by the modern warm Kuroshio Current. Ancestral ostracods of Types (2) and (3) invaded the Japan Sea from the Pacific from the Middle Miocene, and diversified to produce closely related species in the semi land-locked Japan Sea until the Early Pliocene. Two new species *Aurila togakushiensis* sp. nov. and *Aurila shigaramiensis* sp. nov. are described. J. Micropalaeontol. **27**(2): 161–175, November 2008.

KEYWORDS: Pliocene, ostracods, Togakushi, Japan, palaeobiogeography

INTRODUCTION

Key insights for modelling the potential impact of future environmental fluctuations on the world's biota are provided by examining the effects of environmental change on biodiversity from the geological past (e.g. Thomas & Gooday, 1996; Cronin et al., 1999). Predictions of migration and extinction-speciation in response to possible future environmental fluctuations can be obtained from studies on biotic responses of past shallow-sea benthic faunas to environmental change caused by geological events in the Late Cenozoic (Cronin & Raymo, 1997; Boomer et al., 2003; Amano, 2005; Whatley et al., 2005). Species compositions of the shallow-marine benthic fauna, particularly marginal seas surrounded by land, are influenced most strongly by both marine and continental environmental changes. Both species compositions and environments changed more rapidly in the Late Cenozoic than at any other time. For this reason, fossil analysis of the Late Cenozoic shallow-sea benthos and its relationship to oceanic environment in the marginal sea have become increasingly important.

The shallow-marine benthic faunas in the Japan Sea along the northwestern Pacific margin changed drastically during the Late Cenozoic (Chinzei, 1991; Hanagata, 2003) in response to major geological events in and around this region. Such events included the Japan Sea developing during back-arc spreading (20–15 Ma), the closure of the southern strait of the Japan Sea (10–3 Ma) and the opening of the Bering Strait in the North Pacific (5–2 Ma) (e.g. Koizumi, 1992; Tada, 1994; Otofuji *et al.*, 1994; Hoshi & Takahashi, 1999; Ogasawara, 2001).

Japan Sea benthic ostracods are ideal for such studies because of their responses to environmental change and abundance in both Late Cenozoic strata and modern surface sediments (e.g. Ozawa *et al.*, 2004a; Ozawa, 2006). The cryophilic (less than 5°C water temperature in winter) ostracod fauna, including closely related high-latitude (Arctic–Atlantic) species, flourished in the shallow Japan Sea in the Late Pliocene and Pleistocene (Cronin & Ikeya, 1987) and attained their highest diversity in the Early Pleistocene, *c*. 1.5 Ma (Ozawa & Kamiya, 2005a). Many of these ostracods are now extinct and only a few remnant cryophilic species are known to inhabit restricted shallow waters in, and around, the modern northern Japan Sea (Ozawa, 2003a, 2004; Ozawa *et al.*, 2004b). The sequence of species diversity from flourishing to near extinction relates to a series of environmental fluctuations in the Pleistocene Japan Sea that are now well understood as a result of recent studies (Ozawa, 2003b, 2007; Ozawa & Kamiya, 2005a).

To date, few attempts have been made to document the Pliocene (4–3 Ma) shallow-water ostracod assemblages of the Japan Sea. Previous studies were conducted on slightly younger ostracods from the Late Pliocene, *c*. 3–2 Ma (Ishizaki & Matoba, 1985; Cronin & Ikeya, 1987; Irizuki, 1989, 1996; Cronin *et al.*, 1994; Ozawa, 1996; Ozawa & Kamiya, 2001; Yamada *et al.*, 2002, 2005; Irizuki *et al.*, 2007) and those from the Late Miocene (8–7 Ma; Irizuki, 1994). A gap exists in the faunal record for both ostracod species composition and distribution in the Japan Sea between 7 Ma and 3 Ma.

The 4–3 Ma Pliocene strata are restricted to the Togakushi area of central Japan and contain abundant, shallow-water, calcareous fossils (e.g. Amano & Karasawa, 1993; Nagamori, 1998). The purpose of this study was to ascertain the Pliocene (4–3 Ma) shallow-water ostracod composition from the Togakushi area, and to discuss the origins of cryophilic species closely related to high-latitude taxa and the endemic species in the Japan Sea, together with their post-Miocene history of the extinction-speciation and migration.



Fig. 1. Distribution of the Takafu and Ogikubo formations in the Togakushi area, showing localities for ostracod fossils, modified from Nagamori (1998) and Nagamori *et al.* (2003). T1 and OT10 are tuff names.

GEOLOGICAL SETTING

The Takafu and Ogikubo formations occur in the Togakushi region, approximately 10 km northwest of Nagano City, central Japan (Fig. 1). The stratigraphy was described in detail by Amano & Karasawa (1993), Nagamori (1998) and Nagamori *et al.* (2003), demonstrating that these formations overlie the Arakurayama Formation, both conformably and unconformably, with localized intercalation in places (Fig. 2). The Takafu Formation is composed mainly of mudstone containing molluscan fossils, with fine- to coarse-grained sandstones. The Ogikubo Formation interfingers with the Takafu Formation

and is composed mainly of tuffaceous, fine- to coarse-grained sandstones and conglomerates that yield abundant molluscan fossils. The Takafu and Ogikubo formations are conformably overlain by the Sarumaru Formation.

The Early to Late Pliocene planktic foraminifers *Globigerina* apertura and *Neogloboquadrina dutertrei* occur in the uppermost Ogikubo Formation, and indicate the lower part of Zone N21 of Blow (1969) dated as c. 3.0 Ma (Tsuchi & Ibaraki, 1988; Fig. 2). Radiolarians of the *Spongurus pylomaticus* Zone (5.2–4.5 Ma) occur in the Arakurayama Formation, and Pliocene radiolarians of the *Spongurus pylomaticus* Zone–lower *Cycladophora sakaii* Zone (5.2–2.6 Ma) are found from the Ogikubo Formation (Motoyama & Nagamori, 2006). These age determinations were confirmed by fission-track age of zircons from tuff layer OT10 in the lower part of the Ogikubo Formation, 3.6 ± 0.2 Ma (Nagamori *et al.*, 2003), whilst basaltic lava from the Arakurayama Formation has a K–Ar age of 4.2 ± 0.6 Ma (Nagamori *et al.*, 2003). The age of the Takafu and Ogikubo formations is considered to be c. 4–3 Ma (Fig. 2).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Six sediment samples were collected for fossil ostracod analysis from horizons containing molluscan fossils in the Togakushi region (Figs 1 & 2). Five were fine- to medium-grained tuffaceous sandstone from the Ogikubo Formation in the Tsumusawa and Nakagumi areas (locations 1–5) and one was from a silty, fine-grained sandstone from the Takafu Formation in the Shimo-Kusukawa area (location 6). Some 80-320 g of dried sediment samples were disaggregated using a saturated sodium sulphate solution and naphtha, washed through a $63 \,\mu\text{m}$ (250-mesh) sieve, and then oven-dried at 80° C. This procedure was repeated until the whole sediment sample had disintegrated. Approximately 200 ostracod specimens were picked from fractions between 0.25 mm and 1.0 mm for each sample split. This method ensured that all adults and, depending on species, A-2 or A-3 juvenile stages were obtained.

All specimens examined in this paper are deposited in the Department of Geology, National Museum of Nature and Science, Tokyo, Japan.



Fig. 2. Schematic geological cross-sections for the Takafu and Ogikubo formations in the Togakushi area, showing the stratigraphical distribution of ostracod fossil assemblages A and B with age data, modified from Nagamori (1998). Age data are cited from Tsuchi & Ibaraki (1988), Nagamori *et al.* (2003) and Motoyama & Nagamori (2006).

FOSSIL OSTRACOD ASSEMBLAGES

Ninety-four ostracod species were identified in the six samples from the Togakushi area (Table 1). Approximately 40–50 species accounted for the 200 specimens from each of the Ogikubo Formation samples (locations 1–5). Plates 1 and 2 illustrate the dominant ostracod taxa from this area. Species diversity, calculated by the Shannon–Weaver function, was c. 3.0–3.5 (Table 1). The single Takafu Formation sample (location 6) yielded just four individuals of two species, despite ostracod specimens being picked from all fractions. The absolute abundance of ostracod fossils (=number of all specimens per 100 g sample weight) in the five Ogikubo Formation samples was c. 80–350 and considerably higher than the one Takafu Formation sample that returned a value of close to unity (Table 1).

Two fossil assemblages, A and B, could be distinguished based on the dominant ostracod genera, their absolute abundance and the associated lithofacies. Assemblage A occurred in the fine- to medium-grained sandstone of the Ogikubo Formation (locations 1-5; Fig. 2) and showed much higher species number and ostracod abundance than assemblage B. Assemblage A was dominated by the shallow-sea genera Aurila, Finmarchinella, Cythere, Howeina and Urocythereis?, accompanied by Acuticythereis?, Callsitocythere, Cornucoquimba, Cytheropteron, Hemicythere, Loxoconcha, Pontocythere, Schizocythere, Semicytherura and Xestoleberis. Individual numbers of these 15 genera accounted for c. 90% of the ostracods in these five samples, with 20 species making up c. 70% of the total individuals (Table 1). Today, common species in assemblage A inhabit the algae-rich environments of rocky coasts and sandy bottoms on the upper continental shelf of the northern Japan Sea off Hokkaido Island, with water temperatures of 0-20°C in summer and 0-5°C in winter. Typical taxa include Cythere golikovi, Cytheropteron sawanense and Schizocythere kishinouvei (Ozawa et al., 1999, 2004b; Ozawa, 2003a). High species numbers and an abundance of fine- to medium-grained sand sediments characterize the upper-shelf environment of the modern Japan Sea (Ozawa, 2003a).

Assemblage B contained just two genera, *Robertsonites* and *Macrocypris*?, and occurred in the one silty, fine-grained sandstone sample from the Takafu Formation (location 6; Fig. 2). This assemblage was characterized by very low species number and specific abundance (Table 1), which, together with the species composition of *Robertsonites hanaii* and *Macrocypris*? sp., were typical of the ostracod assemblages in muddy sediments of the lower continental shelf and slope areas of the present-day Japan Sea, where the water temperature remains at $0-5^{\circ}$ C throughout the year (e.g. Ikeya & Suzuki, 1992; Ozawa, 2003a; Ozawa & Kamiya, 2005b).

Assemblage A contained many extinct species that could be grouped into three categories:

Type 1: Cryophilic (flourished during glacial periods) species that characterize Late Pliocene and Pleistocene strata along the Japan Sea coast (e.g. Tabuki, 1986; Cronin & Ikeya, 1987; Irizuki, 1993) and their close relatives and comparable species, such as *Cornucoquimba* sp. 1, *Hemicythere kitanipponica*, *Howeina* sp., *Kotoracythere* sp., *Paijenborchella tsurugasakensis*, *Pectocythere* cf. *daishakaensis*, *Semicytherura subundata*, *S.* sp. 1 and *S.* sp. 2.

- Type 2: Species closely related to, and comparable with, those found in Early to Middle Miocene strata along the south-western Japan Sea coast, e.g. from the Yeonil Group (Huh & Paik, 1992; Huh & Whatley, 1997) and in the Sunagozaka, Omori and Fujina formations (Tanaka *et al.*, 2002, 2004; Tanaka, 2003) (Fig. 3c). These taxa include *Callistocythere* cf. *kyongjuensis, C.* cf. *seojeongriensis, C.* cf. *subsetanensis* and *Schizocythere* cf. *sakanouei.*
- Type 3: Species that are probably endemic to this area and have no known modern or fossil records and include *Aurila togakushiensis*, *A. shigaramiensis*, *Callistocythere* sp. 1, *C.* sp. 2, *C.* sp. 3, *C.* sp. 4, *Howeina*? sp., *Loxoconcha* sp. 2, *Loxoconcha*? sp. 1, *Loxoconcha*? sp. 2, *Urocythereis*? sp. 1, *Urocythereis*? sp. 2 and *Urocythereis*? sp. 3. (Many of these taxa are still not formally described.)

DISCUSSION

Extinct species from the Ogikubo Formation provide major indicators of palaeobiogeographical conditions affecting the benthos and ostracod faunas of the Japan Sea and northwestern Pacific. This formation yielded significant ostracods containing three types of extinct species to investigate the origins of endemic species in the Japan Sea and high-latitude (Arctic– Atlantic) species, together with their post-Miocene history of speciation-extinction and migration.

Type (1) included cryophilic ostracods in common with, or closely related to, species known from the Plio-Pleistocene (post-2 Ma) Japan Sea, such as *Semicytherura* species (*S. subundata*, *S.* sp. 1, *S.* sp. 2) and *Paijenborchella tsurugasakensis*. They are closely related to high-latitude species from Arctic–Atlantic seas, such as *Semicytherura undata* and *Munseyella* sp. A of Brouwers (1994) (e.g. Cronin *et al.*, 1993), and are found from Togakushi with extant species both in high latitudes and the Japan Sea, such as *Acanthocythereis dunelmensis* and *Palmenella limicola*.

According to Brouwers (1994), A. dunelmensis, Elofsonella concinna, Finmarchinella logani, Munseyella sp. A, P. limicola and Robertsonites tuberculata first appeared around 3.0–2.5 Ma in the Arctic Ocean (Beaufort Sea) based on fossil occurrences from the Sagavanirktok and Gubik formations of northern Alaska. Brouwers et al. (1991) reported that Finmarchinella angulata, P. limicola and R. tuberculata first appeared between 3 Ma and 2 Ma in the Arctic Ocean from the Member B of northern Greenland. In the northernmost Atlantic, Acanthocythereis cf. dunelmensis, P. limicola and S. undata first occurred in 2.9–2.8 Ma, and E. concinna, F. angulata, F. logani and R. tuberculata first appeared in 1.7–1.5 Ma, based on fossil records from the Tjörnes beds of Iceland (Cronin, 1991).

When comparing both assemblages from the Ogikubo Formation and Plio-Pleistocene Arctic–Atlantic region, *A. dunelmensis* and *P. limicola* are common. Comparing the external carapace morphology, it is considered that the other six Plio-Pleistocene high-latitude species (*E. concinna*, *F. angulata*, *F. logani*, *Munseyella* sp. A, *R. tuberculata* and *S. undata*) are closely related to six species in the Ogikubo Formation (*Elofsonella* cf. concinna, Finmarchinella hanaii, *F. japonica*, *Paijenborchella tsurugasakensis*, *Robertsonites reticuliforma* and *Semicytherura* species (=*S. subundata*, *S.* sp. 1, *S.* sp. 2)). Therefore, occurrences of the two common species and six

Species name	Sample (location) number						Total
	L1	L2	L3	L4	L5	L6	
Acanthocythereis dunelmensis s.l. (Norman, 1865)	2		3				5
Acuticythereis? sp.	28	1	5	4	29		67
Aurila shigaramiensis sp. nov.	17	11	16	6	7		57
Aurila togakushiensis sp. nov.	9	57	7	6	1		80
Australimoosella sp.		1					1
Baffinicythere cf. ishizakii Irizuki, 1993	3			6			9
Baffinicythere cf. reticulata Irizuki, 1993	2				4		6
<i>Bythoceratina</i> sp.		1					1
<i>Bythocythere</i> sp. 1		1					1
Bythocythere sp. 2		1		2			1
Bythocythere sp. 3	0	0		3			3
Callistocythere cf. japonica uranipponica Hanai, 1957	9	9		1	2		21
Callistocythere cf. kyongjuensis Huh & Whatley, 1997	4	10	1	4	2		21
Callistocythere cf. seojeongriensis Huh & Whatley, 1997	1				l		2
Callistocythere cf. setanensis Hanai, 1957			1	1	1		1
Callistocythere cl. subsetanensis Isnizaki, 1966	E		1	1	1		3
Callistocythere sp. 1	2	2		0			15
Callistocythere sp. 2	2	2	1	1			0
Callistocythere sp. 5	2		1		10		10
Cauditas? sp		1	2		19		19
Caltial sp.		1	2	1			1
Cornucoquimba of monivensis (Ishizaki 1966)		1	4	1	4		9
Cornucoquimba cf. saitoi (Ishizaki, 1963)		1	-				1
Cornucoquimba cf. tosaensis (Ishizaki, 1968)			1	4	2		7
Cornucoquimba sp. 1	2	4	4	-	1		11
Cornucoquimba sp. 2	10	3		4	1		18
Cornucoquimba sp. 3	10	U U	1	·	-		1
Cythere golikovi Schornikov, 1974	17	16	-	4	5		42
Cythere hanaii Tsukagoshi & Ikeya, 1987	18	13	16	13	7		67
Cythere japonica Hanai, 1959		2					2
Cytherois cf. asamushiensis Ishizaki, 1971		1					1
Cytherois? sp. 1		1					1
Cytherois? sp. 2			1				1
Cytheroma? sp.			1				1
Cytheromorpha acupunctata (Brady, 1880)			4		1		5
Cytheropteron cf. arcuatum Brady et al., 1874		1			5		6
Cytheropteron sawanense Hanai, 1959	3		11	4	11		29
Cytheropteron sp.			3	2	2		7
<i>Cytherura</i> sp.			2				2
Elofsonella cf. concinna (Jones, 1857)					3		3
<i>Eucythere</i> sp.					8		8
Falsobuntonia sp.			1	. –	1		2
Finmarchinella hanaii Okada, 1979	5	14	15	17	14		65
Finmarchinella japonica s.l. (Ishizaki, 1966)		1	21	2	14		37
Finmarchinella nealel Okada, 1979	2	1	2	2	1		2
<i>Finmarchinella</i> ci. <i>uranipponica</i> Isnizaki, 1969	3 12	2	2 5	2	4		11
Hemicythere st. ashotongia Sahamikay, 1980)	15	2	2	/	1		21
Hamicythere cr. Ocholensis Scholmkov, 1974			9	1	1		9
Hemicythere sp. 1			2	1			1
Howeing neolentocytheroideg (Ishizaki 1966)	4			1			1
Howeing sp	17	3	24	41	17		102
Howeina? sp.	17	5	24	41	3		5
Kotoracythere sp			2		3		3
Laperousecythere cronini Irizuki & Yamada 2004	1		11	2	2		16
Laperousecythere sp.	4			-	-		4
Leptocythere? sp.	-	2					2
Loxoconcha cf. ozawai Tabuki. 1986	2	1		4	4		11
Loxoconcha subkotoraforma Ishizaki, 1966	1	-	3	1	2		7
Loxoconcha sp. 1		14	9	1	2		26
Loxoconcha sp. 2		7	1				8

Table 1. Continued.

Pliocene ostracod palaeobiogeography, Japan

Species name	Sample (location) number					Total	
	L1	L2	L3	L4	L5	L6	
Loxoconcha? sp. 1	1		2	2	2		7
Loxoconcha? sp. 2	1		1		1		3
Loxocythere inflata Hanai, 1959		3					3
Macrocypris? sp.						1	1
Neonesidea sp.	1	8	2				11
Normanicythere? sp.				2			2
Paijenborchella tsurugasakensis Tabuki, 1986					2		2
Palmenella limicola (Norman, 1865)			4	1	4		9
Pectocythere cf. daishakaensis Tabuki, 1986				3	1		4
Pectocythere sp.			3	1	6		10
Perissocytheridea sp.		2					2
Pontocythere cf. miurensis (Hanai, 1959)	5	2	5	1	9		22
Robertsonites hanaii Tabuki, 1986						3	3
Robertsonites cf. reticuliforma (Ishizaki, 1966)			8	2	7		17
Robertsonites sp.				1			1
Schizocythere kishinouyei (Kajiyama, 1913)		1	6	5			12
Schizocythere cf. sakanouei Tanaka, 2003			2	3	25		30
Semicytherura cf. miurensis (Hanai, 1957)	1	2					3
Semicytherura subundata (Hanai, 1957)	1		10	6	7		24
Semicytherura sp. 1	2		3	1	6		12
Semicytherura sp. 2	1		1	1	1		4
Semicytherura sp. 3			3				3
Semicytherura? sp.	1						1
Spinileberis rhomboidaris Chen, 1982					1		1
Trachyleberis? sp.		3	1				4
Urocythereis? sp. 1	22	3	6	5	9		45
Urocythereis? sp. 2	23		3		1		27
Urocythereis? sp. 3	12	5	7	7	8		39
Xestoleberis cf. hanaii Ishizaki, 1968		7	8	1	1		17
Xestoleberis cf. sagamiensis Kajiyama, 1913	3	7	1		3		14
Xestoleberis cf. suetsumuhana Yajima, 1982		9					9
Zabythocypris? sp.				1			1
Numbers of specimens	259	233	266	194	280	4	1236
Numbers of species	39	40	51	45	54	2	
Species diversity	3.16	3	3.5	3.23	3.5		
Dry sample weight (g)	320	160	240	240	80	320	
Numbers of specimens per 100 g	80.9	145.6	110.8	81	350	1.3	

Table 1. List of ostracod species from the Takafu and Ogikubo Formations.

different congeneric species from the Ogikubo Formation (4-3 Ma) strongly suggest that ostracods in the northwestern Pacific migrated to the northern Atlantic through Arctic seas between 3 Ma and 1.5 Ma, after the Pliocene opening of the Bering Strait in the northern Pacific (5-2 Ma; e.g. Ogasawara, 2001). The fossil occurrences imply that species groups containing these six species had diversified to produce different congeneric species in Arctic-Atlantic seas since the Late Pliocene (3 Ma). This conclusion is supported by results from other palaeobiogeographical analysis of ostracods in, and around, the Arctic (e.g. Cronin *et al.*, 1993; Irizuki, 1994).

Type (1) species from the Ogikubo Formation also contain extinct cryophilic ostracods from the families Hemicytheridae and Cytheruridae, commonly found in Late Pliocene and Pleistocene deposits from the Japan Sea, post-2 Ma (Table 2; Ozawa & Kamiya, 2005a). A study of the Fujikotogawa Formation by Irizuki (1994) showed that the two genera *Hemicythere* and *Semicytherura* had already diversified by the Late Miocene in the Japan Sea (8–7 Ma) in both families. *Hemicythere* (*H. kitanipponica*) and *Semicytherura* (*S. subundata*) occur in common between the Fujikotogawa Formation and the Pliocene Ogikubo Formation (Table 3). Furthermore, several conferrable or congeneric species of *Hemicythere* and *Semicytherura*, occurring in the Ogikubo Formation, are found in Late Pliocene and Pleistocene deposits of the Japan Sea (Ozawa & Kamiya, 2005a). In contrast, the two genera *Laperousecythere* and *Cornucoquimba* from the Ogikubo Formation have few cryophilic species in common with those from post-2 Ma deposits of Japan Sea. Consequently, fossil records of Type (1) species indicate that *Laperousecythere* and *Cornucoquimba* had probably not yet diversified in the Japan Sea during the deposition of the Ogikubo Formation (4–3 Ma), but perhaps did so in a slightly later 3–1.5 Ma period (e.g. Ozawa & Kamiya, 2005a).

Species composition of ostracods in Togakushi differed from other assemblages known from the post-2 Ma Japan Sea (e.g. Cronin & Ikeya, 1987; Ozawa, 1996), in terms of the content of species in Types (2) and (3). Species of Type (2), such as *Callistocythere* cf. *kyongjuensis*, *C.* cf. *seojeongriensis*, *C.* cf. *subsetanensis* and *Schizocythere* cf. *sakanouei*, were congeneric, or comparable with characteristic Miocene species in Japan. They are related closely to species found from Early–Middle Miocene (17–12 Ma) deposits of the southwestern Japan Sea



Explanation of Plate 1.

figs 1, 2. Acuticythereis? sp.: 1, adult, carapace, left side, loc. 4; 2, juvenile, left valve, loc. 1. fig. 3. Callistocythere cf. japonica uranipponica Hanai, 1957, adult, left valve, loc. 2. fig. 4. Callistocythere cf. kyongjuensis Huh & Whatley, 1997, adult, carapace, left side, loc. 2. fig. 5. Callistocythere cf. seojeongriensis Huh & Whatley, 1997, adult, carapace, right side, loc. 3. fig. 6. Callistocythere cf. setanensis Hanai, 1957, adult, left valve, loc. 5. fig. 7. Callistocythere cf. subsetanensis Ishizaki, 1966, adult, carapace, right side, loc. 5. fig. 8. Callistocythere sp. 1, adult, carapace, left side, loc. 4. fig. 9. Callistocythere sp. 3, adult, carapace, left side, loc. 2. fig. 10. Callistocythere sp. 2, adult, carapace, right side, loc. 2. fig. 11. Callistocythere sp. 4, adult, carapace, left side, loc. 2. fig. 12. Cornucoquimba sp. 2, adult, carapace, left side, loc. 2. fig. 13. Cornucoquimba sp. 1, adult, carapace, left side, loc. 2. fig. 14. Cythere golikovi Schornikov, 1974, adult, right valve, loc. 2. fig. 15. Cythere hanaii Tsukagoshi & Ikeya, 1987, adult, left valve, loc. 3. fig. 19. Laperousecythere cronini Irizuki & Yamada, 2004, adult, right valve, loc. 3. fig. 20. Laperousecythere sp., adult, right valve, loc. 1. fig. 10. Laperousecythere cronini Irizuki & Yamada, 2004, adult, right valve, loc. 1. fig. 20. Laperousecythere sp., adult, right valve, loc. 1.



Explanation of Plate 2.

fig. 1. Howeina neoleptocytheroidea (Ishizaki, 1966), adult, right valve, loc. 1. fig. 2. Howeina sp., adult, left valve, loc. 4. fig. 3. Howeina? sp., adult, carapace, left side, loc. 4. fig. 4. Loxoconcha cf. ozawai Tabuki, 1986, adult, carapace, left side, loc. 4. fig. 5. Loxoconcha sp. 1, adult, female, left valve, loc. 2. fig. 6. Loxoconcha sp. 2, adult, male, right valve, loc. 2. fig. 7. Loxoconcha? sp. 1, adult, carapace, left side, loc. 4. fig. 8. Loxoconcha? sp. 2, adult, carapace, left side, loc. 5. fig. 10. Robertsonites cf. reticuliforma (Ishizaki, 1966), adult, carapace, left side, loc. 5. fig. 11. Schizocythere sp., adult, carapace, left side, loc. 5. fig. 10. Robertsonites cf. reticuliforma (Ishizaki, 1966), adult, carapace, left side, loc. 5. fig. 11. Schizocythere kishinouyei (Kajiyama, 1913), adult, carapace, left side, loc. 2. fig. 12. Schizocythere cf. sakanouei Tanaka, 2003, adult, carapace, left side, loc. 5. fig. 13. Semicytherura subundata (Hanai, 1957), adult, right valve, loc. 5. figs 14, 15. Semicytherura sp. 1; 44, adult, left valve, loc. 5; 15, adult, carapace, right side, loc. 5. fig. 16. Semicytherura sp. 2, adult, carapace, left side, loc. 4. fig. 17. Urocythereis? sp. 1, adult, left valve, loc. 5. figs 18, 19. Urocythereis? sp. 2: 18, adult, carapace, right side, loc. 1; 19, adult, left valve, loc. 5.



Fig. 3. Maps for the Japanese Islands of the two geological periods - (**a**) Middle Miocene in 13–12 Ma, (**b**) Late Pliocene around 3 Ma, simplified from Iijima & Tada (1990) – showing the event information for Types (2) and (3) species. (**c**) Map for the Japanese Islands of the present, illustrating the modern warm-current system and localities of Miocene–Pleistocene strata appearing in the text; a, Fujikotogawa Fm.; b, Sasaoka Fm.; c, Omma Fm.; d, Sunagozaka Fm.; e, Mizunami & Iwamura Gps; f, Fujina Fm.; g, Omori Fm.; h, Yeonil Gp. Fm: Formation; Gp.: Group.

Species	Age					
	Late Miocene	Pliocene	Late Pliocene	Early Pleistocene		
Family Hemicytheridae						
genus Cornucoquimba						
<i>C</i> . sp. 1		х				
<i>C</i> . sp. 2		Х				
C. sp. A (=C. sp. 1 & C. sp. 2 of Ozawa, 1996)			Х	Х		
C. sp. B (=C. sp. 5 of Ozawa, 1996)			Х	Х		
C. sp. C (=C. sp. 6 of Ozawa, 1996)			х	Х		
C. sp. D (=C. sp. 7 of Ozawa, 1996)			Х	Х		
genus Hemicythere						
H. kitanipponica (Tabuki)	Х	Х	Х	Х		
genus Laperousecythere						
L. sp. A (=L.cf. ishizakii of Ozawa, 1996)				Х		
L. sp. B (=Patagonacythere sp. 2 of Ozawa, 1996)				Х		
L. sp. C (=L. sp. 2 of Ozawa, 1996)			Х	Х		
L. sp. D (=L. sp. 1 of Ozawa, 1996)			Х	Х		
L. sp. E (=L.? sp. of Ozawa, 1996)			Х	Х		
Family Cytheruridae						
genus Semicyhterura						
S. subundata (Hanai)	Х	х	Х	Х		
S. sp. 1		х				
S. sp. 2		х				
S. sp. A (=S. cf. undata of Ozawa, 1996)	cf		Х	Х		
S. sp. B (=S. sp. 4 of Ozawa, 1996)			Х	Х		
S. sp. C (=S. sp. 5 of Ozawa, 1996)	cf		Х	Х		
References	1	2	3	4		

Based on data from this study and published studies – (1) Fujikotogawa Fm.: Irizuki (1994); (2) Ogikubo Fm. (4–3 Ma): this study; (3) Sasaoka Fm. (2 Ma): Ishizaki & Matoba (1985), Ishii & Kamiya (unpublished data); (4) Omma Fm.: Ozawa (1996), Ozawa & Kamiya (2005b). cf, occurrence of conferrable species; Fm., Formation.

 Table 2. Summary of fossil occurrences in two Families Hemicytheridae and Cytheruridae of Type (1) species and their related-species from the Ogikubo Formation and Late Miocene–Early Pleistocene strata of Japan Sea.

Pliocene ostracod palaeobiogeography, Japan

Species	Age						
	Late Miocene	Pliocene	Late Pliocene	Early Pleistocene	Modern		
genus Aurila							
A. togakushiensis sp. nov.		Х					
A. shigaramiensis sp. nov.		Х					
A. cymba Brady			Х	х	х		
A. hataii Ishizaki			х	cf	х		
A. spinifera Schornikov & Tsareva				х	х		
A. tosaensis Ishizaki			х	cf	х		
A. uranouchiensis Ishizaki			cf	cf	х		
A. corniculata Okubo	cf				х		
A. disparata Okubo					х		
A. imotoi Ishizaki					х		
genus Callsitocythere							
<i>C. subsetanensis</i> Ishizaki		cf					
C kyongiuensis Huh & Whatley		cf					
C secieongriensis Huh & Whatley		cf					
<i>C</i> iaponica uranipponica Hanai		cf			x		
C setanensis Hanai	x	cf	x	x	x		
C sp 1	A	v v	А	Α	А		
$C \sin^2 2$		x					
$C \sin 3$		A V					
$C \sin 4$		A V					
C. sp. 4		л		v	v		
$C_{ishizakii}$ Ikewa & Zhou				x	Λ		
C. isnizukii Ikeya & Zhou				X	V		
C. juponicu Hanai				A of	А		
C. nepponica Hanai			Y	CI	V		
C. reliculata Hanai			А	X	X		
C. rugosa Hanai				X	X		
C. undala Hanal				X	X		
C. undulallyacians Hallal	Х		Х	Х	X		
C. <i>astatica</i> Znao					X		
C. hatawa Vaiima					X		
C. notaru Yajima					Х		
C. subjaponica Hanai					Х		
C. tateyamaensis Frydi					Х		
genus Loxoconcha		C					
L. ozawai Tabuki		ct	X	Х	Х		
L. subkotoraforma Ishizaki	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		
L. sp. 1		Х	X	Х			
L. sp. 2		Х					
L.? sp. 1		Х					
L.? sp. 2		Х					
L. epeterseni Ishizaki			Х	Х	Х		
L. harimensis Okubo			Х	Х	Х		
L. hattorii Ishizaki			X	Х	X		
L. ikeyai Zhou				Х	cf		
L. japonica Ishizaki				X	Х		
L. kattoi Ishizaki				cť	Х		
L. kitanipponica Ishizaki				cf	Х		
L. optima Ishizaki			Х	Х	Х		
L. viva Ishizaki			Х	Х	Х		
L. zamia Ishizaki			Х	х	Х		
L. ocellata Hou					Х		
L. tamakazura Yajima					cf		
L. tosaensis Ishizaki			Х		Х		
L. uranouchiensis Ishizaki					Х		
References	1	2	3	4	5		

Based on data from this study and published studies – for 1–4 see Table 2; (5) modern Japan Sea: Ikeya & Suzuki (1992), Tsukawaki *et al.* (1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001), Kamiya *et al.* (2001). cf, occurrence of conferrable species.

Table 3. Summary of fossil and modern ostracod occurrences of species in three genera Aurila, Callistocythere and Loxoconcha of Types (2) and (3)with their related species from the Ogikubo Formation, Late Miocene–Early Pleistocene strata of Japan Sea, and modern Japan Sea.

coast – the Sunagozaka Formation (17–16 Ma; Yanagisawa, 1999; Tanaka *et al.*, 2004), the Yeonil Group (16 Ma; Huh & Paik, 1992; Huh & Whatley, 1997; Akimoto *et al.*, 1999) and the Omori and Fujina formations (15–12 Ma; Tanaka *et al.*, 2002; Tanaka, 2003) (Fig. 3c).

The Togakushi Pliocene species *Callistocythere* cf. *kyongjuensis*, *C*. cf. *seojeongriensis*, *C*. cf. *subsetanensis* and *Schizocythere* cf. *sakanouei* are very similar, closely related but distinct to the formally described Miocene species (Table 3). Differences relate to the degree of carapace roundness, as well as reticulation patterns and the carapace ridge directions. Type (3) species, such as *Aurila togakushiensis*, *A. shigaramiensis* and *Loxoconcha* sp. 2, are probably endemic to the Pliocene Japan Sea because there are no records from the Miocene, Pleistocene and modern faunas in, and around, the Japan Sea.

Types (2) and (3) can also be characterized by the presence of taxa of southern origin, particularly species from *Aurila*, *Callistocythere* and *Loxoconcha*. These genera show high species diversity from the Pliocene to the present throughout areas affected by the modern warm Kuroshio Current of the east Asian western Pacific. This assemblage occurs along central to southwestern Japan, the Ryukyu Islands and Southeast Asia (Hanai *et al.*, 1977, 1980; Ishizaki, 1983; Ozawa *et al.*, 1995; Zhou, 1995; Nakao *et al.*, 2001; Tabuki, 2001; Tanaka & Ikeya, 2002). It is considered that ancestor species would have migrated to the southern Japan Sea from the Pacific from the Middle Miocene (12 Ma, Tanaka *et al.*, 2002; Fig. 3a).

One species, *Callistocythere kyongjuensis*, has also been reported from the Early Miocene Mizunami and Iwamura groups (18 Ma; Irizuki *et al.*, 2004) along the Pacific coast, central Japan (Fig. 3c). Thus, their ancestral species must have diversified in the nearly land-locked Japan Sea between the Middle Miocene–Early Pliocene (12–4 Ma, Fig. 3b; Iijima & Tada, 1990; Chinzei, 1991), and produced different congeneric species there. Some species of *Callistocythere* were also reported from the Late Miocene (8–7 Ma) Japan Sea coast (Irizuki, 1994), but specific numbers were much lower than those of the Ogikubo Formation (Table 3).

Genera of southern origin in Types (2) and (3) also contain species probably endemic to the Pliocene Japan Sea (Table 3). These species did not extend their distribution to other areas and have persisted within the restricted sea of the Togakushi region until the Late Pliocene (3 Ma). Their extinction after 3 Ma was probably caused by the climatic cooling of the Japan Sea during the 2.8–2.5 Ma glacial periods (Cronin *et al.*, 1994; Amano, 2001; Sato *et al.*, 2003; Yamada *et al.*, 2005). This occurred with Late Pliocene intensification of Northern Hemisphere glaciations in high-latitude Arctic, North Atlantic and North Pacific oceans (e.g. Raymo *et al.*, 1989; Kleiven *et al.*, 2002; Sato *et al.*, 2004).

The failure of both Types (2) and (3) to extend their distribution even within the Japan Sea, post-3 Ma, also indicates that some geographical or oceanic environmental barriers dictated species distribution in, and around the Togakushi area. The palaeotopography of the Japan Sea during the Pliocene shows the Togakushi region lying at the end of a 100-km long narrow inlet open only at its northern extent (e.g. Amano & Karasawa, 1993; Fig. 3b). Therefore, the distinct topography may have

provided a sufficient barrier in itself to isolate the ostracods of the Togakushi area.

A comparison of species occurrences of Aurila, Callistocythere and Loxoconcha from the Ogikubo Formation show only a few common species with those assemblages from other post-2 Ma strata of the Japan Sea coast (Table 3). Furthermore, in the Late Pliocene and Pleistocene many species were reported from Pacific from three genera such as Aurila spinifera, Callistocythere alata and Loxoconcha japonica, first appeared post-2 Ma in the Japan Sea (Table 3). Species compositions for the three genera from the Japan Sea and Pacific coasts have remained similar since the Early Pleistocene (e.g. Ozawa & Kamiya, 2001). The southern strait (=Palaeo-Tsushima Strait) of the Japan Sea remained almost closed until 3 Ma (Iijima & Tada, 1990; Fig. 3b). In the Late Pliocene (3–2 Ma), this strait re-opened a few times, but opened more frequently from the Early Pleistocene in response to interglacial episodes (Koizumi, 1992; Kitamura & Kimoto, 2004), allowing warm current flow into the Japan Sea at these times as in the area in the present setting (Fig. 3c; Ozawa & Kamiya, 2001, 2005a, b; Yamada et al., 2002, 2005; Irizuki et al., 2007). Therefore, southern species of Aurila, Callistocythere and Loxoconcha invaded the Japan Sea from the Pacific since 2 Ma, giving rise to many species of these three genera, which inhabit the modern Japan Sea (Table 3).

CONCLUSIONS

The Pliocene Takafu and Ogikubo formations (4-3 Ma) yielded significant ostracods containing three types of extinct species. These are useful to investigate the origins of high-latitude (Arctic-Atlantic) species and the Japan Sea endemic species, together with the post-Miocene history of their speciationextinction and migration. Three types were defined. Type (1) included cryophilic ostracods in common with, or closely-related to species described from the Late Plio-Pleistocene Japan Sea. These were closely related to, or comparable with high-latitude species previously reported from the Arctic and northern Atlantic oceans. Their occurrences in the Ogikubo Formation strongly suggest an ostracod migration from the northwestern Pacific to the northern Atlantic through Arctic seas since the Late Pliocene (3 Ma) after the opening of the Bering Strait, and their diversification to produce congeneric species in high latitudes.

Types (2) and (3) faunas differed from assemblages known from the Late Pliocene–Pleistocene Japan Sea. Type (2) species were closely related to, or comparable with, characteristic Miocene species from the southwestern Japan Sea, and Type (3) species were probably endemic to the Pliocene Japan Sea. Types (2) and (3) contained genera originating from the south, which showed high species diversity in areas influenced by the modern warm Kuroshio Current along the western Pacific coast in East-Southeast Asia. Their ancestral species had migrated into the Japan Sea from the Pacific from the Middle Miocene (12 Ma). They diversified in the mostly land-locked Japan Sea until the Early Pliocene (4 Ma) and produced different congeneric species there. Subsequently, species of Types (2) and (3) did not extend their areas of distribution and became extinct during the Late Pliocene (3–2 Ma).

Pliocene ostracod palaeobiogeography, Japan

SYSTEMATIC DESCRIPTIONS (BY HIROKAZU OZAWA)

Two new species are described herein. All type specimens are identified by numbers with the prefix MPC (Micropaleontology Collection, National Museum of Nature and Science, Tokyo). The type locality of the two new species is location 2 of this study (Fig. 1), and is from the same locality (Loc. 30) of Nagamori (1998).

Superfamily **Cytheroidea** Baird, 1850 Family **Hemicytheridae** Puri, 1953 Subfamily **Hemicytherinae** Puri, 1953 Genus *Aurila* Pokorny, 1955

Aurila togakushiensis sp. nov. (Pl. 3, figs 1–10)

Derivation of name. Togakushi, the provincial name of the type locality of this species.

Diagnosis. Carapace large and heavily calcified; almond-shaped left valve, subtrapezoidal right valve. Surface covered with distinct round fossae in median area with numerous fine pits in anterior and posterior areas. Fossae arranged in slightly concentric rows subparallel to ventral margin.

Holotype. Male, right valve, MPC-04822, from location 2 (Pl. 3, figs 2, 5).

Paratypes. Male, left valve, MPC-04823 (Pl. 3, figs 1, 6). Female, complete carapace, MPC-04824 (Pl. 3, fig. 3). Female, right valve, MPC-04825 (Pl. 3, figs 4, 7). All specimens are from location 2.

Type locality. Location 2, the Pliocene Ogikubo Formation, an exposure at the river bed of the Susobana River, Nakagumi, Nagano City, Nagano Prefecture, central Japan (Lat. 36°40.1'N, Long. 138°05.3'E).

Description. Valves large and asymmetrical; in lateral view, almond-shaped left valve, subtrapezoidal right valve. Left valve higher and overreaches right valve dorsally. Maximum height near mid-length in left valve, at one-third of valve length in right valve. Maximum length near mid-height. Anterior margin smooth, broadly and obliquely rounded. Dorsal margin slightly arched. Ventral margin slightly concave at anterior midlength. Posterior margin with a nearly straight section above a postero-caudal process.

Carapace surface punctuated with round shallow fossae in median area, with numerous fine pits in anterior, posterior and dorsal areas. Fossae arranged in slightly concentric rows subparallel to ventral margin. Faint reticulation developed along antero- and postero-marginal areas. One weak postero-ventral sub-marginal crest. Eye tubercles inconspicuous. Carapace surface covered with scattered normal-type pore.

Hingement: amphidont; in right valve, anterior round element, shallow sub-rounded socket, short, smooth median groove and curved subquadrate posterior element; in left valve, deep anterior socket, anterior round tooth, short, smooth median bar and posterior subquadrate socket with small, round subordinate element. Four adductor muscle scars in a vertical line; upper and lower single, and central two divided into two, lowermost single one elongate; three sub-round frontal scars in oblique row. Narrow vestibules anteriorly and posteriorly. Inner lamella broad.

Sexual dimorphism distinct. Carapace of male more slender and longer than female in lateral view. Outline of ventral margin in male is slightly concave a quarter of the way along valve in right valve.

Dimensions (mm). L=0.86, H=0.51 (holotype, male, right valve, MPC-04822); L=0.93, H=0.55 (male, left valve, MPC-04823); L=0.87, H=0.54 (female, carapace, MPC-04824); L=0.84, H=0.51 (female, right valve, MPC-04825); L=0.65, H=0.40 (A-1 juvenile, right valve, MPC-04826); L=0.72, H=0.44 (A-1 juvenile, left valve, MPC-04827).

Occurrence. Five samples, limited to the Pliocene Ogikubo Formation (locations 1–5).

Remarks. This species resembles *Aurila uranouchiensis* described by Ishizaki (1968) from Recent sediments in Uranouchi Bay, southwest Japan, in general carapace morphology. However, it differs by its larger valve size, valve outline and the nature of the valve surface and crest. The general outline of this species is elongate, and the outline of the posterior margin is rounded. The fossae on the surface of this species are weak and shallow, and the ventral crest is indistinct. Faint reticulation is developed along the antero- and postero-marginal areas in this species, and the valve surface is covered by fine pits in the anterior, posterior and dorsal areas.

This species has variability in the development of faint reticulation in the antero- and postero-marginal areas and one weak postero-ventral sub-marginal ridge.

> Aurila shigaramiensis sp. nov. (Pl. 3, figs 11–18)

Derivation of name. Shigarami, the old village name near the type locality of this species.

Diagnosis. Carapace medium-sized and heavily calcified; almond-shaped left valve, subtrapezoidal right valve. Surface covered with round and small fossae in median area with numerous fine pits in anterior, posterior and dorsal areas. Round fossae in straight rows running subparallel to ventral margin. One narrow and weak crest subparallel to ventral margin.

Holotype. Female, left valve, MPC-04828, from location 2 (Pl. 3, fig. 12).

Paratypes. Male, right valve, MPC-04829 (Pl. 3, fig. 11). Male, right valve, MPC-04830 (Pl. 3, figs 13, 14). Female, left valve, MPC-04831 (Pl. 3, fig. 16). Female, complete carapace, MPC-04832 (Pl. 3, figs 17, 18). Male, left valve, MPC-04833 (Pl. 3, fig. 15). All specimens from location 2, except MPC-04830 from location 3.



Explanation of Plate 3.

figs 1–10. Aurila togakushiensis Ozawa sp. nov., all specimens from loc. 2: 1, male, left valve (paratype, MPC-04823); 2, male, right valve (holotype, MPC-04822); 3, female, carapace, left side (paratype, MPC-04824); 4, female, right valve (paratype, MPC-04825); 5, male, right valve from inside (holotype, MPC-04822); 6, male, left valve from inside (paratype, MPC-04823); 7, female, right valve from inside (paratype, MPC-04825); 8, A-1 juvenile, right valve (MPC-04826); 9, A-1 juvenile, left valve (MPC-04827); 10, A-1 juvenile, right valve from inside (MPC-04826); figs 11–18. Aurila shigaramiensis Ozawa sp. nov., specimens 11, 12, 15–18 from loc. 2, and 13, 14 from loc. 3: 11, male, right valve (paratype, MPC-04829); 12, female, left valve (holotype, MPC-04823); 13, male, right valve from inside (paratype, MPC-04830); 14, male, right valve (paratype, MPC-04830); 15, male, left valve (paratype, MPC-04831); 17, female, carapace, right side (paratype, MPC-04832); 18, female, carapace, left side (paratype, MPC-04832).

Type locality. Location 2, the Pliocene Ogikubo Formation, an exposure at the river bed of the Susobana River, Nakagumi, Nagano City, Nagano Prefecture, central Japan (Lat. 36°40.1'N, Long. 138°05.3'E).

Description. Valves medium-sized and asymmetrical; in lateral view, almond-shaped left valve, subtrapezoidal right valve. Left valve higher and overreaches right valve dorsally. Maximum height near mid-length in left valve, at one-third of valve length in right valve. Maximum length at one-third of valve height. Anterior margin smooth, broadly and obliquely rounded. Dorsal margin of left valve slightly arched with an obtuse angle at highest point. Dorsal margin of right valve slightly arched. Ventral margin slightly concave at anterior middle. Posterior margin with slightly curved section above postero-caudal process.

Carapace surface covered with round shallow-fossae in median area with numerous very fine pits in anterior, posterior and dorsal areas. Round fossae in slightly concentric rows subparallel to ventral margin. Faint reticulation developed along antero-marginal area. One faint crest in posteroventral area running posteriorly. Eye tubercles inconspicuous. Carapace surface covered with scattered normal-type pore.

Hingement: amphidont; in right valve, anterior round element, shallow sub-round socket, short smooth median groove and curved subquadrate posterior element; in left valve, deep anterior socket, anterior round tooth, short smooth median bar and posterior subquadrate socket. Four adductor muscle scars in a vertical row; upper and lower single, and central two divided into two, and lowermost single one elongate; three sub-round frontal scars arranged in gentle curve with convex side to posterior. Narrow vestibules anteriorly and posteriorly. Inner lamella broad.

Sexual dimorphism distinct. Carapace of male more slender and longer than female in lateral view. Outline of ventral margin in male slightly concave a quarter of the way along anterior right valve.

Dimensions (mm). L=0.73, H=0.45 (holotype, female, left valve, MPC-04828); L=0.63, H=0.35 (male, right valve, MPC-04829); L=0.66, H=0.33 (male, right valve, MPC-04830); L=0.61, H=0.40 (female, left valve, MPC-04831); L=0.63, H=0.39 (female, carapace, MPC-04832); L=0.61, H=0.39 (male, left valve, MPC-04833).

Occurrence. Only from the Pliocene Ogikubo Formation, from five samples (locations 1–5).

Remarks. This species is similar to *Aurila tosaensis* described by Ishizaki (1968) from Recent sediments in Uranouchi Bay, southwest Japan, in general carapace morphology. However, it differs from *A. tosaensis* by its larger valve size, valve outline and the nature of the valve surface and crest. The lateral outline of this species is triangular, and the dorsal margin is arched. The outline of the posterior margin and caudal process of this species is rounded. The fossae on the surface of the present species are weak and small, and the ventral crest is not distinct and not angular. The valve surface of the present species is covered by very fine pits in the anterior, posterior and dorsal areas.

This species has variability in the development of round fossae in the median area, faint reticulation in the anterior area, and one faint crest in the posterior area.

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