



# Late Paleocene Cancellariidae (Gastropoda: Neogastropoda) from Baja California, Mexico

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## Abstract

Four gastropod species including two new ones, belonging to the family Cancellariidae, of the genus *Cancellaria*, are described and illustrated for the late Paleocene Sepultura Formation in Baja California, northwestern Mexico. The new species *Cancellaria bajaensis* and *Cancellaria paleocenica* are established from well preserved specimens.

Key words: cancellariid gastropods, late Paleocene, Baja California, Mexico.

## Resumen

Se describen e ilustran cuatro especies de canceláridos del género *Cancellaria* del Paleoceno tardío, provenientes de la Formación Sepultura en la región noroeste de Baja California. Dos especies nuevas, *Cancellaria bajaensis* y *Cancellaria paleocenica*, se describen con base en especímenes bien conservados.

Palabras clave: canceláridos, Paleoceno tardío, Baja California, México.

## 1. Introduction

The purpose of this paper is to report the presence of the gastropod genus *Cancellaria* from a late Paleocene locality in the Sepultura Formation, Baja California, Mexico.

The genus belongs to the family Cancellariidae, Clade Neogastropoda (Bouchet *et al.*, 2005), commonly known as nutmeg snails.

The extensive molluscan gastropod fauna from Mesa San Carlos, Sepultura Formation, Baja California, Mexico (Figure 1), was collected in the years 1986 and 1987 and the fauna studied is based in part on Paredes-Mejía (1989) unpublished Ph.D. Thesis, Purdue University.

Marine deposits of Paleocene age are present in the coastal ranges from North California southward to Baja California, Mexico (Perrilliat, 2013a, p. 179), the Sepultura

Formation for which the name was proposed by Santillán and Barrera (1930).

The first paper that mentioned fossils from Baja California of Paleocene age is by Emmons and Merrill (1894, p. 51). The only described and illustrated Paleocene molluscan faunas from Baja California are those of Zinsmeister and Paredes-Mejía (1988), Squires (1988), Paredes-Mejía (1989), Squires *et al.* (1989), and Squires and Saul (2006).

The molluscan gastropod fauna in Mesa San Carlos was reported by Perrilliat (2013a, 2013b). She reported the families Trochidae, Solariellidae, Cerithiidae, Turritellidae, Cypraeidae, Ovulidae, Fidae, Naticidae, Tornidae, Strombidae, Aporrhaidae, Ranellidae, Epitoniidae and Architectonicidae.

The family Cancellariidae has representatives of







