

A new species of *Trapania* (Nudibranchia: Goniadorididae) from Western Australia with comparisons to other Indo-West Pacific *Trapania*

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Abstract

A new species of *Trapania* Pruvot-Fol, 1931 is described from near Rottnest Island, Western Australia. The new species *Trapania safracornia* shares several characteristics with other species of Indo-West Pacific *Trapania*. Those characters include a soft elongate body, no distinct mantle edge, two sets of curved dorsal lateral processes, non-retractile gill and rhinophores with no pockets, a radular formula of N x 1.0.1, a long tubular prostate and both a bursa copulatrix and a receptaculum seminis on the exogenous sperm duct. Characters that distinguish this as a new species include external red-brown coloration without any white spots, symmetrical white patches overlaid with yellow pigment, a yellow-tipped tail and lateral processes and a translucent red rhinophore club. *Trapania safracornia* also differs from the most externally similar species *T. brunnea* Rudman, 1987 in the radular morphology. *Trapania safracornia* has 10-14 main denticles per lateral tooth and up to eight additional small denticles between these. There is one small triangular denticle on the outside of the largest cusp at the base. The jaw rodlets of this new species are straight and pointed. A comparison between *Trapania safracornia* and other Indo-Pacific species of *Trapania* is presented.

Key words: *Trapania*, Goniadorididae, Phanerobranchia, Western Australia, Indo-West Pacific

Introduction

Goniadorididae H. & A. Adams, 1854 remains a poorly understood family of dorid nudibranchs. (Gosliner, 2004). Recent studies have added to the knowledge of some genera (Gosliner 2004; Wägele & Cervera 2001; Cervera *et al.* 2000; Millen & Bertsch 2000;

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