


OOPHANA THAITIENI THACH, 2025 (GASTROPODA: EUPULMONATA: STREPTAXIDAE) IS A JUNIOR SYNONYM OF *OOPHANA BULBULUS* (MORELET, 1863)

THINH GIA TRAN

Zoology, Center for Biodiversity Conservation and Endangered Species (CBES), 541 Nguyen Duy Trinh, Binh Trung Ward, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam (e-mail: trangiathinhkhtn@gmail.com);
 <https://orcid.org/0009-0009-7386-6503>

ABSTRACT: A new synonym of *Oophana bulbulus* (Morelet, 1863) is recognised from a recently described streptaxid taxa from Vietnam, namely *Oophana thaitieni* Thach, 2025. The comparison was not thorough enough, specifically comparing only a specimen to an old drawing of the species instead of an actual photograph, which led to this error.

KEYWORDS: synonym; taxonomy; Con Dao Island; Vietnam

INTRODUCTION

The newest publication by THACH (2025) described 5 new genera and 208 new species of molluscs from South Asia. Among them, *Oophana thaitieni* Thach, 2025 was described from “Côn Đảo Island, Southeast Vietnam”, based on a single specimen. Re-examination of the material indicates that

this species is a junior synonym of *Oophana bulbulus* (Morelet, 1863). Similar cases have been noted previously, as PÁLL-GERGELY et al. (2020) pointed out that some species described by Thach were based on minor morphological differences that may fall within the range of intraspecific variation.

TAXONOMY PART

Class: Gastropoda

Subclass: Heterobranchia

Superfamily: Streptaxoidea Gray, 1860

Family: Streptaxidae Gray, 1860

Genus: *Oophana* Ancey, 1884

Oophana Ancey, 1884: 399

***Oophana bulbulus* (Morelet, 1862)**

Figs 1–12

Ennea bulbulus Morelet, 1862 (MORELET 1862: 477).

Ennea bulbulus – CROSSE & FISCHER (1863a: 272, pl. X, fig. 3).

Ennea bulbulus – CROSSE & FISCHER (1863b: 355).

Ennea bulbulus – MABILLE & LE MESLE (1866: 128).

Streptaxis bulbulus – TRYON (1885: 80–81, pl. 15, fig. 41, 42, 43).

Streptaxis (Oophana) bulbulus – MÖLLENDORFF (1894: 148).

Streptaxis bulbulus – FISCHER & DAUTZENBERG (1904: 1).

Oophana bulbulus – WENZ & ZILCH (1960: 562).

Oophana bulbulus – ZILCH (1961: 85).

Oophana bulbulus – SCHILEYKO (2000: 796, fig. 1038 A).

Oophana bulbulus – SCHILEYKO (2011: 25).

Oophana thaitieni Thach, 2025 (THACH 2025: 71, figs 362a, c, d (3 figs)) new synonym.



Figs 1–5. Shells of *Oophana thaitieni* Thach, 2025 and *Oophana bulbulus* (Morelet, 1863): 1–3 – holotype of *O. thaitieni* (MNHN-IM-2000-40198), Côn Đảo Island, Southeast Vietnam, photographs from THACH (2025); 4 – drawing of *O. bulbulus* from TRYON (1885); 5 – syntype of *O. bulbulus* (NHMUK 7787737), Con Dao Island, Ho Chi Minh City, photographs from Natural History Museum, London (NHMUK), Collection Specimens Data Portal. Scale bar 5 mm



Figs 6–12. Shells of *Oophana bulbulus* (Morelet, 1863): 6 – specimen SMF 136806/1, photographs taken by SIGRID HOF; 7–9 – specimens RMNH.MOL.273691 and their labels, photographs taken by ARIKE GILL; 10–12 – specimens ZMA.MOLL.388531 and their labels, photographs taken by ARIKE GILL. Scale bar 5 mm



Material examined. Photos of comparative material were used for comparison. They contained: “Côn Đảo Island, Southeast Vietnam”, Muséum National d’Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France (MNHN), MNHN-IM-2000-40198 (holotype of *O. thaitieni*; Figs 1–3); “insula Poulo-Condor” [Con Dao Island, Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Ba Ria – Vung Tau Province), Vietnam], The Natural History Museum, London, UK (NHM), NHMUK 7787737 (2 syntypes of *Oophana bulbulus*; Fig. 5); “Cochinchina”, Senckenberg Forschungsinstitut und Naturmuseum, Frankfurt am Main, Germany (SMF), SMF 136806/1 (1 shell of *O. bulbulus*; Fig. 6); “Pulo-Condore (Annam)” [Con Dao Island, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam], Rijksmuseum voor Natuurlijke Historie (Mollusca collection), merged into the Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden, The Netherlands (RMNH.MOL), RMNH.MOL.273691 (2 shells of *O. bulbulus*; Figs 7–9); “Poulo-Condor” [Con Dao Island, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam], Zoölogisch Museum Amsterdam (Molluscs collection), merged into the Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden, The Netherlands (ZMA.MOLL), ZMA.MOLL.388531 (1 shell of *O. bulbulus*; Figs 10–12).

Remark. The differences between *Oophana thaitieni* and *O. bulbulus* proposed by THACH (2025), based on comparisons with published drawings, are as follows: “body whorl less swollen, spire more dome-shaped, columella straighter, outer lip undulate and narrower at posterior end, parietal lamella more oblique in frontal view, columellar lamella lower, palatal lamella shorter, basal lamella narrower”. These characters,

however, are the result of variation in each individual. These include: body whorl can be swollen with penultimate whorl not extended beyond last whorl (Figs 5, 7, 8, 10, 11) or slightly beyond last whorl (Fig. 6); spire generally conical and very obtuse; aperture consistently bears a sinulus in all specimens; the anterior edge of the sinulus which near palatal lamella has a straight peristome (Fig. 8), or slightly undulate peristome (Figs 7, 10, 11), or clearly undulate peristome (Figs 1, 5, 6). The aperture dentition of *Oophana thaitieni* and *O. bulbulus* is identical in both number and position of lamellae, consisting of one large, strong parietal lamella, one small palatal lamella, one small basal lamella, and one small columellar lamella. No diagnostic characters were found to support the recognition of *O. thaitieni* as a distinct species from *O. bulbulus*. Moreover, both nominal taxa share the same distribution on Con Dao Island, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Thus, *Oophana thaitieni* Thach, 2025 should be treated as a junior subjective synonym of *O. bulbulus* (Morelet, 1863).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to thank SIGRID HOF and JULIA D. SIGWART (SMF, Frankfurt am Main); ARIKE GILL (ZMA.MOLL and RMNH.MOL, Leiden) for their kind permissions and help when studying the collection under their care. I also want to thank the Natural History Museum, London, UK (NHMUK) for making specimen images available online.

REFERENCES

- ANCEY C. F. 1884. Sur les divisions proposées dans le genre *Streptaxis*. *Le Naturaliste* 6(50): 399.
- CROSSE H., FISCHER P. 1863a. Description d’espèces nouvelles de Poulo-Condor (Cochinchine). *Journal de Conchyliologie* 11: 269–273.
- CROSSE H., FISCHER P. 1863b. Note sur la faune malacologique de Cochinchine, comprenant la description des espèces nouvelles ou peu connues. *Journal de Conchyliologie* 11: 343–379.
- FISCHER H., DAUTZENBERG PH. 1904. Catalogue des mollusques terrestres et fluviatiles de l’Indo-Chine orientale cites jusqu’à ce jour. In: PAVIE A. (ed.). *Mission Pavie, Etudes diverses III*, Leroux, Paris, pp. 1–61.
- GRAY J. E. 1860. On the arrangement of the land pulmoniferous Mollusca into families. *The Annals and Magazine of Natural History* 6: 267–269. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00222936008697321>
- MABILLE J., LE MESLE G. 1866. Observations sur la faune malacologique de la Cochinchine et du Cambodge, comprenant la description des espèces nouvelles. *Journal de Conchyliologie* 14: 117–138.
- MORELET P. M. A. 1862. Diagnoses testarum Indo-Sinarum. *Revue et Magasin de Zoologie pure et Appliquée (Séries 2)* 14: 477–481.
- MÖLLENDORFF O. F. 1894. On a collection of land-shells from the Samui Islands, Gulf of Siam. *Proceedings of Zoological Society of London* 1894: 146–156.
- PÁLL-GERGELY B., HUNYADI A., AUFFENBERG K. 2020. Taxonomic vandalism in malacology: Comments on molluscan taxa recently described by N. N. Thach and colleagues (2014–2019). *Folia Malacologica* 28(1): 35–76. <https://doi.org/10.12657/folmal.028.002>
- SCHILEYKO A. A. 2000. Treatise on Recent terrestrial pulmonate mollusks. Part 6. Rhytididae, Chlamydephoridae, Systrophiiidae, Haplotrematidae, Streptaxidae, Spiraxidae, Oleacinidae, Testacellidae. *Ruthenica*, Suppl. 2, Moscow, pp. 731–880.
- SCHILEYKO A. A. 2011. Check-list of land pulmonate molluscs of Vietnam (Gastropoda: Stylommatophora). *Ruthenica* 21(1): 1–68.



- THACH N. N. 2025. New shells of Vietnam, Indonesia and some other countries. Recent & fossil. Seashells – Freshwater – Landshells. With 5 new genera & 208 new species, subspecies. The author and 48Hr Books Company.
- TRYON JR. G. W. 1885. Manual of Conchology, Structure and Systematic, with Illustrations of the Species. Volume 1. The Academy of Natural Science of Philadelphia.
- WENZ W., ZILCH A. 1959–1960. Gastropoda. Teil 2. Euthyneura. Borntraeger, Berlin.
- ZILCH A. 1961. Die Typen und Typoide des Natur-Museums, 24: Mollusca, Streptaxidae. Archiv für Molluskenkunde 90(1/3): 79–120, pls. 5–9.

Received: February 1st, 2026

Revised: February 11th, 2026

Accepted: February 12th, 2026

Published on-line: February 26th, 2026

