

Taxonomic harmonization of Paratethyan brackish ostracods described by Livalental, 1929 from Babazanan type locality (Azerbaijan)

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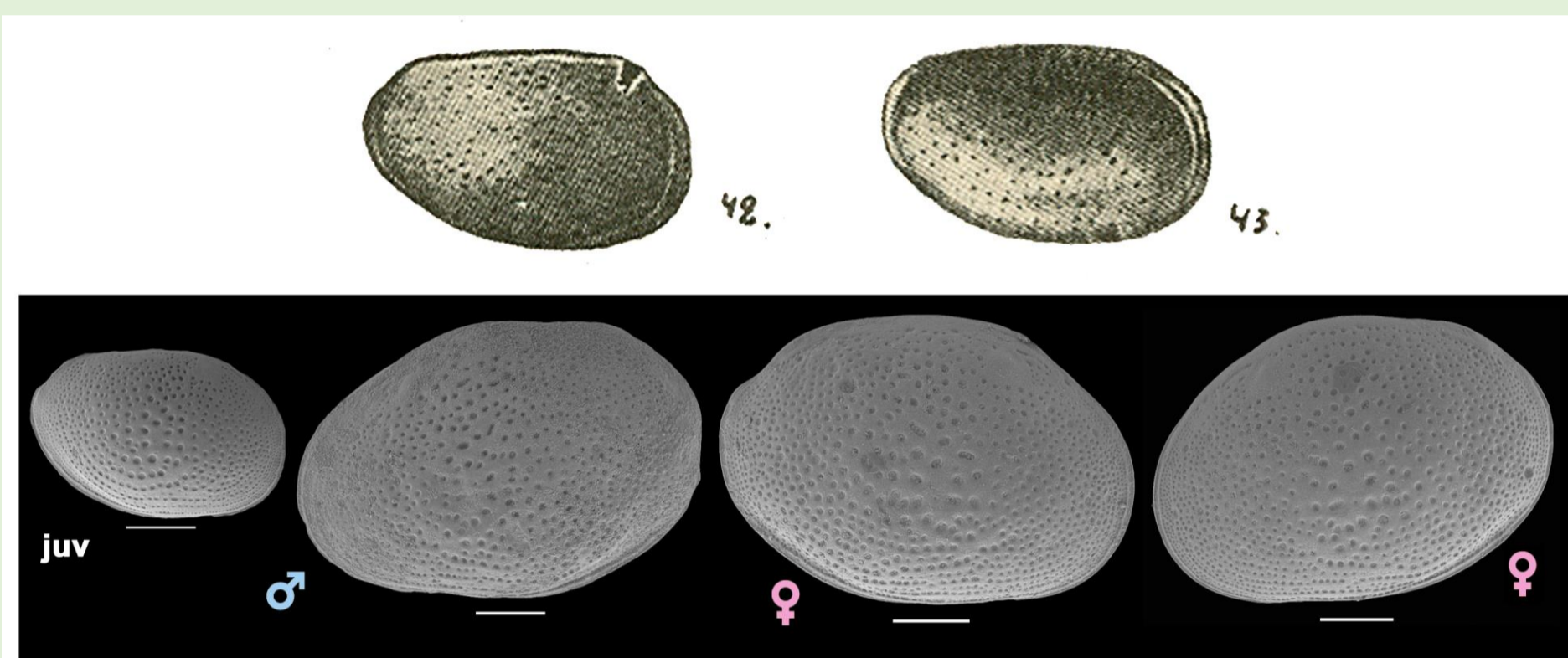
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Neogene ostracods from Paratethys are, potentially, a powerful biostratigraphic tool to depict the geological history of different basins (Styrian, Vienna, Pannonian, Dacian, Euxinic, and Caspian-Aralic basins). Yet, most species were described by different authors (Reuss, Méhes, Zālányi, Livalental) in mid-19th and early 20th centuries and, often, descriptions and illustrations are very poor. Very likely, the Neogene Paratethyan biodiversity is overestimated due to lack of literature exchange at time or the undervaluation of ecophenotypical intra-specific variability. Therefore, often, under different specific (or even generic) names could be hidden the same species. Unfortunately, most of the historical ostracod collection are gone lost or destroyed and the only way to solve the taxonomic problem is to get new samples from the type localities.

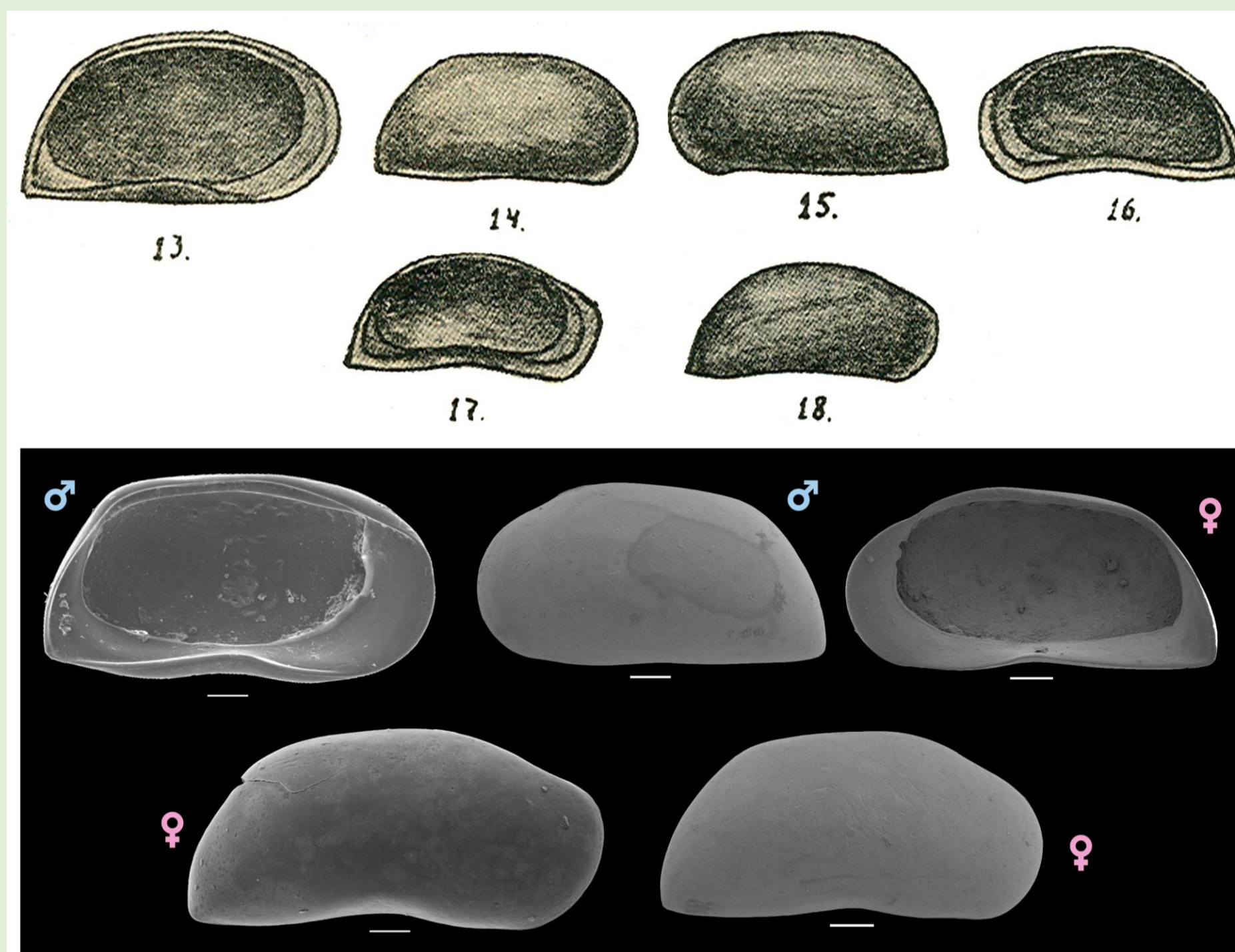
Recently, clays and silts cropping out at Babazanan (Azerbaijan), type locality of the species described by Livalental (1929), were re-sampled by A. Javadova and M. Zenina and here we present the results of our taxonomical studies on some of the collected ostracods, providing new definition of the specific characters mainly based on SEM illustration.

Loxoconcha eichwaldi Livalental, 1929



According to our opinion, Livalental illustrated two juveniles. Anyway, following his diagnosis «...surface of the valves nearly smooth, except for very small, punctate, opaque depressions...» it was rather easy to identify this species in the Babazanan assemblage. *L. eichwaldi* was very often misidentified in the subsequent literature

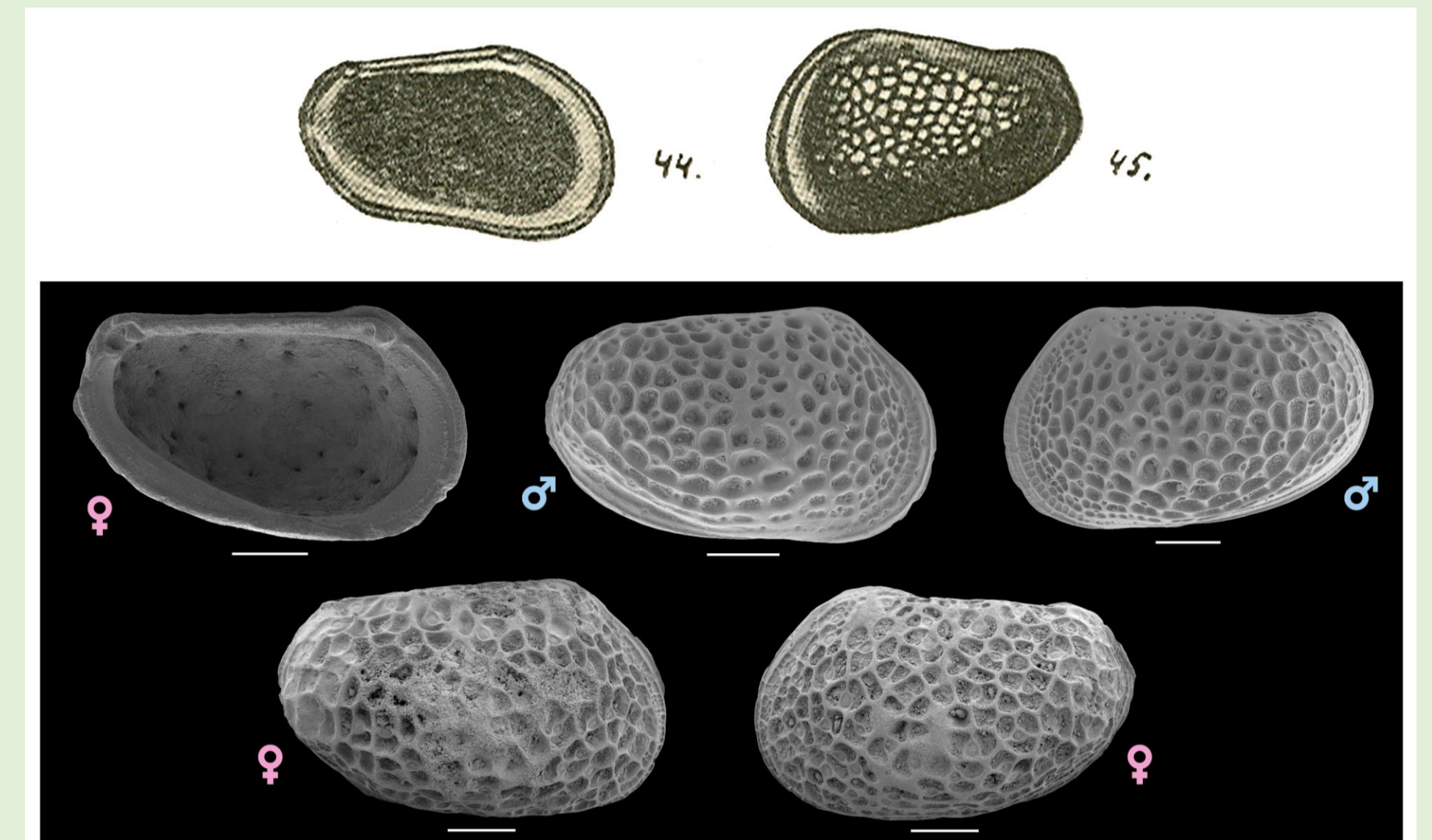
Camptocypria acronasuta (Livalental, 1929)



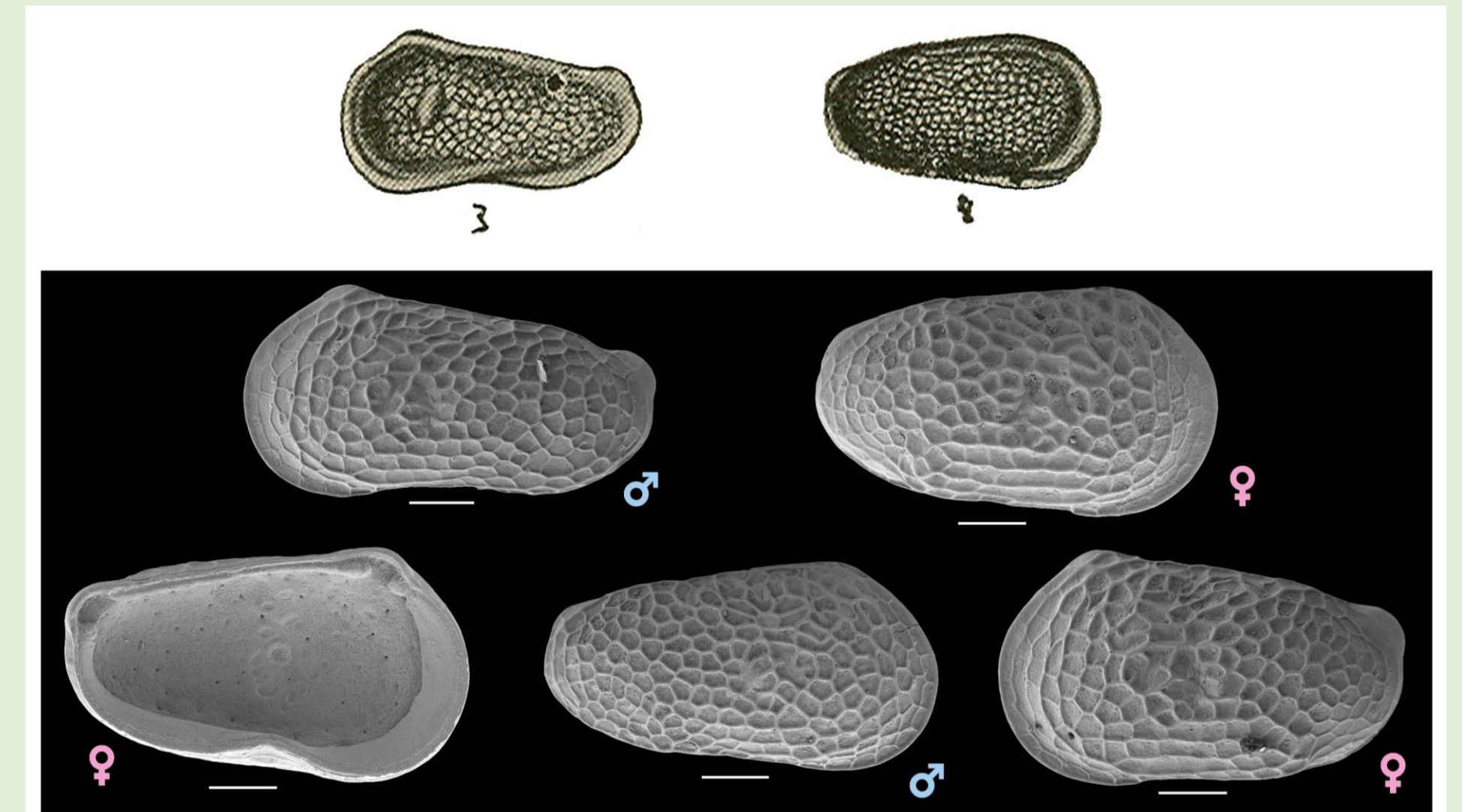
1929 *Bairdia acronasuta* Livalental, p. 46, pl. 2, figs. 13-15
1929 *Bairdia tralucida* Livalental, p. 45, pl. 2, figs. 16-18

According to our opinion, Livalental (1929) named «*acronasuta*» the males and «*tralucida*» the females of the same species. Livalental (1938) recognized their synonymy, choosing the name «*acronasuta*» as senior synonym..

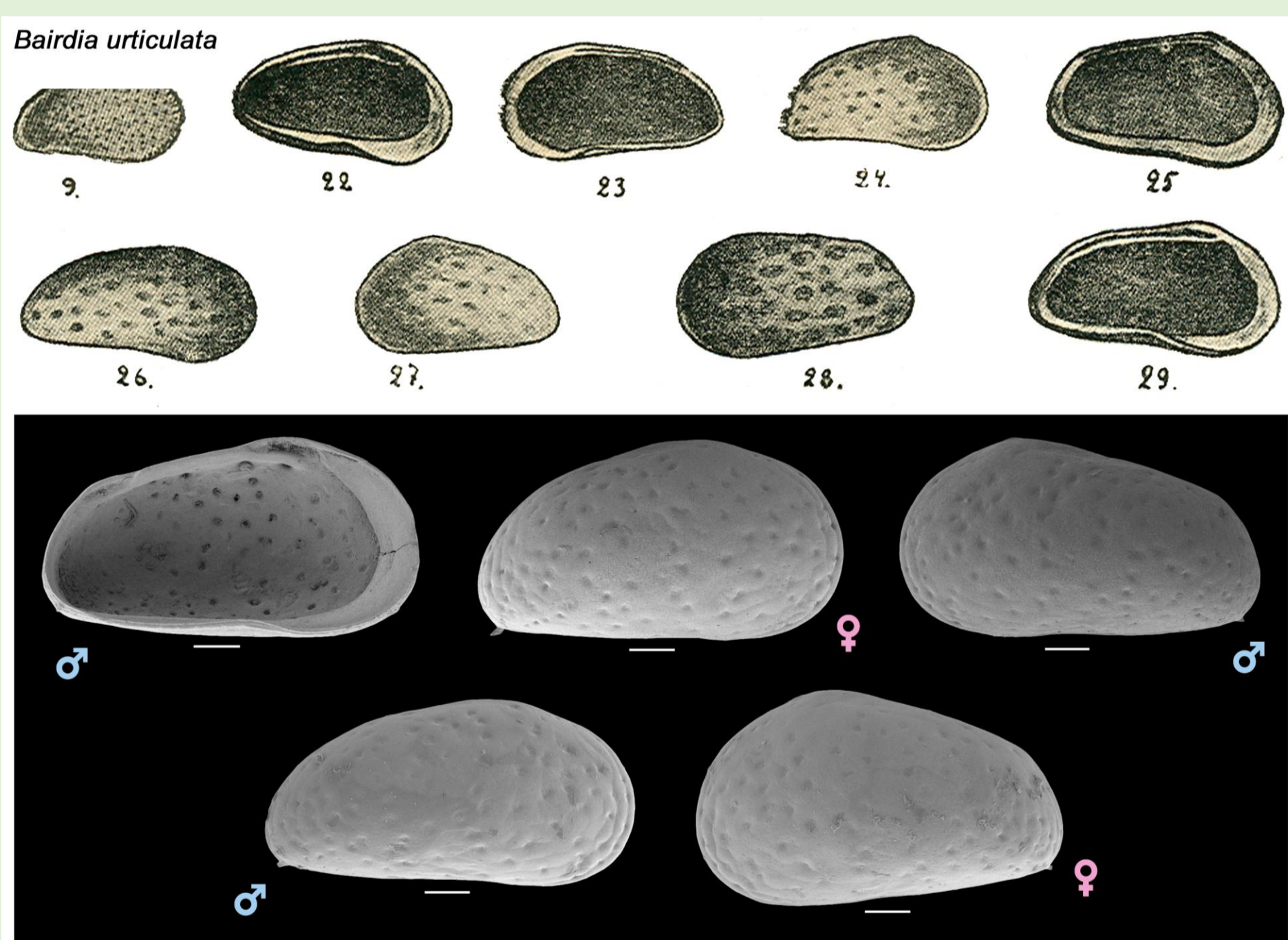
Loxoconcha babazananica Livalental, 1929



Amnicytère palimpsesta (Livalental, 1929)



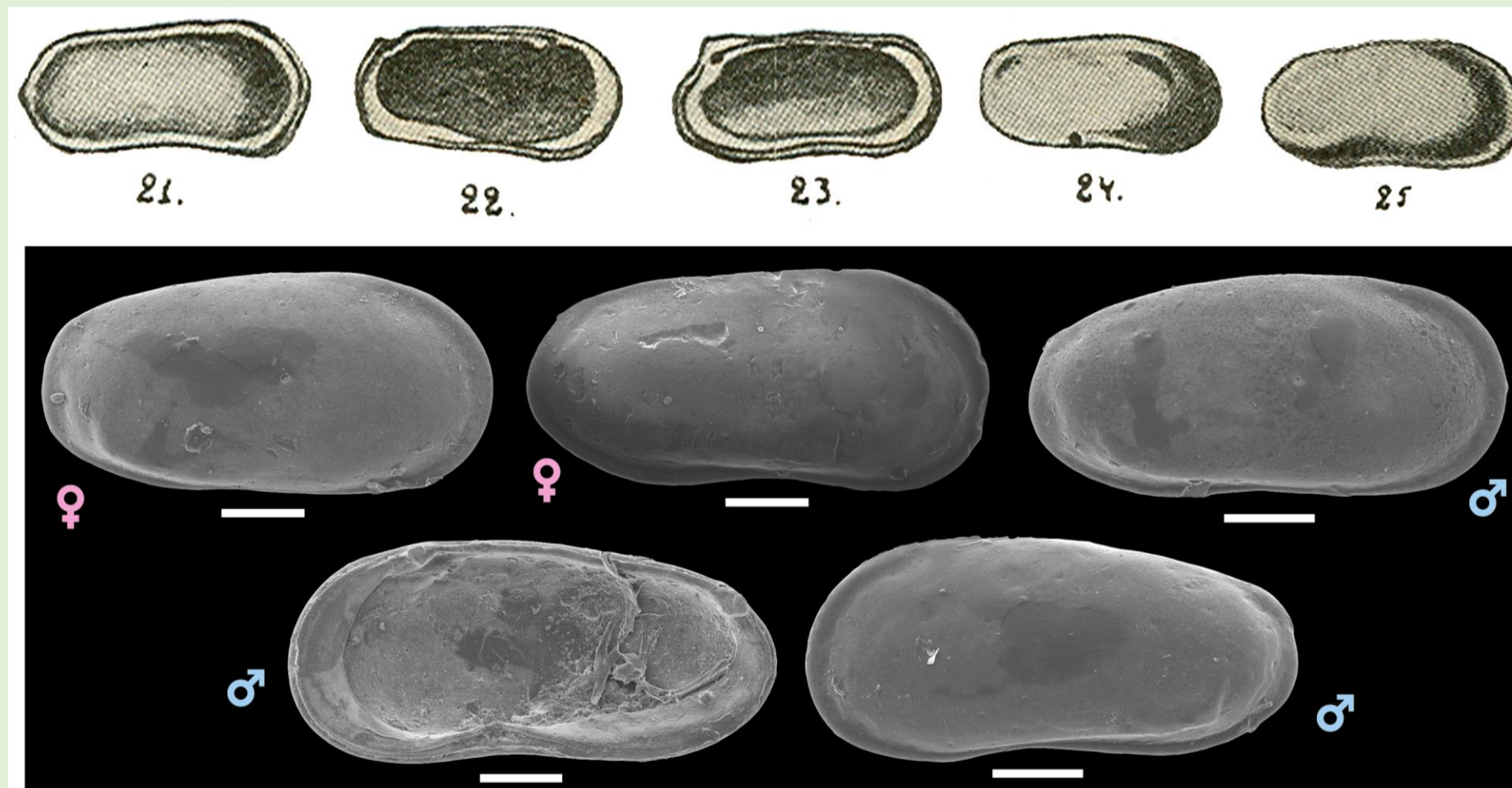
Eucythere naphtatscholana (Livalental, 1929)



1929 *Bairdia naphtatscholana* Livalental, p. 47, pl. 2, figs. 22-29
1929 *Bairdia urticulata* Livalental, p. 43, pl. 2, figs. 7-12

According to our opinion, Livalental named as «*urticulata*» the juveniles of «*naphtatscholana*». The name «*naphtatscholana*» is here preferred as senior synonym, as the most common in literature.

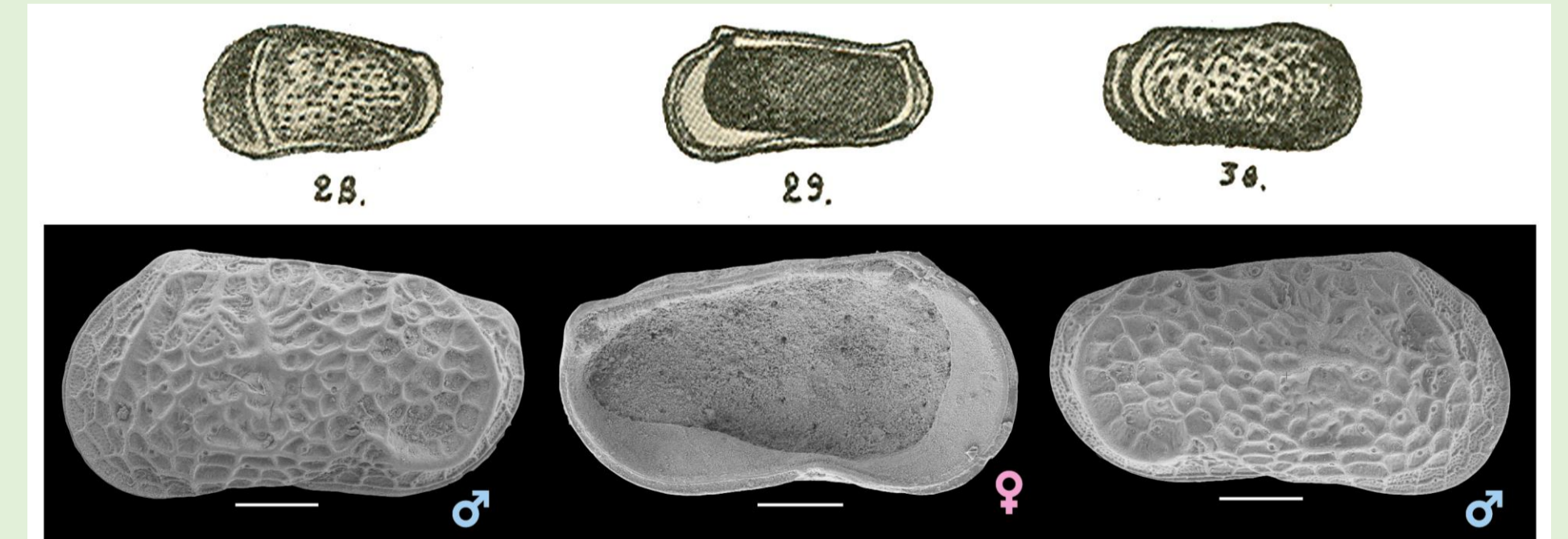
Amnicytère propinqua (Livalental, 1929)



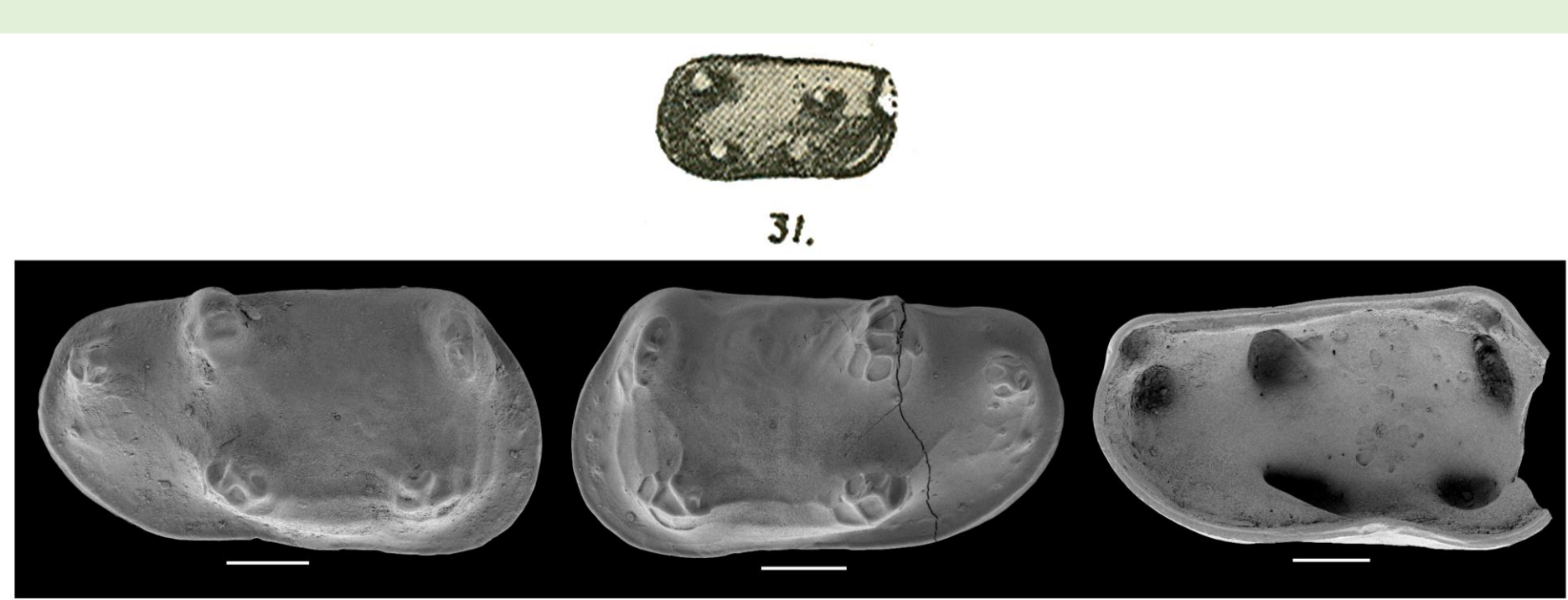
1929 *Cythere propinqua* Livalental, p. 20, pl. 1, figs. 21-24
1929 *Cythere cymbula* Livalental, p. 21, pl. 1, fig. 25

According to our opinion, the «...elongate plication at the posteroventral border...» of «*cymbula*» could be an ecophenotypical character.

Maeotocythere cellula (Livalental, 1929)



Amnicytère quadrituberculata (Livalental, 1929)

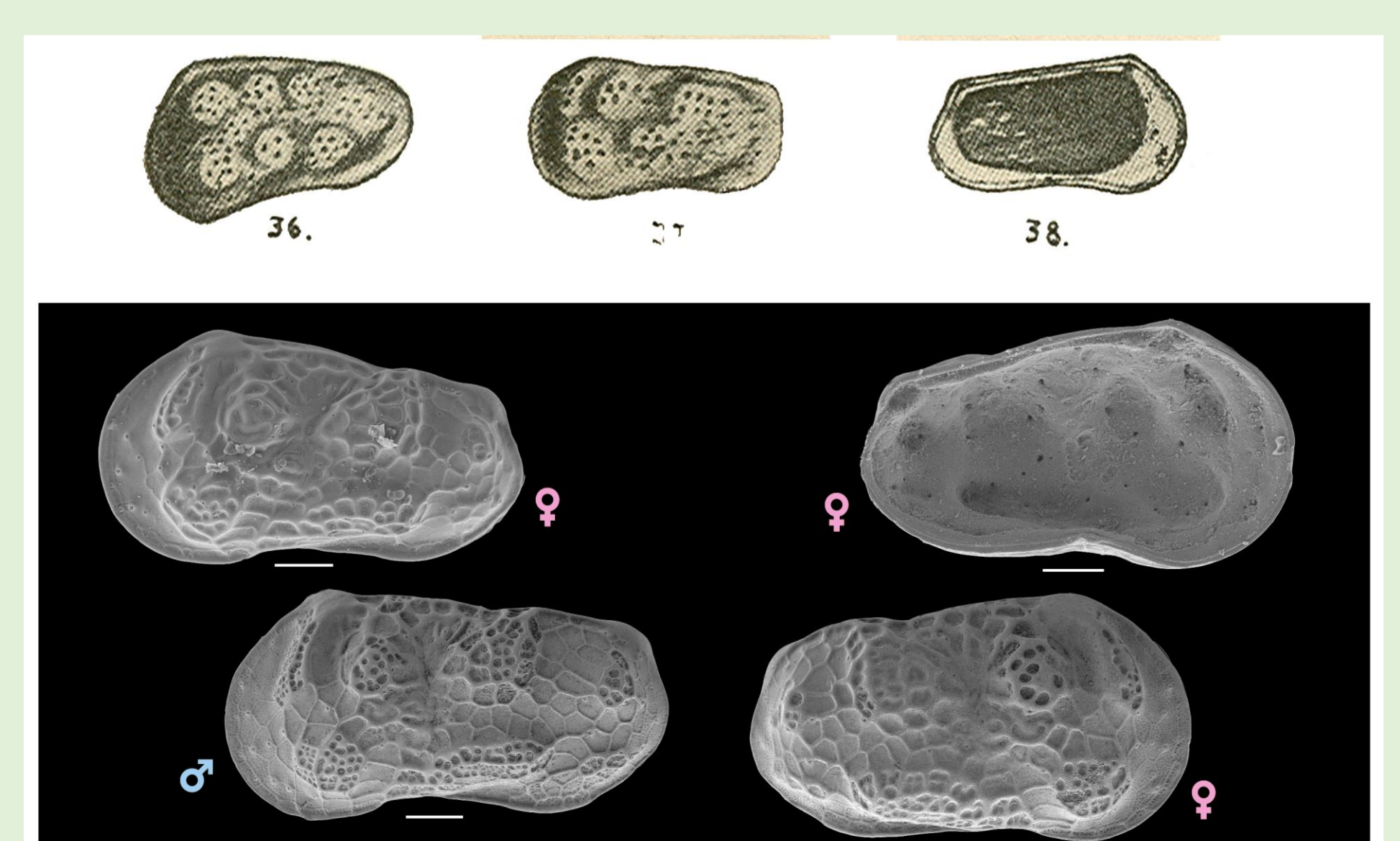


In his diagnosis, Livalental specify «...behind the postero-dorsal tubercle there frequently is another small node...».

Maeotocythere bosqueti (Livalental, 1929)



Amnicytère multituberculata (Livalental, 1929)



REFERENCES

Livalental, V.E. 1929. Ostrakody Akchagyl'skogo i Apsheron'skogo yarosov po Babazananskomu razrezu [Ostracoda from the Akchagyl and Apsheron stages in a section at Babazanan]. Izvestia Azerbajdzhanskogo Politeknicheskogo Instituta, 1-61, Baku. [In Russian].

Livalental, V.E. 1938. Otlozheniya Bakinskogo yarusa i ikh mikrofauna [Deposits of the Bakinian stage and their microfauna]. Trudy Azerbajdzhanskogo Nauchno-Issledovatel'skogo Neftyanogo Instituta, 1(1), 46-67, Baku. [In Russian].