

THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

TALLAHASSEE 32306

DEPARTMENT OF OCEANOGRAPHY
AREA CODE 904...599-3385

June 26, 1968

Dr. H.B. Stenzel
Department of Geology
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803

Dear Dr. Stenzel:

Under separate cover I am sending you three specimens each of two species of oysters that I recently received from the Philippines. One of these has been identified by Dr. Abbott as Crassostrea iredalei. I suspect the other species is C. commercialis or at least belonging to your so-called super genus (along with C. cucullata). I have not had the opportunity to look for a promyl passage or examine the other soft parts to determine if it might possibly be in the genus Ostrea. I requested and received young specimens and hence the size of the shells is not indicative. C. iredalei will reach a size of 150 mm. plus. I do not know about the other species but I have some growing in a tank at our laboratory. The main reason I have not looked at the soft parts is because I want the remaining living oysters to recover fully so that I can use them for hybridization attempts. About 50% of each species died in shipment.

If you know the unnamed species I would greatly appreciate the information. Perhaps you wish for me to send you some preserved with the soft parts or else check the generic characteristics myself.

Sincerely yours,

R. W. Menzel

R.W. Menzel
Associate Professor

RWM:s1a