



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
BUREAU OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

PASCAGOULA FISHERY STATION
P. O. BOX 630
PASCAGOULA, MISSISSIPPI

October 23, 1963

Mr. H. B. Stenzel
P. O. Box 481
Houston 1, Texas

Dear Mr. Stenzel:

This is in reply to your letter of September 30 concerning deep-sea oysters in the Gulf of Mexico.

To the best of my knowledge, we have never encountered Ostrea cochlear in the Gulf of Mexico. We have made a large number of collections of Pycnodonta (hyotus?) both in the Gulf and off the northeast coast of South America. Most of this material is currently on loan to Dr. Gordon Gunter at the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory in Ocean Springs, Mississippi.

If you are particularly interested in the genus, I will be happy to contact Dr. Gunter and see if he has any immediate plans for the material and see if he would be agreeable to loaning you a few specimens.

Thank you for your reprint on aragonite.

Sincerely yours,

Harvey R. Bullis, Jr.
Base Director
Gulf and South Atlantic Exploration
and Gear Research Base