

September 21, 1948

Dr. Curt Teichert, Senior Lecturer
Geology School
University of Melbourne
N. 3
Victoria, Australia

Dear Dr. Teichert:

Recently I have been compiling biographical data concerning living Nautilus. I have been trying to get precise information as to depth, temperature, salinity, food, and geographical distribution. However, there is so little published on that subject, and what is published is scattered so much, that it has been very difficult to assemble the data. I am particularly worried about the geographical distribution. For the general Australian region I have the following:

"One record only for South Australia, Foul Bay, Southern Yorke Peninsula, alive, Riddle 1920, Nautilus pempilius Linne" from Cotton & Godfrey Malscol. Soc. South Australia, pub. 2, p. 19, 1940

"Cast ashore, Coff's Harbour, north of Bellinger River in New South Wales" by Angus, Proc. Zool. Soc. London, for 1877, p. 178.

There have been notices of living Nautilus in Australian waters published in several small Australian publications; however, these are not obtainable here. I wonder whether I am not asking too much of you to jot down what information you have concerning regular Nautilus in the general Australian region. Perhaps you have also some personal observations.

I received your recent publication containing the description of the Deltoidonautilus. It is curious that this genus should occur that late in your area but perhaps it was a relic in that area. Deltoidonautilus occurs in Texas only in a small area in one bed of one formation, but is quite abundant. One of my students collected recently one small slab containing three specimens.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

H. B. Stenzel

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