

September 30, 1963

Mr. Harvey R. Bullis, Jr.
101 Hague Street
Pascagoula, Mississippi

Dear Mr. Bullis:

At the International Zoological Congress in Washington, August 1963, someone told me you would have information on deep-sea oysters in the Gulf of Mexico. This is the reason for this letter.

For several years I have been engaged in collecting data and specimens and writing a book on the family Ostreidae from the paleontologists point of view, but including a great deal of modern biological information. The manuscript is progressing nicely; it has about 250 typed pages so far. Professor C. M. Yonge from Glasgow was kind enough to spend 4 hours reading it and seemed to be impressed by it.

Lately, I have spent much time in assembling data on the geographic distribution of Ostrea cochlear Poli and closely related forms. I have made notes on all the specimens preserved at the U.S. National Museum and the Philadelphia Academy and have consulted much of the literature. The nearest North American locality found by me is specimen 485617, U.S. National Museum, 60 miles southeast of Charleston, Charleston County, South Carolina, Pelican 182-6, 60 fathoms. Do you know of any other localities that have not yet been listed for this species in publication, especially in the Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean Sea, and western Atlantic? Any information you may have on this species will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

H. B. Stenzel

HBS:jmf

Enclosure: Paper on aragonite

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