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Lepetodrilus cristatus 25% "rare" ... Product # 1009720

Origin: Juan De Fuca Ridge

Size: 4mm

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A very rare Near-gem Lepetodrilus cristatus 4mm. McClean, 1988. Collected by the submersible at 2200 meters on thermal vent site on tube worms. Juan De Fuca Ridge, Pacific.



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02-511
(18A)

Hydrothermo Vent Shells

Vent limpets

Species-(*Lepetodrilus*)

Phylum-Mollusca

Class-Gastropoda

Order-Prosobranchia

Family-Lepetodrilidae

Genus-Lepetodrilus

Species: *Lepetodrilus cristatus*

Size: 4.6mm to 7mm

Quantity: 10

Discrber: McLean, 1988

Location:(1) High Rise vent field, 47 degrees 58' North on the Juan de Fuca Ridge, NE Pacific - 2200 meters depth (Cruise "Hot") 1996

Location:(2) Manus Basin, SW Pacific- 9 degrees 50' N (2515 meters) & 13' N (2630 meters)

Collection Method:(1) DSV (Deep Submergence Vehicle) "Nautile"

Collection Method:(2) ROV (Remotley Operated Vehicle) "Jason"

Diagnosis: Shell is of limpet form, symmetrical; coiling distinctly. Apex posterior, lower than highest shell elevation, slightly to stronger projecting. Species differ by shell portions and sculpture. The most abundant are smooth, or sculptured with radiating ribs. There is no operculum present. Male with penis near base of right cephalic tentacle. Eyes are absent. Three pairs of epipodial tentacles.

Ecology: In Juan de Fuca Ridge sites, this species has been collected from the washing of the tubes belonging to vestimentiferan worms. There is no doubt that the primary ecosystem of these limpets is directly on Riftia & Tevnia. Association of chemoautotrophic bacteria with the gill confirming in species.

Biology: Larval development without planktotrophic larvae. *Lepetodrilus* (McLean, 1988), lives on and around the bacterial mats found at the hydrothermal vent sites at the Juan de Fuca Ridge, off shore northern California. These limpets are grazers, and feed upon whatever digestible material, predominantly bacteria, gets in their path. They are usually found in groups, mingling among tube worms. The animal do not possess bacterial symbionts, which is exceptional for a vent shell.

Described in the Transactions of the Royal Society of London v. 319, nr. 1192. [NL]