MOLLUSCAN HORIZONS

research article

Vaninia admirabilis, a new replacement name for *Margarites mirabilis* Simone & Birman, 2006 (Vetigastropoda, Calliostomatidae) from Brazil

Luiz Ricardo L. Simone[1]

[1] Museu de Zoologia da Universidade de São Paulo, Av. Nazaré, 841, São Paulo, SP, Brazil.

Corresponding author:
Luiz Ricardo L. Simone
E-mail: lrsimone@usp.br; lrlsimone@gmail.com

Article history:
Received 04 September 2026
Revised 19 September 2026
Accepted 19 September 2026
Published 24 September 2026

Handling editor:
Marcel S. Miranda

Keywords: Trochoidea, Taxonomy, nomen novum

ZooBank identifier: urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:BFA51D4B-2F93-456E-B714-357F79F6D559

How to cite: Simone LRL (2026) *Vaninia admirabilis*, a new replacement name for *Margarites mirabilis* Simone & Birman, 2006 (Vetigastropoda, Calliostomatidae) from Brazil. Molluscan Horizons 1: e260109. https://doi.org/10.68729/r7fbfg81

© The authors. This work is freely available under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International licence (CC BY 4.0).

Abstract

Margarites mirabilis Simone & Birman, 2006, presently in the genus *Vaninia* Simone & Dornellas, 2026, is preoccupied by *Margarites mirabilis* Casey, 1960, a Lower Cretaceous fossil, presently in the genus *Atira* Stewart, 1927. *Vaninia admirabilis* nom. nov. is herein proposed as replacement name for *Margarites miriabilis* Simone & Birman, 2006.

1. Introduction

The formerly margaritid *Margarites mirabilis* Simone & Birman, 2006, was recently transferred to the calliostomatid genus *Vaninia* Simone & Dornellas, 2026. At that time, Philippe Bouchet noticed that the name was preoccupied by *Margarites mirabilis* Casey, 1960, a Lower Cretaceous fossil later transferred to the margaritesid fossil genus *Atira* Stewart, 1927 (Squires 2010; MolluscaBase 2026).

According to Article 52.2 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN, 1999), *Margarites miriabilis* Simone & Birman, 2006 is therefore a junior primary homonym of *M. miriabilis* Casey, 1906. Accordingly, the junior homonym must be replaced, and in the absence of an available and potentially valid synonym, it must be replaced by a new substitute name (Arts. 60.1–60.3). This action is carried out in the present paper.

The aforementioned paper describing the genus *Vaninia* Simone & Dornellas, 2026 reviewed the southwestern Atlantic species previously assigned to *Margarites* Leach, 1847 and *Falsimargarita* Powell, 1951. During the dissemination of that study, the homonymy described above was detected, and it is, thus, resolved herein.

2. Material and Methods

The present paper is based on the rules of the ICZN, particularly Articles 52.2, 60.1–3, which requires the introduction of a nomen novum. This procedure is provided herein.

3. Systematics

Vaninia admirabilis nomen novum
(Fig. 1)

Synonymy see Simone & Dornellas (2026: 304).

Complement:



Figure 1. *Vaninia admirabilis* nom. nov.: holotype of *Margarites mirabilis* Simone & Birman, 2006; MZSP 46025 (12.3 by 10.0 mm), frontal, apical and inferior views.

Margarites mirabilis Simone & Birman 2006: 13–14 (figs, 1-5, 11) (non Casey 1960).
Vaninia mirabilis: Simone & Dornellas 2026: 304–307 (figs. 24–44).

Name-bearing type. MZSP 46025, holotype of *Margarites mirabilis* Simone & Birman, 2006; the same specimen is the name-bearing type of *Vaninia admirabilis* nom. nov.

ZooBank identifier. urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:3D26BBFC-E8CD-4E25-B7BF-B1FEA06F2099

Diagnosis and description. see Simone & Birman (2006) and Simone & Dornellas (2026).

Etymology. The replacement specific epithet is an adjective derived from the Latin admiror, meaning admirable, worthy of admiration, or marvelous, in reference to the beauty of the shell. The previous epithet (mirabilis) has a similar meaning; however, that word denotes something causing wonder, whereas admirabilis refers to something worthy of admiration.

Although the two previous homonyms are currently placed in different genera and even families, the earlier condition of homonymy is sufficient to require the establishment of the present replacement name. As *Margarites mirabilis* Simone & Birman, 2006 is a primary junior homonym of *Margarites (Atia) mirabilis* Casey, 1960, and thus it is permanently invalid, it does not matter if it is current accepted in a different genus (ICZN 57.2).

Acknowledgements. I am especially grateful to Philippe Bouchet, Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, for bringing the homonymy case to my attention. Also to both anonymous referees and the Editor for improvements on the paper.

Data availability. All necessary data are provided in this paper or in the references cited herein.

Conflict of Interest. The author serves as a Subject Editor of Molluscan Horizons. The author was not involved in the peer-review process nor in any editorial decisions regarding this manuscript. Editorial responsibility was delegated to an independent member of the editorial team to ensure an unbiased review process.

Use of AI. No AI tools were used in this manuscript.

References

Casey R (1960) A Lower Cretaceous gastropod with fossilized intestines. Palaeontology 2: 270–276.

ICZN (International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature) (1999) International Code of Zoological Nomenclature. Fourth edition. International Trust for Zoological Nomenclature, London, xxix, 306 pp.

MolluscaBase eds (2026) MolluscaBase. Atira mirabilis (R. Casey, 1960) †. Accessed at: https://www.molluscabase.org/aphia.php?p=taxdetails&id=1873551 on 2026-03-15

Simone LRL, Birman A (2006) Two new species of the genus *Margarites* (Vetigastropoda: Trochidae) from Brazil. Novapex 7: 13–16. http://moluscos.org/trabalhos/2006/Simone%20&%20Birman%202006%20Margarites.pdf

Simone LRL, Dornellas APS (2026 ["2025"]) *Vaninia*, a new deepwater genus of Calliostomatidae (Vetigastropoda) from the southwestern Atlantic, with description of a new species. Malacologia 68: 297–326.

Squires RL (2010) Northeast Pacific record of the Cretaceous marine gastropod *Atira* and a review of its paleobiogeography. Journal of Paleontology 84: 1022–1030.