

Against such a tendency it is necessary to protest and to revert to a less rigid conception of what constitutes a genus, and though one does attach considerable systematic importance to the shell, this must not be exaggerated so as to lead to the erection of a separate genus for species which differ in some minute feature in the shell, but agree with one another in the rest of their characters. In addition to several differences of some importance in regard to the shells, it will be necessary to justify the establishment of a genus by at least one characteristic difference either in the soft structure of the animal, or in certain hard parts like the operculum or the buccal armature, which are generally of real importance in generic and specific diagnoses.

From this it follows that a large number of the generic titles discussed below must either be abandoned or regarded as synonyms. Some of them again may be considered as designating generic subdivisions, though these are not in any way indispensable in so comparatively small a group as the Thecosomata.

I shall append, from the literature of the group, an alphabetical list of the various generic names given to living Thecosomata:—

<i>Agadina</i> , Gould.	<i>Heterofusus</i> , Fleming.
<i>Archonta</i> , Montfort.	<i>Hyalæa</i> , Lamarck.
<i>Balantium</i> , Leach.	<i>Hyalocylis</i> , Fol.
<i>Campylonaus</i> , Gray.	<i>Limacina</i> , Cuvier.
<i>Cavolinia</i> , Abildgaard.	<i>Orbignyia</i> , A. Adams.
<i>Cleodora</i> , Péron and Lesueur.	<i>Peracle</i> , Forbes.
<i>Clio</i> , Linné.	<i>Pleuropus</i> , Eschscholtz.
<i>Corolla</i> , Dall.	<i>Protomedea</i> , O. G. Costa.
<i>Creseis</i> , Rang.	<i>Rheda</i> , Humphreys.
<i>Cuvieria</i> , Rang, <i>non</i> Péron.	<i>Scæa</i> , Philippi.
<i>Cuvierina</i> , Boas.	<i>Spiratella</i> , de Blainville.
<i>Cymbulia</i> , Péron and Lesueur.	<i>Spirialis</i> , Eydoux and Souleyet.
<i>Diacria</i> , Gray.	<i>Styliola</i> , Lesueur.
<i>Embolus</i> , Jeffreys.	<i>Tiedemannia</i> , delle Chiaje.
<i>Euromus</i> , H. and A. Adams.	<i>Tricla</i> , Oken, <i>non</i> Retzius.
<i>Gleba</i> , Forskål.	<i>Triptera</i> , Auctorum, <i>non</i> Quoy and
<i>Heliconoides</i> , d'Orbigny.	Gaimard.
<i>Helicophora</i> , Gray.	

Of these thirty-four titles

I. Two ought to be provisionally set aside as doubtful, for reasons which I shall afterwards submit:—

Agadina, Gould.

| *Triptera*, Quoy and Gaimard.