

## REFEREE'S REPORT

Unanticipated discovery of two rare gastropod molluscs from recently located hydrothermally influenced areas in the Okinawa Trough

By Chen, Watanabe, Miyazaki and Kawaguchi

This manuscript is well written and illustrated, and the science is sound. I strongly recommend it for publication after consideration of the following points.

50. 84-89. Marshall & Houart (2011) recorded *Pagodula* (i.e. *Enixotrophon*) *carduelis* and *P. obtusa* from submarine volcanoes, though they are widespread on ambient substrata and are not restricted to chemosynthetic substrata. The real question is, are the two species recorded from Okinawa Trough really restricted to chemosynthetic environments?

140. On the basis of establishment of the number of lateral teeth in the radula of *T. ikukoeae*, the authors should take this opportunity to follow Hasegawa and Hasegawa & Saito (and Marshall on the basis of the radula), by returning the species to *Otukaia*.

244. There should be a reference for transfer of *Otukaia crustulum* to *Calliotropis*.

All ranges should have n strokes, not hyphens.

In references, words in titles of books and papers that are not proper nouns should not have capital letters. Also, names of genera and species in titles should be italicised (e.g. 389).

Bruce Marshall, 25/10/2017

Not confidential