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nudibranchNEWS

Dr. Kikutaro Baba
Memorial Issue

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写場菊太郎 Kikutaro Baba
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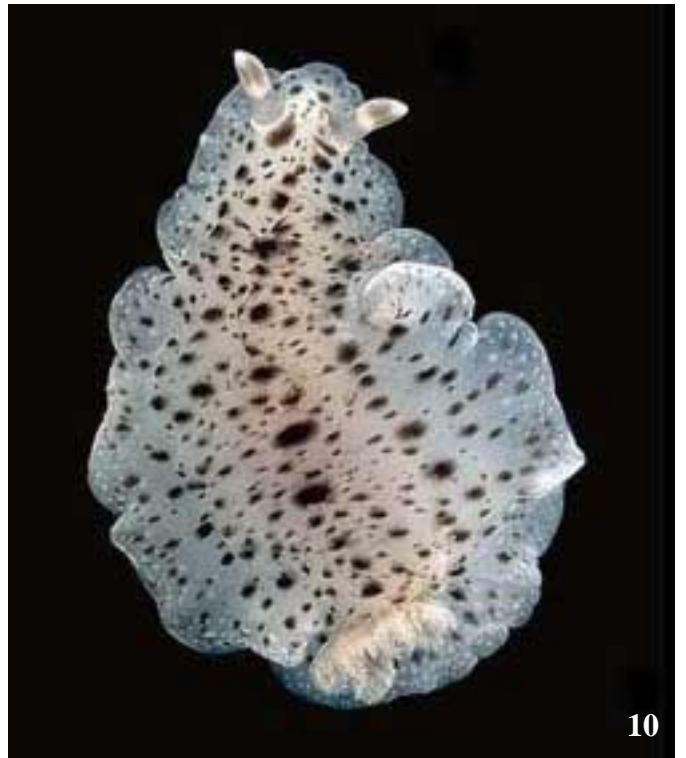
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1. *Protaeolidella japonicus* Baba, 1949
Photo W. Rudman
- 2, 3. *Babakina festiva* (Roller 1972) described as *Babaina*. Photos by Miller and A. Ono
4. *Hypselodoris babai* Gosliner & Behrens 2000
Photo R. Bolland.
5. *Favorinus japonicus* Baba, 1949
Photo W. Rudman
6. *Falbellina babai* Schmekel, 1973
Photo Franco de Lorenzo
7. *Phyllodesium iriomotense* Baba, 1991
Photo W. Rudman
8. *Cyerce kikutarobabai* Hamatani 1976 -
Photo M. Miller
9. *Eubranchus inabai* Baba, 1964
Photo W. Rudman
10. *Dendrodoris elongata* Baba, 1936
Photo W. Rudman
11. *Phyllidia babai* Brunckhorst 1993
Photo Brunckhorst





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- Baba, K. 1988d. Anatomical review of *Diaphorodoris* (=Lamellidoridella) from Japan (Nudibranchia: Onchidorididae). *Venus* 47(2):83-87.[N]
- Baba, K. 1988e. Comparative study on two species of *Glossodoris* from Japan (Nudibranchia: Chromodorididae) *Venus* 47(3):158-166, 6 figs. [G. *misakinobogae* n.sp., G. *atromarginata*, Japanese summary]
- Baba, K. 1988f. *Dendrodoris tuberculosa* (Q. & G. 1832; Doris), variety form, from Ishigaki-shima, Okinawa, Japan. *Shells & Sea Life* 20(4):17.[N]
- Baba, K. 1988g. Comment on *Doris lacera*, from Timor, Indonesia. *Shells & Sea Life* 20(7):11-12.[N]
- Baba, K. 1988h. *Diaphorodoris mitsui* (Baba, 1938) from Kinoura, Noto Peninsula, Japan. *Janolus* (Takaoka Biological Club) (72):1. [In Japanese].[N]
- Baba, K. 1989-03. More study on two species of *Mexichromis* from Japan (Nudibranchia: Chromodorididae). *Venus* 48(1):12-20, figs. 1-5. [M. *multituberculata* comb. n.; M. *festiva*; Japanese summary]
- Baba, K. 1989-03. Taxonomical study on two species of the "aureopurpurea" color group of *Chromodoris* from Japan (Nudibranchia: Chromodorididae). *Venus* 48(1):21-26, 3 figs. [C. *aureopurpurea*, C. *colingwoodi*, Japanese summary]
- Baba, K. 1989-06b. Description of a new species, *Paradoris tsurugensis*, from Japan (Nudibranchia: Dorididae). *Venus* 48(2):73-78, 3 figs. [Japanese summary]
- Baba, K. 1989-06c. An identification of *Chromodoris leopardus* Rudman, 1987 from Japan (Nudibranchia: Chromodorididae). *Venus* 48(2):96-98, 2 figs. [Japanese summary]
- Baba, K. 1989d. Review of the genus *Ceratosoma* from Japan (Nudibranchia: Chromodorididae). *Venus* 48(3):141-149.[N]
- Baba, K. 1989e. A new distributional record of *Gymnodoris ceylonica* (Kelaart, 1858) from Sagami Bay, Japan. *Venus* 48(3):192-194.[N]
- Baba, K. 1989f. Description of a new species of nudibranchiate Mollusca, *Paradoris tsurugensis*, Dorididae, from Japan. *Boletim de Zoologia, Universidade de Sao Paulo* 10:1-8.[N]
- Baba, K. 1989g. Review of the genus *Kaloplocamus* from Japan (Nudibranchia: Polyceridae s.l.). *Venus* 48(4):231-243.[N]
- Baba, K. 1990. Notes on the rare genera *Trapania* and *Ancula* from Japan with the description of a new species (Nudibranchia: Goniodorididae). *Venus* 49(1):8-18.[N]
- Baba, K. 1990. Two Small Species of *Philine* New of Japan (Cephalaspidea: Philineidae). *Venus*, 49(3):181-187, pl. 1, figs. 1-2. [*Philine orca*, *Philine rubrata*]. [N]
- Baba, K. 1991. Taxonomical study on some species of the genus *Phyllodesmium* from Cape Muroto-misaki, Shikoku, and Okinawa Province, southern Japan (Nudibranchia: Facelinidae). *Venus* 50(2):109-124.[N]
- Baba, K. 1991a. The anatomy of *Phyllodesmium serratum* (Baba, 1949) from Japan (Nudibranchia: Facelinidae). *Venus* 50(2):101-108.[N]
- Baba, K. 1991b. Review of the genus *Rostanga* of Japan with the description of a new species (Nudibranchia: Dorididae). *Venus* 50(2):43-54.[N]
- Baba, K. 1992. Comment on the taxonomy of *Protaeolidiella atra* Baba, 1955 and an allied species (Mollusca: Nudibranchia: Aeolidiidae) from Japan. *Report of the Sado Marine Biological Station* (22):29-35.[N]
- Baba, K. 1992a. Critical review of *Dermatobranchus striatus* van Hasselt, 1824 (Nudibranchia: Arminidae) with the description of a new species. *Venus* 50(4):239-248.[N]
- Baba, K. 1993. A northern species of *Dendronotus* (Mollusca: Nudibranchia: Dendronotidae) from Sado Island, Sea of Japan. *Report of the Sado Marine Biological Station* (23):29-33.[N]
- Baba, K. 1993a. A new species of *Dendrodoris* (Mollusca: Nudibranchia: Dendrodorididae) from Sado Island, Sea of Japan. *Report of the Sado Biological Station* (23):25-28.[N]
- Baba, K. 1993b. Two new species of *Carminodoris* (Nudibranchia: Dorididae) from Japan. *Venus* 52(3):223-234.[N]
- Baba, K. 1988f. *Dendrodoris tuberculosa* (Q. & G. 1832; Doris), variety form, from Ishigaki-shima, Okinawa, Japan. *Shells & Sea Life* 20(4):17.[N]
- Baba, K. 1988g. Comment on *Doris lacera*, from Timor, Indonesia. *Shells & Sea Life* 20(7):11-12.[N]
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Baba, K. 1993b. Two new species of *Carminodoris* (Nudibranchia: Dorididae) from Japan. *Venus* 52(3):223-234.[N]



Dr. Baba's obituary appeared in the corner of the local newspaper. He died of pneumonia. 4:16 30PM November in hospital. He was 96 years old. The chief mourner is his wife Mrs Sonoko Baba, his home address is (from the newspaper) Nara-ken, Ikoma-gun, Sangou-machi, Shigigaoka 4-1-3

Although, Of course I haven't seen him, our common friend Rie Nakano had a chance to talk to him when she published Ono's book. She said that Dr Baba was a nice man. We all respected his achievement.

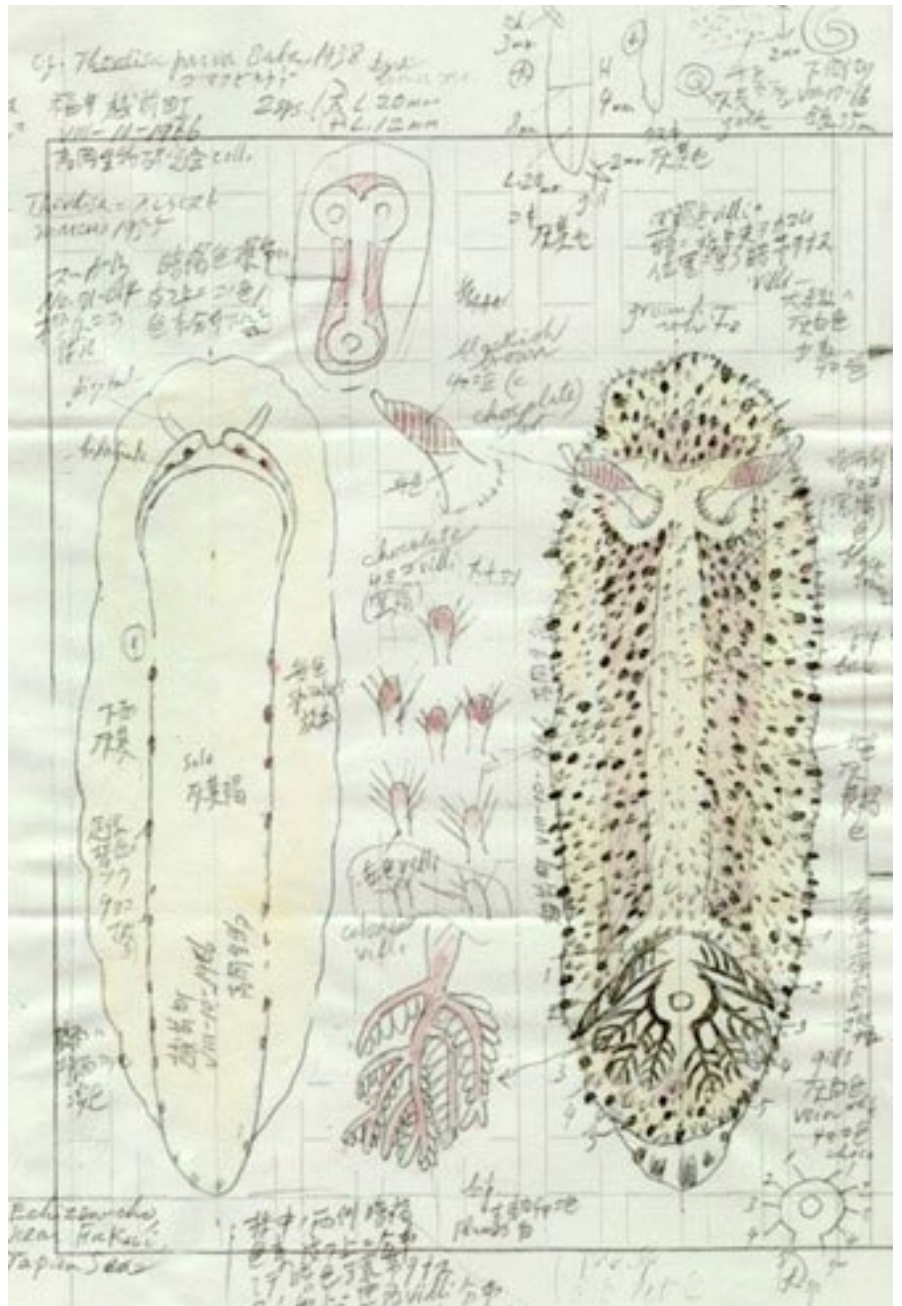
Nishina Masayoshi (extract from a email to Dave Behrens)

Moments I Shared with Dr. Kikutaro Baba

Early in my opisthobranch experience it was suggested to me that I ask a Japanese taxonomist, a Dr. Kikutaro Baba, for help on a problem. I was young, new to the discipline and open to anyone who might lend me help with a couple specimens I was working on from San Francisco Bay. Thirty years ago Dr. Baba had never heard of me, but despite our language barriers, and oceans of separation, openly and generously examined my specimens and shared his thoughts in a warm and mentoring manner.

Shown here are a few of the wonderful pen and water colour drawings Dr. Baba sent me over the years we corresponded together. He never asked for acknowledgement, he never asked for co-authorship. He only thanked me for coming to him for help. I never met Dr. Baba. I don't even know what he looked like, but these wonderful, detailed and meticulous sketches will always remind me of his generosity and the assistance he gave a hungry college student, excited about a couple of small sea slugs he had come across, half a globe away.

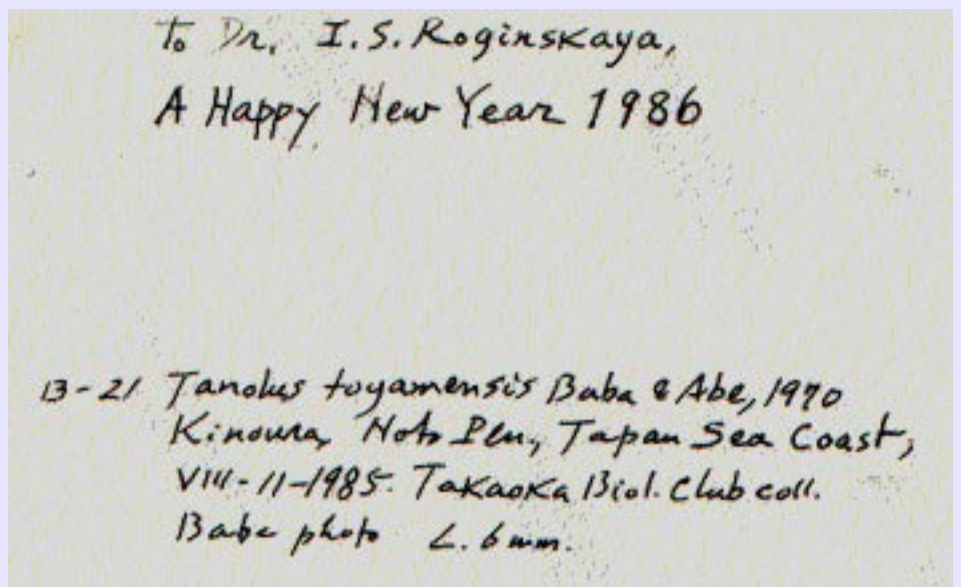
Dave Behrens

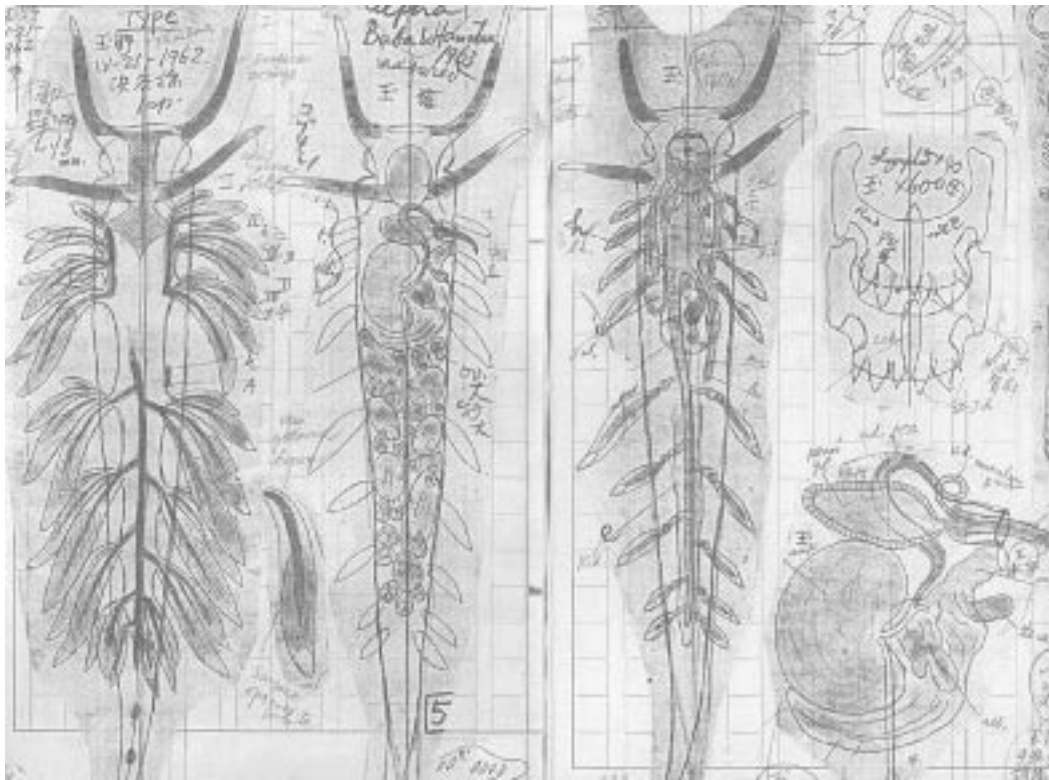
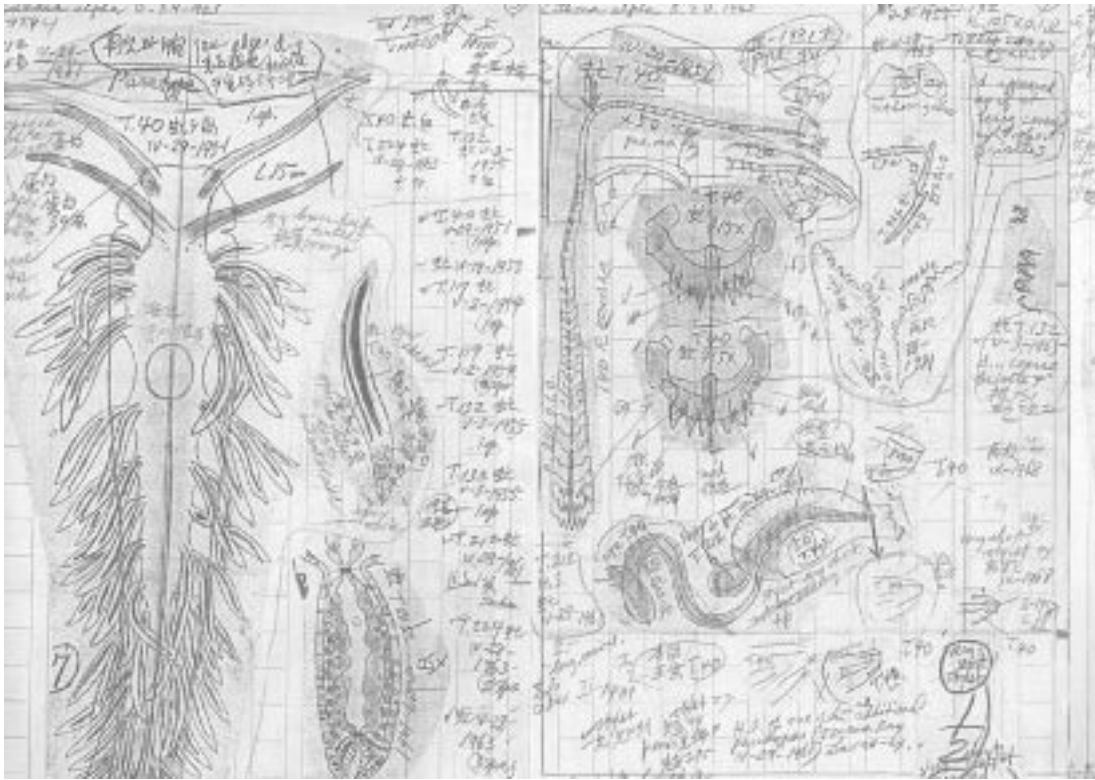


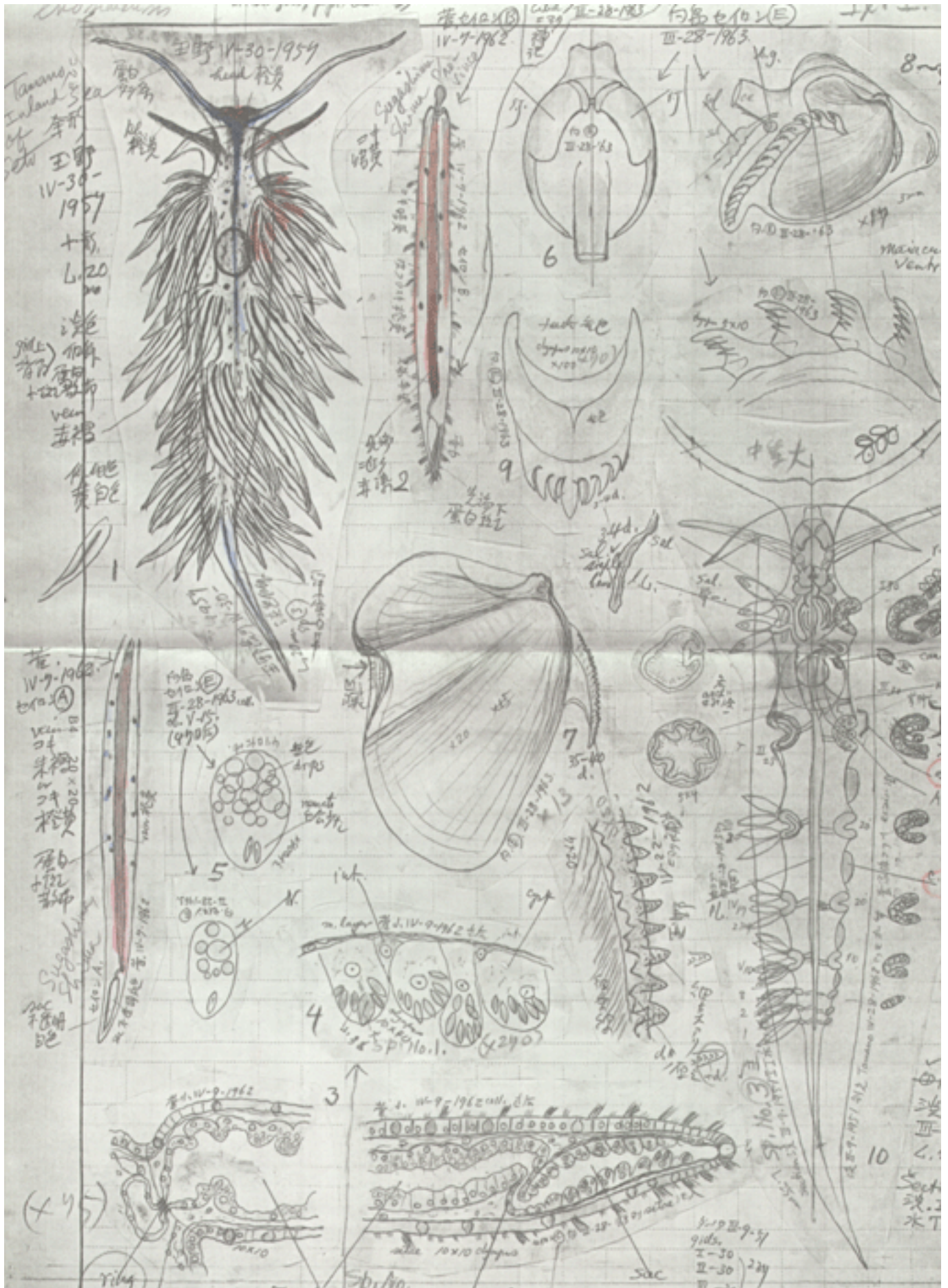
I already know the sad news. Last year, when for the first time after many years of regular correspondence exchange with Prof. K. Baba, I heard nothing from him, I suspected that something had occurred. This is such a great loss.

I also remember Dr. Habe who also passed away recently. He visited our Laboratory twice. It seems to me that I took some photographs, but where are they, I don't remember.

Irina Roginskaya







1905 Kikutaro Baba was born 11 July in Fukuoka Prefecture, Kyushi, Japan.

1932 Graduated from the Biology Department of the Tokyo Bunrika University.

1940 Earned the degree of Rigaku-Hakushi (Dr. Sci.) from the Kyoto Imperial University. His dissertation was on the mechanisms of absorption and excretion in the solenogaster *Epimenia verrucosa* (Nierstrasz).

1941 to 1943 Member of the Research Institute for Natural Resources attached to the Education Ministry,

1943 to 1947 he served as Military Government Professor of Zoology in the Jakarta Medical College, Java.

1947-1948 Member of the Science Education Office, at Osaka Prefecture,

1948-1949 Professor of Biology in the Osaka First Normal School.

1949 to 1971 Professor of Biology at Osaka Kyoiku University

1971-2001 Professor Emeritus at Osaka Kyoiku University

1976 Received the Third Class of Merit of the name of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan.

1987 Honourary member of the Japanese Society of Systematic Zoology

1988 Honourary member of the Malacological Society of Japan

1992 Honorary member of the Western Society of Malacologists in 1992.”



“Dr. Kikutaro Baba has almost single-handedly described the biodiversity of the Japanese opisthobranch fauna. The Emperor of Japan and Dr. Baba collaborated on two major works: The Opisthobranchia of Sagami Bay (1949) and Supplement to Opisthobranchia of Sagami Bay (1955).

A measure of the esteem in which he is held is shown by the patronyms he holds:

Three genera

Babaina Odhner, 1968,

Babakina Roller, 1973

Babiella Risso-Dominguez, 1964

Ten species of opisthobranchs:

Linguella babai Tchang-Si, 1934

Marionopsis babai Odhner, 1936

Elysia babai Pruvot-Fol, 1945,

Okenia babai Hamatani, 1961,

Tamanovalva babai Burn, 1965,

Flabellina babai Schmekel, 1970,

Cyerce kikutarobabai Hamatani, 1976,

Chelidonura babai Gosliner, 1988

Phyllidia babai Brunckhorst 1993

Hypselodoris babai Gosliner & Behrens 2000



Thank you to Irina Roginskaya, Dave Behrens, Robert Burn, Gary McDonald, Hans Bertsch, Dave Brunkhorst, Bill Rudman, Miquel Pontes, Mike Miller and Neil Miller for their assistance with this issue. Julie Marshall and Miquel Pontes also kindly assisted by holding over their columns in show of respect to a true scholar and gentleman, Dr Kikutaro Baba.

Ed: The common theme that came through when preparing this tribute was the overwhelming generosity shown by Dr Kikutaro Baba to all he dealt with. I believe, he left a legacy which transcends science and goes to the core of something sadly missing today – common human decency. Dr Kikutaro Baba offered something many of us could take heed of - common decency to our fellow humans (and that could extent to other inhabitants of Spaceship Earth).

Please consider.

Kikutaro Baba 11 July 1905 – 30 November 2001

I am saddened to learn, via a copy of the announcement in Bill Rudman's Sea Slug Forum sent to me by Richard Willan of the death of Kikutaro Baba on 30 November, 2001. My association with Baba dates back to about 1957, when I wrote seeking reprints of his papers, which continued to arrive at my address until little more than 12 months ago. What a career: over seventy years of dedicated research and publication on opisthobranch molluscs. And what illustrations, even though mostly in black and white, so clear, so recognisable and so uncluttered. Among my Baba treasures are some truly beautiful sketches on rice paper, wonderfully watercoloured and carefully annotated; too good in fact to be kept folded in a envelope tucked into a notebook, they should be framed behind glass and hung on the wall.

Baba's letters were sometimes things of amazement and enlightenment. A slip of paper, a few words laboriously typed in English and furiously corrected in pen so that at times every second word was altered, to the extent that even the corrections might be corrected again. But the message was there, succinct and understandable. Oh that I could read and write as well in Japanese. In my mind I forever carry two fortuitous phrases conjured up by Baba, which while absolutely correct, were not quite what an English speaking person would write.

A written response to a letter of mine commenting on some recently described opisthobranchs and suggesting additional relationships, commenced: "*Dear Robert Burn, Thank you for your very suggestive letter..... K Baba.*"

At about the time of his retirement from university life, Baba published one of his many opisthobranch papers, and in it thoughtfully acknowledged his gratitude to a Japanese colleague who helped him with "*critical advices given him continuously for a long time of intimate intercourse.*"

Vale, great servant to opisthobranchs. We are all, much enriched by your works

Robert Burn 2 February 2002

I named a Phylidiid after Prof Baba. He was very kind to me in sharing insights and specimens while I was working on sorting out the systematics of the Family Phylidiidae. The species is *Phylidia babai*, Brunckhorst 1993 (in my monograph published by the Australian Museum)

Dr David J. Brunckhorst

I was especially saddened by the death of a remarkable gentleman, Dr. Kikutaro Baba, on 30 November 2001.

Like so many other opisthobranch researchers from the United States and elsewhere, I never had the honour of meeting him. However, I did have a lengthy correspondence with him during the course of almost 30 years. Many letters he sent were in the special "fold-over" air mail envelopes, inside of which were his carefully typed message and his precise signature. He was always extremely respectful, kindly, and willing to share his knowledge and both published and unpublished research efforts. He is missed, and we thank him for having given us so much.

In 1993 I published an article entitled, "**Japanese Contributions to Opisthobranch Research, with special Reference to Takeo Abe, Iwao Hamatani, and Kikutaro Baba.**" That article includes a brief biography of each, and a list of all their publications to the middle of 1992.

Hans Brestch (extract from The slug Site January 2002)



Above: Dr. K. Baba, collecting at the Seto Inland Sea;1989.

Top Right: Dr. Baba at the Mt. Shigi-san Temple Yard;

Opposite: Dr. Baba at the microscope 1992.

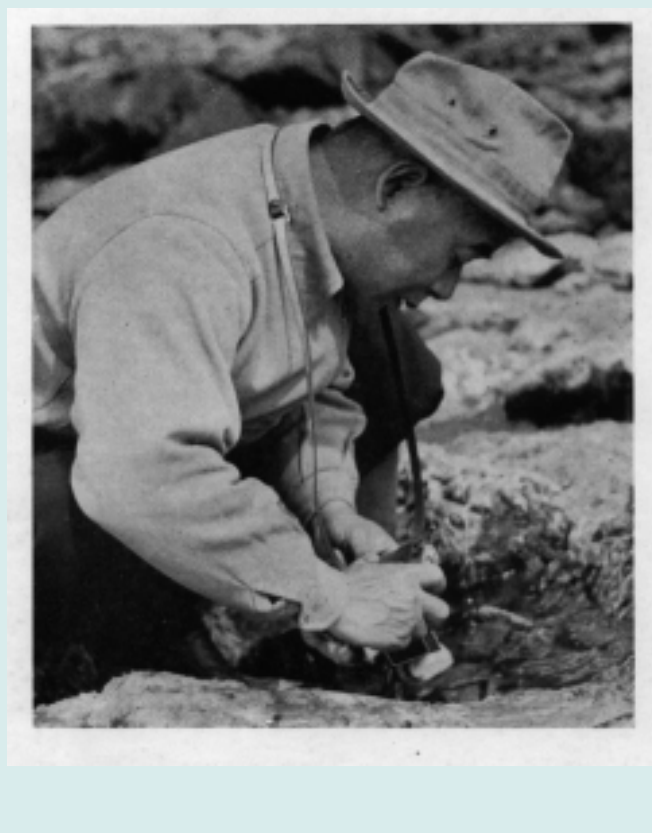
**Images courtesy of Hans Bertsch and
Mike Miller's Slug Site**



Attached is a photo of Dr. Baba that is taken from his book: **BABA, K. 1958.** Seashore life of Japan. 148 pp., 5 pls. Hokuryukan Co. Ltd., Tokyo. [In Japanese].

He sent me the book several years ago. The book is totally in Japanese, so I am assuming that the photo is of him since there is no English caption to the photo which is at the back of the book in what appears to be the "about the author section". He was certainly one of the most thoughtful people that I ever dealt with among the nudibranch workers, he always sent me his reprints without me having to request them. I once asked him if the supplement to his "**Opisthobranchia of Sagami Bay**" was available anywhere in Japan, as I had been unable to find it at any of the antiquariat dealers in the US or Europe, (this was long before internet access to used book dealers) and he sent me an autographed copy of both the supplement (1955) and the original (1949).

Cheers,
Gary McDonald



Species List

- Aglaja orientalis* Baba, 1949
Aldisa cooperi Robilliard & Baba, 1972
Antonietta janthina Baba & Hamatani, 1977
Aplysia kurodai Baba, 1937
Aplysia sagamiana Baba, 1949
Aplysiopsis minor (Baba, 1959) [*Hermaeina*]
Aplysiopsis nigra (Baba, 1949) [*Hermaeina*]
Aplysiopsis orientalis Baba, 1949
Armina magna Baba, 1955
Bornella japonica Baba, 1949
Cadlina japonica Baba, 1937
Cadlina sagamiensis Baba, 1937
Carminodoris bifurcata Baba, 1993
Ceratosoma bicolor Baba, 1949
Cerberilla asamusiensis Baba, 1940
Chelidonura fulvipunctata Baba, 1938
Celidonura inornata Baba, 1949
Chelidonura tsurugensis Baba & Abe, 1959
Cratena affinis (Baba, 1949) [*Hervia*]
Crimora lutea Baba, 1949
Cuthona annulata (Baba, 1949) [*Cratena*]
Cuthona diversicolor (Baba, 1975) [*Trinchesia*]
Cuthona ornata Baba, 1937
Cuthona purpureoanulata (Baba, 1961)
[*Catriona*]
Dendrodoris elongata Baba, 1936
Dermatobranchus albopunctulatus Baba, 1976
Dermatobranchus nigropunctatus Baba, 1949
Dermatobranchus otome Baba, 1992
Dermatobranchus primus Baba, 1976
Dermatobranchus semistriatus Baba, 1949
Dermatobranchus striatellus Baba, 1949
Elysia abei Baba, 1955
Elysia amakusana Baba, 1955
Elysia kushimotoensis Baba, 1938
Elysia obtusa Baba, 1938
Elysia trisinuata Baba, 1949
Ercolania boodlea (Baba, 1938)
Ercolania subviridis (Baba, 1959) [*Stiliger*]
Eubbranchopsis virginalis Baba, 1949
Eubbranchus horii Baba, 1960
Eubbranchus inabai Baba, 1964
Eubbranchus misakiensis Baba, 1960
Euphurus ornatus Baba, 1937
Facelina quadrilineata (Baba, 1930) [*Hervia*]
Favorinus japonicus Baba, 1949
Favorinus mirabilis Baba, 1955
Favorinus perfoliatus Baba, 1949
Favorinus tsuruganus Baba & Abe, 19
Glossodoris misakinosibogae Baba, 1988
Goniodoris felis Baba, 1949
Gymnodoris amakusana (Baba, 1996)
Gymnodoris nigricolor Baba, 1960
Gymnodoris okinawae Baba, 1936
Gymnodoris subflava Baba, 1949
Halgerda rubicunda Baba, 1949
Hermaea zosterae (Baba, 1959) [*Stiliger*]
Hermaeina nigra Baba, 1949
Herviella albida Baba, 1966
Herviella yatsui (Baba, 1930) [*Cratena*]
Hopkinsia hiroi (Baba, 1938) [*Hopkinsiella*]
Hopkinsia plana (Baba, 1960) [*Okenia*]
Hypselodoris kaname Baba, 1994
Hypselodoris maritima (Baba, 1949)
[*Glossodoris*]
Hypselodoris placida (Baba, 1949)
[*Glossodoris*]
Hypselodoris sagamiensis (Baba, 1949)
[*Glossodoris*]
Hypselodoris shimodaensis Baba, 1994
Janolus mirabilis Baba & Abe, 1970
Janolus toyamensis Baba & Abe, 1970
Jorunna parva (Baba, 1938) [*Thordisa*]
Kaloplocamus acutus Baba, 1949
Madrella gloriosa Baba, 1949
Madrella granlaris Baba, 1949
Metaruncina setoensis (Baba, 1954) [*Runcina*]
Mexichromis multituberculata (Baba, 1953)
[*Glossodoris*]
Noumea nivalis Baba, 1937
Noumea purpurea Baba, 1949
Noumea subnivalis Baba, 1987
Okenia barnardi Baba, 1937
Okenia distincta Baba, 1940
Okenia echinata Baba, 1949
Okenia japonica Baba, 1949
Okenia plana Baba, 1960
Petalifera ramosa Baba, 1959
Phidiana anulifera (Baba, 1949) [*Facelinella*]
Phyllidia zebrina Baba, 1976
Phyllodesmium iriomotense Baba, 1991
Phyllodesmium kabiranum Baba, 1991
Pleurobranchus hirasei Baba, 1971
Polycera fujitai Baba, 1937
Polycera japonica Baba, 1949
Protaeolidiella atra Baba, 1955
Roboastra luteolineata (Baba, 1936)
[*Nembrotha*]
Rostanga risbeci Baba, 1991
Sagaminopteron ornatum Tokioka & Baba, 1964
Sakuraeolis enosimensis (Baba, 1930) [*Hervia*]
Sakuraeolis sp. Genus: Baba in Baba & Hamatani, 1965
Siphopteron flavum (Tokioka & Baba, 1964)
Siphopteron fuscum (Baba & Tokioka, 1965)
Stiliger smaragdinus Baba, 1949
Stiliger subviridis Baba, 1949
Tambja amakusana Baba, 1987
Tambja kushimotoensis Baba, 1987
Tambja sagamiana (Baba, 1955) [*Nembrotha*]
Thecacera picta Baba, 1972
Thordisa parva Baba, 1938
Thordisa sanguinea Baba, 1955
Thorunna florens (Baba, 1949) [*Babaina*]
Thuridilla livida (Baba, 1955) [*Elysia*]
Thuridilla splendens (Baba, 1949)
Trapania japonica (Baba, 1935) [*Drepania*]
Tritonia insulae (Baba, 1955)
Tritoniopsis alba Baba, 1949

'Tis indeed the end of an era, but none of us can avoid that
Robert Burn