Exceptional Pearls & new Pearl Developments

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Pearl mushrooms

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Pearl “chanterelle”

partly with fine flame structures

Melo pearls

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A unique collection of Melo pearls
La Peregrina Pearl

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Beware of hair-styling!

Beadless cultured pearl with large drill-hole
Cultured pearls with “new” beads

1) Natural pearls (of lower quality) as beads

2) Cultured pearls as beads
   - beadless freshwater CPs (e.g. China)
   - beadless saltwater CPs („Keshi“)
   - beaded CPs
   - additional CPs („Tokki“)

3) Shell pieces as beads (spherical or baroque-shaped)

4) Any material (not from a mollusk), such as ceramics, foam, marble...
Cultured pearls with natural pearls as beads

Photos: J. Casares
Cultured pearls with natural pearls as beads

Cultured pearl with natural pearl as bead
Cultured pearl with natural pearl as bead

Cultured pearls “new” beads

Pinctada margaritifera
Cultured pearl with beadless cultured pearl as bead

Cultured pearls with beadless freshwater cultured pearls as beads

Samples donated by H.A. Hänni
“Tokki” is a Japanese term to describe small „bumps“ (or additional cultured pearls) attached to a larger beaded cultured pearl.

“Tokki” cultured pearls

Small additional cultured pearls forming during pearl cultivation with distinct onion-like growth structures.

Samples donated from A. Müller © Swiss Gemmological Institute SSEF

Photo © H.A. Hänni, SSEF 2010
Loose “Tokki” cultured pearls

Formation of additional cultured pearls **not** attached to larger cultured pearl:

Loose „Tokki“ cultured pearls used as beads for pearl cultivation.

Cultured pearl with additional cultured pearl as bead (“Tokki”)

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Cultured pearls with shell pieces as beads

Specimens from Tahiti: Pinctada margaritifera

Different cultured pearl products from Pinct. margaritifera

- with shell piece as bead
- with shell bead
- beadless („Keshi“)
- with additional cultured pearl on the top („Tokki“)
Cultured pearls with shell piece as beads

Thin nacre overgrowth on baroque shaped shell piece:
Pinctada maxima

Thank you for your attention