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Montenegrina dofleini sinosi n. ssp. from north-western Greece
(Gastropoda: Pulmonata: Clausiliidae)

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ABSTRACT. A new member of the rock-dwelling clausiliid genus *Montenegrina* is described from the southern bank of Lake Prespa, north-western Greece. *M. dofleini sinosi* n. ssp. is characterized by a relatively reduced clausilial apparatus and a middle-sized ribbed shell. The subspecies *kastoriae* NORDSIECK, 1972 and *prespaensis* NORDSIECK, 1988 belong to *M. dofleini* (A. J. WAGNER, 1928), because there are no characters which separate *M. kastoriae* on species level.

Key words: malacology, taxonomy, Clausiliidae, *Montenegrina*, Greece, new subspecies,

INTRODUCTION

Montenegrina O. BOETTGER, 1877 is one of the biggest rock-dwelling clausiliid genera in Southern Europe. NORDSIECK (2009) reports 87 taxa (including four doubtful subspecies). Our knowledge of the genus increased considerably in the last two decades (ERŐSS et al. 1999, 2006, NORDSIECK 1988, 1996, 2009). The centre of the diversity within the genus is in Albania and the adjacent regions of Greece and Macedonia (FYROM) (ERŐSS et al. 2006).

During a field trip to north-western Greece organized by the Department of Biology, University of Patras, a new subspecies of *Montenegrina dofleini* (A. J. WAGNER in HESSE, 1928) have been collected. This new subspecies is being described here.

Montenegrina dofleini sinosi n. ssp.

TYPE LOCALITY

Northwestern Greece, southern lakeside of Lake Prespa, limestone wall, 850 m a.s.l. GPS: 40°48'39.5" N, 21°04'12.4" E

MATERIAL

Holotype and 35 paratype shells were collected from the type locality: 25.05.2009, leg. B. Páll-Gergely.

Holotype and 3 paratypes: Hungarian National History Museum (holotype: HNHM 97145, paratypes: HNHM 97146); 3 paratypes: SMF 333885; other paratypes are deposited in private collections and in the collection of the author.

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

Montenegrina dofleini sinosi n. ssp. differs from the nearby occurring *M. dofleini prespaensis* NORDSIECK, 1988 by its smaller, ribbed shell. The ribs of *M. dofleini occidentalis* NORDSIECK, 1977 are denser, and the new subspecies has weaker lunella and, in most cases, its basalis is missing. *M. dofleini pinteri* NORDSIECK, 1974 has more corpulent shell with deeper sutures, and has well-developed clausilial apparatus (stronger lunella and basalis). *M. dofleini dofleini* (as well as *M. dofleini kaiseri* BRANDT, 1961; see NORDSIECK 2009) is smooth, has more strongly built shell and basal plica. *M. dofleini kastoriae* NORDSIECK, 1972 is bigger and very finely, inconspicuously ribbed.

DESCRIPTION

The shell (Fig. 1.) is rather small, widest at its basin, consists of 9.5-10.75 bulging whorls, separated by an inconspicuous, white suture. The shell is light yellowish brown, a part of the body whorl approximately between the insertion of the palatal aperture lip and the lunella is lighter, in most cases totally colorless. The protoconch consists of 2-2.5 whorls, is smooth, somewhat thickened. Teleconch rather regularly ribbed (3-5 ribs/mm), the neck between the palatal aperture lip and the lunella is much more closely ribbed (6-8 ribs/mm), here sometimes the ribs are not clearly separated. Neck rounded, crests are not recognisable. The aperture is large, rectangular to pear-shaped, its upper margin is fused to the last whorl. The lamella superior is very short and low, does not reach the lamella spiralis. The lamella inferior lies deep in the peristome. Lamella subcolumellaris is bent at an angle (here in touch with the clausilium), its outer end is only barely visible through the aperture. The thick, short lunella is dorsal to dorsolateral. The plica superior is short, rarely an additional, even shorter and much weaker plica is visible. In three out of the 36 shells the second plica was as strongly built as the plica principalis. Only one shell was found with a weak basalis, which was not connected to the lunella. Sometimes the narrow clausilium (Fig. 2.) is visible through the aperture.

Measurements: 20 shells was measured. Shell height 13.9-16.3 mm (mean 15.3 mm, S. D. 0.54), shell width 3.4-3.7 mm (mean 3.6 mm, S. D. 0.12), aperture height



1. Holotype of *Montenegrina dofleini sinosi* n. ssp. (HNHM 97145), 15.0 x 3.5 mm

3.5-4.2 mm (mean 3.7 mm, S. D. 0.18), aperture width 2.8-3.2 mm (mean 3.0 mm, S. D. 0.11).

Genital structure: One specimen was anatomically examined. The genital system is typical of the genus *Montenegrina* (see NORDSIECK, 2009). The bursa copulatrix is as long as the diverticulum, the distal pedunculus is shorter than the vagina. Vaginal retractor is present, the penis is shorter and thicker than the vagina. The epiphallus is slightly longer than the penis, the retractor muscle is attached in the middle of the epiphallus.

ETYMOLOGY

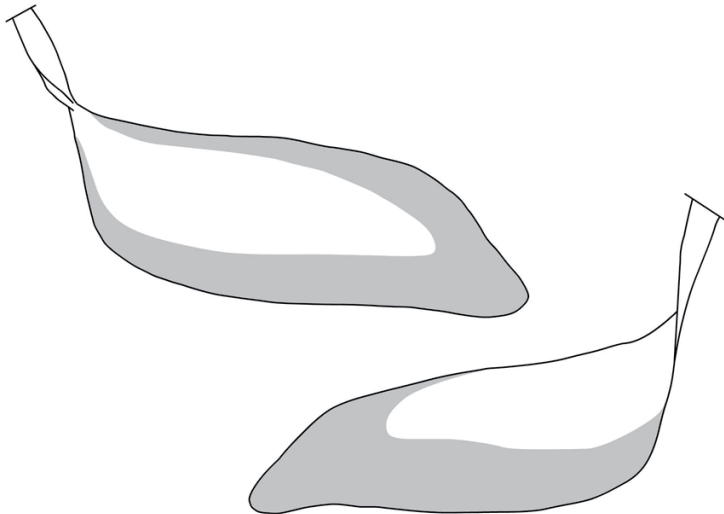
The new subspecies is dedicated to Sinos Giokas (University of Patras, Greece), a much-valued friend and supervisor during my Erasmus scholarship.

REMARKS

The new subspecies is classified within the species *Montenegrina dofleini*. There are no characters which separate *M. dofleini kastoriae* and *M. dofleini prespaensis* on species level from the other subspecies of *M. dofleini*. *M. kastoriae* was described as an independent species (NORDSIECK, 1972), and was mentioned as species by NORDSIECK (2007, 2009) and the subspecies of *M. dofleini* by the same author (NORDSIECK 1974, 1988).

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2. Clausilium of *M. dofleini sinosi* n. ssp.

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