THE PROBLEM OF EUROPEAN FRESHWATER POPULATIONS OF *GAMMARUS DUEBENI* LILJEBORG, 1852

by

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SUMMARY

In addition to the well-known freshwater occurrence of *Gammarus duebeni* in the inland of Ireland, a similar inland occurrence in the western part of Brittany (= Bretagne, France) is demonstrated. In Brittany, as in Ireland, *G. duebeni* occurs in waters with low sodium concentrations (often less than 23 mg/l), whereas elsewhere in its range, *G. duebeni* lives in waters with a raised sodium content (either in mixohaline waters, or in "fresh" waters loaded with salts through gales from sea). Reid has proposed the designation *G. duebeni* α for the Irish freshwater form, *G. duebeni* β for the brackish water form. The subdivision of *G. duebeni* is strongly reinforced by the findings of Sutcliffe et al., indicating physiological differences between the α and β form. In the present paper, it is shown that significant morphometrical differences exist between the two forms, especially in the length/width ratio of the merus of the fifth leg. A mathematical test, the coefficient of difference, for this character shows it is around or above the standard of subspecific difference. On the other hand, all possible crosses between limnic animals from Eire and Brittany, and mixohaline animals from northern France and Holland, proved to be fertile.

The available evidence (spatial isolation through different habitat, important physiological and morphological differences, interfertility) points very obviously in the direction of two different subspecies: the one, the nominate subspecies, living in waters with raised ion concentrations (restricted neotype locality, supralittoral rockpools at Stora Kalsøy, near Bergen, Norway); the other, *celticus* Stock & Pinkster, 1970, living in waters with low ion — in particular sodium — concentrations (type locality Lough Corrib, Eire).

A detailed examination of the distribution pattern of *G. duebeni celticus*, and competing gammarids like *G. pulex* and *Echinogammarus berilloni*, in the inland of Brittany (Bretagne), makes it probable, that *G. duebeni* was the oldest freshwater species in that area (presumably originating from mixohaline or marine ancestors in one of the earlier interglacial periods), and that *G. pulex* and *E. berilloni* were later, postglacial, invaders in that part of Europe.

§ I. INTRODUCTION

I-1. *Gammarus duebeni* is predominantly a species from brackish coastal waters, with a marked preference for rather marginal biotopes, such as supralittoral rockpools. Besides, *G. duebeni* is known from a number of freshwater habitats, discussed in detail by Hynes (1954) and Sutcliffe (1967a). The freshwater habitats clearly fall into two groups, as Sutcliffe (1967a) emphasized, viz. (1) isolated near-coast localities, where *G. duebeni* is restricted to only a few streams or rivers, which have under influence of south-westerly gales a rather high concentration of salt from the sea, especially of sodium, and (2) not confined to coastal localities; this is the case in Ireland, where *G. duebeni* thrives in waters with a low ion content.

I-2. Sutcliffe & Shaw, 1968, demonstrated that animals from Irish inland populations are physiologically distinct from *G. duebeni* living in brackish water localities, whereas those living in freshwater, near-coast localities, react physiologically similar to the brackish water animals. The physiological differences pertain to the sodium regulation. Animals from brackish and near-coast localities can live temporarily in waters with a low sodium concentration, but they achieve sodium balance concentrations only for short periods. These animals can osmoregulate without difficulty at external sodium concentrations of 1 to 2 mM/l (= 23—46 mg/l). However, Irish animals were experimentally kept alive and healthy at an external sodium concentration of 0.25 mM/l (= 5.75 mg/l). In fact, it is significant that the lowest sodium concentration found in an Irish stream containing *G. duebeni* is just above this level (0.27 mM/l, see Sutcliffe, 1967a; 0.34 mM/l, see table V in this paper).

I-3. *G. duebeni* was also recorded from Bretagne (= Brittany, France), in wells (Den Hartog & Tulp, 1960: 140) and streams (Hynes, 1959), but Sutcliffe (1967a) supposed that the latter records at least pertain to freshwater habitats with a high concentration of sea salts, since the localities mentioned by Hynes are on a small exposed peninsula, up to 2 km from the sea. However, in a mimeographed report, Rijnberg et al., 1967, showed that *G. duebeni* is not restricted to near-shore localities in Bretagne. The present paper will show that the distribution of *G. duebeni* in western Bretagne is similar to the situation found in Ireland, and that the French *G. duebeni* occurs plentifully in waters far inland, and with a low salt concentration (the lowest observed sodium concentration in a Breton stream was 0.35 mM/l, which is in fact a value very similar to the lowest concentration we recorded in Eire, viz. 0.34 mM/l).

Furthermore, the presence of morphological differences of subspecific order will be demonstrated between freshwater and brackish populations, and a historical zoogeographic theory is developed to account for the distribution of *G. duebeni* as we find it nowadays.

§ II. GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF *GAMMARUS DUEBENI* IN EUROPE

II-1. *Gammarus duebeni* is chiefly distributed in near-coast localities along the temperate and cool coasts of western and northern Europe. Only in two areas (Ireland and Bretagne) freshwaters far inland are populated. The southernmost distribution limit lies on the south coast of Bretagne, the westernmost limit in Ireland, the northernmost limit in Greenland and Iceland, and the easternmost limit in the White Sea and Tschesskaja Bay (Gurjanova, 1951). Records of this species from the Black Sea (see e.g. Miloslawskaja, 1931), and from the Bassin d'Arcachon (Salvat, 1962) presumably support on confusion with other species.¹⁾ For further details concerning the geographic distribution in Europe and North America, the reader is referred to Hynes, 1954: 40.

¹⁾ As far as Salvat's records from the Bassin d'Arcachon (France) are concerned, our opinion could recently be confirmed: thanks to the friendly cooperation of Dr. B. Salvat, Ecole pratique des Hautes Etudes, Paris, we could reexamine his material, which proved to exist of a mixture of three species of *Gammarus*, viz., *locusta* (L.), *insensibilis* Stock, and *crinicornis* Stock, none of the specimens being *G. duebeni*, however.

§ III. THE BIOTOPES INHABITED BY *GAMMARUS DUEBENI* IN EUROPE

III-1. *Gammarus duebeni* is a widespread species in western and northern Europe, inhabiting a variety of biotopes. In a general way, these biotopes can be divided into the following categories: 1) In waters with *low sodium concentrations* (thus usually far from the sea)

A. In running waters (streams, rivers). In this category fall the Breton and part of the Irish populations. In Bretagne: competition with *G. pulex*.

B. In larger bodies of freshwater (lakes, loughs). Chiefly in Ireland. No competition (or by *G. lacustris*?)

2) In waters with *raised sodium concentrations*

A. In smaller standing waters, near to the sea. Due to the small size of the waterbody, extreme temperature variations are possible. Through evaporation and rainfall, the salinity shows also drastic variations.

a. With direct influence of spring- or stormtides. This grouping chiefly comprises the supralittoral rockpools, which form the most characteristic habitat for the species, at least in the more temperate part of its range, i.e. along the English and French Channel coast up to the southern part of Scandinavia. No competition with other gammarids.

b. Without direct influence of spring- or stormtides. This grouping chiefly comprises smaller brackish inland waters, such as ditches, canals, lagoons, receiving sea salts through seepage through salt-loaded gales, etc. Competition with *G. zaddachi*.

B. In larger brackish waterbodies. Due to the larger size of the waterbody no extreme temperature and salinity variations occur. With this category classify larger inland seas, like the Baltic and the former Zuydersea. Various competitors may exist locally, in the former Zuydersea e.g. *G. tigrinus*.

C. In running waters, near to the sea.

a. With rapid, periodic salinity changes (changes roughly every 6 hours): estuaries. *G. duebeni* is found throughout its range in estuaries; strong competition with *G. salinus* and *G. zaddachi*.

b. With irregular salinity changes: small springs in seaciffs. Such fresh springs or trickles are often found on the slope of seaciffs, emerging directly from the (calcareous) rocks, or

Fig. 1. The distribution of three species of gammarids in inland waters of Bretagne and Normandy. In the westernmost part of Bretagne, the western dispersal boundary of *G. pulex* is indicated by asterisks, the eastern dispersal boundary of *G. duebeni* by dots. Situation as found in September 1969.

emerging on the level of contact between permeable and non-permeable layers of sediment; loaded, through seawinds, with Na and Cl ions; fast salinity changes possible at spring-tides through spray. No competition.

III-2. It should be noticed that several of these biotopes grade into one another. So, biotope 1 (rivers and streams) merges into biotope 2 C a (estuaries), and category 2B (larger inland water-bodies) merges into 2 A b (smaller inland water-bodies).

III-3. In addition to the apparent tolerance of *G. duebeni* as to salinity changes, it is of some importance to notice that *G. duebeni* is also capable of living for some time outside the water. We have observed *G. duebeni* in Ambleteuse (Pas-de-Calais, northern France), living in pools on tidal marshes, slightly below the spring-tide level; these pools dry out entirely during the neap-tide periods, but the gammarids survive, buried in the mud on the bottom of the pools. Similar experiences have been published by Segerstråle, 1946, 1950; Forsman, 1951; Sutcliffe, 1961; Lagerspetz, 1963.

§ IV. THE DISTRIBUTION OF *GAMMARUS DUEBENI* IN BRACKISH WATERS IN BRETAGNE

IV-1. A variety of brackish water biotopes is liable to be inhabited by *G. duebeni* (see § III-1). However, extensive search of our team has revealed that the biotopes classified under 2 A and 2 B in § III-1, are never populated with the species in Bretagne. On the other hand, the biotopes mentioned under 2 C do contain this species in the investigated area.

As to biotope 2 B (larger inland seas), this observation is not surprising, since this type of habitat is not available in Bretagne.

It seems more curious that the biotopes mentioned under 2 A (which comprises supralittoral rockpools and smaller brackish inland waters, such as ditches and lagoons) are uninhabited by *G. duebeni* in Bretagne. At any rate, our observations as to the absence of *G. duebeni* in Breton rockpools (a habitat that is one of the most characteristic for this species farther to the north), are in agreement with those of Hynes (1959 : 154), who also searched in vain in rockpools in southern

Bretagne near Audierne. Hynes' explanation, that *G. duebeni* lives in Bretagne at the southern limit of its brackish water distribution, and that the severe temperature régime in rockpools excludes it from that habitat, is not disproved by our present observations. On the contrary, we have found, like Hynes, *G. duebeni* in some places in brackish running waters in Bretagne, thus in the relatively cool mouths of estuaries and in small cool trickles²⁾ on seacliffs (categories 2 C a and 2 C b in § III-1). These brackish localities, wherein *G. duebeni* was found, are marked with large dots in fig. 2.

The absence of *G. duebeni* in Breton brackish lagoons might partially also be due to the presence of *Gammarus insensibilis* in that type of biotope (see Stock, 1967), which might be a competing species.

§ V. THE DISTRIBUTION OF *GAMMARUS DUEBENI* IN FRESH WATERS IN WESTERN FRANCE

V-1. Hynes, 1959, was the first to report *G. duebeni* from streams in Bretagne (= Brittany, France). Since his records are all from an exposed peninsula, near the Pointe du Raz, and not far (at most 2 km) from the sea, Sutcliffe (1967a) considered these animals as the brackish water form of *G. duebeni* living in fresh water, in which the ion content is raised through action of gales from the ocean. However, in a mimeographed report, Rijnberg et al., 1967, demonstrated that *G. duebeni* is not restricted to nearshore localities in Bretagne.

Following a suggestion made by Hynes (1959 : 153) a detailed survey of the distribution of *G. duebeni* was started in September 1969 by a team of staff members and biology students of the University of Amsterdam. During this survey, 642 stations in Normandy and Bretagne were visited, of which 532 stations were positive in yielding gammarids.

V-2. Short description of the stations

In the following discussion, we have used the name Normandy for the land west of the line Caen-Avranches, the name Bretagne for the land west of the line Avranches—La Baule. Leaving

²⁾ Found in one locality only in this biotype, viz., on the isle of Ouessant near the village Lampaul.

Fig. 2. The distribution of *Gammarus pulex* (asterisks), *Gammarus duebeni duebeni* (large dots), and *Gammarus duebeni celticus* (small dots) in western Bretagne. Arrows

indicate the four stations where *G. pulex* and *G. duebeni celticus* coexist. Based on the situation in September 1969.

aside the samples that contained brackish water species not interesting us right now (as *G. chevreuxi*, *G. zaddachi*, members of the *G. locusta*-group), there remain 65 samples in Normandy and 364 samples in Bretagne. A water analysis was made at nearly every station for the following factors: temperature, pH, chlorinity, sodium- and calcium-concentration.

The temperature readings were done with mercury thermometers, scale in 0.1 °C. The pH was, with a few exceptions, measured with the aid of indicator paper. The chlorinity was determined with an E.E.L. electric titrator. Sodium was measured with an E.E.L. flame photometer, and calcium by spectographic titration.

a) Temperature

The surface temperature in the streams sampled

ranged in the observation period (September 1969) between 12.8° and 18.7 °C. Since these data correspond entirely with what is to be expected in this part of Europe in late summer, no special attention will be given to them.

b) pH (table I)

As Bretagne is composed largely of metamorph, non-calcareous rocks, it is not surprising that the pH traject between 4.5 and 5.5 is predominantly represented.

In Normandy, calcareous rocks are present, which is reflected in the pH traject between 5.0 and 6.5 predominantly represented.

c) Chlorinity (table II)

With the exception of places with estuarine influences, the chlorinity in inland Bretagne and Normandy is low. The majority of the samples

Fig. 3. The distribution of *Echinogammarus berilloni* in western Bretagne. Based on the situation in September 1969.

was taken at chloride concentrations of less than 50 mg/l (mean for Bretagne 39.8 mg/l, for Normandy 32.7 mg/l).

d) Sodium-concentration

The map (fig. 4) shows the isohalines enclosing areas with less than 15, 25, and 35 mg Na/l, respectively. The general picture is that nearshore areas have a higher sodium-content than inland areas. This corresponds well with the idea, that the sodium in natural waters chiefly is carried in by winds from the sea. There are in addition some inland pouches of higher sodium-concentrations, the most marked of which is found in a narrow stretch S. of La Rance, where concentrations up to 75 mg/l have been found. These pouches corre-

spond most probably with geological salt deposits.

The central axis of Bretagne has low sodium contents (< 15 mg/l); in westward direction this axis splits into two "tongues" poor in Na, each tongue corresponding with a mountain chain: the Montagne d'Arrée is the northernmost chain, the Montagne Noire the southernmost.

e) Calcium-concentration

The observations for the calcium concentrations run completely parallel to those for the pH. The great majority of the Breton waters are acid and soft, in Normandy the waters are less acid and contain more or much more calcium (see table III).

Table I

pH in stations with *Gammarus pulex*, with *G. duebeni*, or with *E. berilloni*

no. of samples of	pH					
	4.5—5.0	5.0—5.5	5.5—6.0	6.0—6.5	6.5—7.0	
<i>G. duebeni</i> in Bretagne	118	31	2	2	1	
<i>G. pulex</i> in Bretagne	96	40	7	4	—	
<i>G. pulex</i> in Normandy	9	11	10	14	2	
<i>E. berilloni</i> in Bretagne	80	30	4	—	—	
<i>E. berilloni</i> in Normandy	6	11	10	15	3	

Table II

Chlorinity, in mg/l, in stations with *Gammarus pulex*, *G. duebeni*, and *Echinogammarus berilloni*

no. of samples of	Cl mg/l														total	mean
	16-20	21-25	26-30	31-35	36-40	41-45	46-50	51-55	56-60	61-65	66-70	71-75	> 75			
<i>G. duebeni</i> in Bretagne	1	11	17	34	29	11	5	9	19	5	5	5	19	170	49.9	
<i>G. pulex</i> in Bretagne	2	21	33	31	17	6	8	2	4	5	2	3	3	137	36.5	
<i>G. pulex</i> in Normandy	—	8	11	9	6	4	4	—	—	—	1	1	—	44	34.6	
<i>E. berilloni</i> in Bretagne	2	19	35	26	26	11	12	7	3	4	3	1	2	151	37.0	
<i>E. berilloni</i> in Normandy	—	11	15	6	3	3	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	40	30.8	

Table III

Ca contents in stations with *Gammarus pulex*, with *G. duebeni*, or with *Echinogammarus berilloni*

no. of samples of	Ca mg/l												total
	0-10	11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	71-80	81-90	91-100	>100		
<i>G. duebeni</i> in Bretagne	56	77	17	9	2	4	1	1	1	—	1	169	
<i>G. pulex</i> in Bretagne	55	60	11	7	2	1	2	—	1	1	—	140	
<i>G. pulex</i> in Normandy	1	3	3	10	5	4	4	2	2	2	8	44	
<i>E. berilloni</i> in Bretagne	36	56	27	10	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	132	
<i>E. berilloni</i> in Normandy	0	3	4	5	5	2	4	3	2	2	12	44

Fig. 4. The isohalines for sodium (September 1969) in inland waters of Normandy and Bretagne.

Fig. 5. Composition of 65 positive samples from Normandy and of 364 positive samples from Bretagne (*p* = *G. pulex*; *b* = *E. berilloni*; *d* = *G. duebeni*). See also table IV.

Table IV

Composition of positive samples in Normandy (= W. of the line Caen — Avranches) and in Bretagne (= W. of the line Avranches — La Baule). See also fig. 5.

number of positive samples containing:	Normandy 65	Bretagne 364
<i>G. pulex</i> only	21 (32%)	64 (20.3%)
<i>G. duebeni</i> only	0 (0%)	150 (41.2%)
<i>E. berilloni</i> only	14 (22%)	57 (16.5%)
<i>G. pulex</i> + <i>E. berilloni</i>	30 (46%)	54 (16.0%)
<i>G. pulex</i> + <i>G. duebeni</i>	0 (0%)	2 (0.5%)
<i>G. duebeni</i> + <i>E. berilloni</i>	0 (0%)	18 (5.0%)
<i>G. pulex</i> + <i>G. duebeni</i> + <i>E. berilloni</i>	0 (0%)	2 (0.5%)

V-3. Species composition of the samples (table IV)

It appears that in Normandy only 2 freshwater species occur, viz. *Gammarus pulex* and *Echinogammarus berilloni* (see fig. 1). These two species coexist in nearly half the stations visited (30 stations = 46%, see fig. 5), and thus do not appear to be mutually exclusive.

The composition of the 364 samples in Bretagne (figs. 1, 2, 3) is more complicated. In 284 stations (78.0%) only one species of gammarid was observed: 60 stations (16.5%) had *E. berilloni* only, 74 stations (20.3%) had *G. pulex* only, 150 stations (41.2%) had *G. duebeni* only. In the remaining 80 stations (22.0%) mixed populations of various species were encountered. Most frequently mixed populations of *G. pulex* and *E. berilloni* were found, viz. in 58 stations (16.0%); these two species are, as was apparent also from the sampling in Normandy, not mutually exclusive. More rarely, viz. in 18 stations (5.0%) *E. berilloni* was found along with *G. duebeni*. The rarest combinations were *G. pulex* plus *G. duebeni* (2 stations = 0.5%) and all three species mixed (also 2 stations). These data clearly reveal that there must be a strong interspecific competition between *G. duebeni* and *G. pulex*, since only in 4 out of 364 stations these two species occurred together, and this cooccurrence is much lower than would be expected on the basis of pure chance only (fig. 5).

V-4. Microgeographic analyses of some streams

In February and March 1970, a fine sampling grid was laid in three stream systems in the narrow zone of overlapping distribution areas of *G. pulex* and *G. duebeni* in Bretagne. Mr. H. G. Dennert, Mr. J. Paul, and Miss M. J. van Maren took 146 samples, of which 125 contained gammarids. The position of these three stream systems is indicated in fig. 6, areas 1, 3, and 4. Moreover, a fourth system (2 in fig. 6), in which *G. duebeni* coexisted

with *E. berilloni*, but in which *G. pulex* was absent, was also sampled (26 samples, all positive).

This microgeographic analysis revealed the following regularities (see also figs. 7 to 10).

In the westernmost part of Bretagne, where *G. duebeni* is the sole inhabitant of inland waters, it is distributed throughout the stream, thus in the upper courses as well as in the middle and lower reaches.

In the zone of overlap, the picture is quite different. Here *G. duebeni* is restricted to the most upstream reaches of the stream. The species lives almost exclusively in small brooklets, often in just an inch of water in a swampy meadow. As soon as the brook gets wider and deeper, *G. duebeni* is replaced by *G. pulex*, or lives in coexistence at a certain stretch of the stream with *E. berilloni*. This localization of *G. duebeni* to the narrower streams is plotted in fig. 11, from which it is clear that 63.9% of the samples of *G. duebeni* were found in streams of less than 1 m wide, whereas in such narrow streams only 35.0% of the samples of *G. pulex* and 22.6% of those of *E. berilloni* were caught. For brooklets of less than 1/2 m wide, the figures are still more illustrative: 30.6% of the samples of *G. duebeni*, 10.0% of those of *G. pulex*, and only 3.2% of those of *E. berilloni* were found there.

Nowhere in the streams of coexistence of *G. duebeni* and *G. pulex*, the former lives downstream of the latter. There are very few instances (3 out of 125 positive samples) of joint occurrence of *G. duebeni* and *G. pulex* at one spot. In all other stations either *G. duebeni* or *G. pulex* is found, or — of course — each of these together with *E. berilloni*. Joint occurrence of *G. duebeni* + *E. berilloni* was observed in 11 stations, of *G. pulex* + *E. berilloni* in 17 stations.

In streams where *G. pulex* is absent, but *G. duebeni* and *E. berilloni* are present (as in the

Fig. 6. Map of Bretagne with the location of the areas 1 to 4, where microgeographic analyses were carried out.

rivers around Morlaix, fig. 8), *G. duebeni* occurs throughout the system, from the source to the estuary, whereas *E. berilloni* tends to be restricted to the middle course of the stream.

This general picture is, as far as *E. berilloni* is concerned, not surprising. This species is known to avoid upper reaches and the spring zone of streams in the rest of its distribution area in northwestern Europe, and it avoids this zone also in Bretagne. In the zone of overlap between *E. berilloni* and *G. duebeni*, there might be a certain competition, but no doubt this competition is less severe than that between *G. duebeni* and *G. pulex*, as is proved by the higher instance of joint occurrence of *berilloni* + *duebeni*. As soon as *G. pulex* enters into a stream system, *G. duebeni* is

pushed back into the uppermost reaches.

Where estuarine influences become noticeable, *E. berilloni* has to yield for *G. zaddachi*.

§ VI. DOES THE CHEMICAL COMPOSITION OF THE WATERS GOVERN THE DISTRIBUTIONS OF GAMMARIDS?

From the wateranalyses and the distribution of the various species of gammarids in Bretagne and Normandy, various conclusions can be drawn:

VI-1. The hardness (Ca concentrations) of the waters has little influence (table III). In Bretagne, most streams contain soft or rather soft waters, in Normandy the Ca concentrations are higher. In Bretagne 82% (115 out of 140) of the samples of

Fig. 7. Microgeographic distribution of *Echinogammarus berilloni* (triangles), *Gammarus pulex* (asterisks), and

G. duebeni (dots) in the stream system of the Doufine (= system 1 in fig. 6). Situation as found in February 1970.

G. pulex were collected in soft waters (< 20 mg Ca/l), in Normandy 91% (40 out of 44) of the samples of *G. pulex* were collected in hard waters. For *E. berilloni* the same holds true: in Bretagne 69% (92 out of 132) of the samples were collected in soft waters, in Normandy 94% (41 out of 44) in hard waters. *G. duebeni*, which was found in Bretagne only, shows the same calcium-optimum in its natural waters as *G. pulex* and *E. berilloni*, viz. 78% (133 out of 169) of the samples being found at less than 20 mg Ca/l.

The conclusion that the hardness of the water does not much influence the distribution of certain gammarids, is in complete agreement with Sutcliffe's findings (1967c: 588) for *G. duebeni*.

VI-2. The picture for the pH is fully comparable with that for the Ca concentrations (table I).

VI-3. The sodium distribution in inland waters in Bretagne and Normandy is discussed in § V-2-d and illustrated in fig. 4. When this figure, showing the isohalines for 15, 25, 35, and 75 mg Na/l, is carefully compared with figs. 1, 2, and 3, in which the distribution of *G. duebeni*, *G. pulex*, and *E. berilloni* is plotted, no consistent pattern can be found. *G. duebeni* is not at all restricted to waters

with a high sodium concentration (these are, biologically speaking, those with more than 23 mg Na/l). In fact in 90 out of 166 Breton samples, *G. duebeni* occurred at sodium concentrations of less than 23 mg/l. On the other hand, the "true" freshwater species (*G. pulex* and *E. berilloni*) can penetrate in waters with raised sodium concentrations. So, in Normandy 30 out of 44 streams with *G. pulex* had more than 23 mg Na/l.

These results are not in contradiction with data recorded in literature. Sutcliffe (1967c) showed that *G. duebeni* from Irish inland waters can survive and reproduce at very low sodium concentrations. Irish natural waters (Sutcliffe, 1967c, and table V in this paper) have such a low sodium content, just as Breton natural waters.

Data recorded elsewhere in this paper (§ XIII.3) demonstrate that *E. berilloni* and *G. pulex* can withstand quite considerable concentrations of the external medium, with little ill effect.

At any rate, it seems clear that *G. duebeni* from Bretagne behaves physiologically as the Irish freshwater form (Reid's *Gammarus duebeni* α), and not as the British freshwater form, which has according to Sutcliffe, 1967a, a sodium regulation similar to the brackish water form (*Gammarus duebeni* β of Reid, 1939). *G. duebeni* was found

Table V
Sodium concentration in mg/l of certain fresh waters
in western Eire, in the period November 17 - 19, 1969

Locality	species present	pH	Na mg/l	temp. in °C.
1. Brook between Clonleg Lough and Clonbrick Lough (Co. Clare)	<i>G. lacustris</i>	—	19.2	—
2. Doon Lough, W. of Broadford (Co. Clare)	<i>G. duebeni</i>	—	12.0	—
3. Lough Corrib, about 3 miles N. of Galway (Co. Galway)	<i>G. duebeni</i>	5.5	15.4 *)	7.00
4. Spring along highroad T 4, just W. of Oranmore (Co. Galway)	<i>G. duebeni</i>	5.5	29.4	10.50
5. Lough Rea near Loughrea (Co. Galway)	<i>G. duebeni</i>	4.5-5	22.1	7.95
6. Brook near Hollymont, N.E. of Gort (Co. Galway)	<i>G. duebeni</i>	4.5-5	34.0	9.55
7. Rockpool at Black Head (Co. Clare)	<i>G. duebeni</i>	—	17.4	10.95
8. Coker River, S. of Black Head (Co. Clare)	<i>G. duebeni</i>	5.0	7.8	11.00
9. Brook S. of Ennistimon (Co. Clare)	<i>G. duebeni</i>	4.5	29.0	9.60
10. Spring along road T 69, near Rinneen, N. of Milltown - Malway (Co. Clare)	<i>G. duebeni</i>	5.0	26.7	10.85

*) Concentration of other important ions (in mg/l): Cl 23.0, Ca 79.0, Mg 5.4.

in Bretagne at 166 stations, where the Na concentrations varied between 8 and 95 mg/l (mean 27.9); as mentioned earlier, more than half these samples (including several samples containing reproducing specimens) were collected in waters having less sodium than the critical 23 mg/l limit.

It is also clear that of the three species of gammarids studied in this paper, *G. duebeni* penetrates more frequently in waters with high salt concentrations. (See fig. 12, which shows that samples with *G. pulex* always contained less than 65 mg Na/l, whereas *G. duebeni* has been found at concentrations as high as 95 mg/l.)

Finally, the curves for the Na concentrations in the biotopes of *G. duebeni* in Bretagne and of *G. pulex* in Normandy (see fig. 13) are very similar both in the place of the maximum and in the mean. The distribution of *G. pulex* and *G. duebeni* in western France thus does not seem much influenced by the sodium concentrations, at least not in inland waters.

VI-4. In the inland of Bretagne and Normandy, there is little Na and little Cl. The little salt there is may very well originate from the sea. For 100 analyses of water from streams in Bretagne, the

mean ratio sodium/chloride in mg/l is 0.58, which is very close to the ratio of 0.51—0.56 found in normal sea water (fig. 19). It is not surprising, therefore, that the picture for chloride (table II) is very similar to that of sodium. Here again, *G. duebeni* penetrates more frequently into water with higher chlorinities (19 out of 170 stations, or 11.2%, at > 75 mg Cl/l for *duebeni*; 3 out of 137 stations, or 2.2% for *pulex*; and 2 out of 151 stations, or 1.3% for *berilloni*).

§ VII. DIFFERENCES IN MORPHOLOGY BETWEEN *GAMMARUS DUEBENI* FROM BRACKISH AND FROM FRESH WATERS

VII-1. Reid, 1938, 1939, who was the first to report upon the occurrence of *G. duebeni* in fresh waters of Ireland, also tried to discriminate on morphological grounds between specimens from brackish waters and from Irish fresh waters, but he states to "have completely failed to find any morphological difference" (1939:211). These negative results have been cited by other authors, but as far as we could ascertain, nobody has tackled the problem again ever since Reid's

Fig. 8. Microgeographic distribution of *Echinogammarus berilloni* (triangles), and *Gammarus duebeni* (dots) in the stream systems of the Jarlo and the Queffleuth (= system 2 in fig. 6). Situation as found in February 1970.

negative efforts. Since Reid states in the same paper that it is very difficult to find clearly distinguishing characters between species so clearly identifiable as *G. duebeni* and *G. pulex*, one gets a little suspicious as to the degree of refinement of Reid's efforts, so we reconsidered the problem in detail.

VII-2. Over 600 samples of *G. duebeni* from coastal habitats in its entire range in Europe (from Iceland and northern Norway in the north, to Ile Ouessant in the south) were examined for this purpose, along with examination of 16 freshwater samples from Eire and near to 400 freshwater samples from Bretagne.

It emerged that certain morphological details looked promising for mathematical or statistical treatment. These characters were: (1) The length/width ratio of the merus of leg 5 (fig. 14). (2) The

length of the peduncle of A 1 in relation to the total body length. For practical purposes this relation is expressed in this paper as the ratio 3rd segment of peduncle of A 1/length of cephalon. (It was shown by Dennert et al., 1969: 17, that the cephalon length is directly proportional to the body length in *Gammarus*.) (3) The ratio length exopod/length endopod in the third uropod (fig. 17).

Figs. 15, 16, and 18 show the results of these morphometric analyses in different populations. The measurements used were taken with the aid of an eye-piece micrometer. Only full-grown males were used, having a cephalic length from 1944 μ (the maximum observed) to 1008 μ (the minimum used).

VII-3. The length/width ratio of the merus of P 5 (figs. 14, 15)

In both the Irish and the Breton freshwater populations, the merus is always twice or more than twice as long as wide. The same character was analysed in 5 brackish water populations, viz. from the Ambleteuse area (dépt. Pas-de-Calais, northern France, chlorinity 1.1‰ at the moment of collecting), from waters around Amsterdam (prov. of North-Holland, The Netherlands, yearly chlorinity 0.3–0.6‰), from rockpools near Helsinki (Finland, yearly salinity 1–2‰), from

Fig. 9. Microgeographic distribution of *Echinogammarus berilloni* (triangles), *Gammarus pulex* (asterisks), and *G. duebeni* (dots) in the stream system of the Hyères (= system 4 in fig. 6). Situation as found in March 1970.

Bohuslån (Baltic Sea, Sweden, salinity $> 6\text{‰}$), and from rockpools in Eire (chlorinity 0.016—0.040‰ at the moment of collecting). Since the populations from Holland and northern France were statistically found to show no significant differences (tested with t-test, regression-coefficients, F_0 -, and F_Y -tests), their values have been added up in the histogram. It appears that the great majority of the brackish water animals have the ratio length/width in the P 5 merus ≤ 2 (against ≥ 2 in the freshwater animals). Each brackish population was tested against each freshwater population, and the differences were found to be significant to highly significant at the 95% level. There is no overlap in the standard deviations of the brackish populations on the one side and the freshwater populations on the other.

If one calculates the coefficient of difference (C.D.) according to Mayr, Linsley & Usinger, 1953: 146 for the various populations, it appears that the freshwater populations do not differ mutually (C.D. 0.36), that also the brackish populations do not differ mutually (C.D. 0.42—0.92), but that differences around or above the standard of subspecific difference³⁾ are found between the various brackish populations on the one side and the two freshwater populations on the other. So Holland + France versus Bretagne gives a C.D. value of 1.25, Holland + France versus Eire of 1.63, Helsinki versus Bretagne of 1.18, Helsinki versus Eire of 1.66, Bohuslån versus Bretagne of 1.32, Bohuslån versus Eire of 1.62.

Although there is a slight overlap in the curves for brackish water specimens and those for Irish and Breton freshwater specimens, the length/width ratio of the merus provides a rapid identification tool.

VII-4. The relative length of the first antenna

For the composition of the histogram (fig. 16) the ratio between the length of the 3rd peduncle segment and the length of the head was taken. As explained above, the length of the head is directly proportional to the total body length. The curves thus obtained show a very wide overlap, but nevertheless it is clear that the curves for the two freshwater populations, Eire and Bretagne, are shifted to the lower values. The values for Eire in

particular are very significantly lower than those for the other populations ($PR < 0.0005$). In the C.D.-test, the differences mutually between the brackish populations range from C.D. 0.31—0.48, mutually between the freshwater populations C.D. is 0.68, and between the freshwater populations at the one hand and the brackish populations on the other between 0.47 and 1.09. All these values fall well below the subspecific significance level of 1.28.

VII-5. The relative length of the endopod of the 3rd uropod

The relative length of the endopod is expressed in the histogram (fig. 18) as the ratio between the lengths of uropodal exo- and endopod. For freshwater in Eire and brackish water in Holland the curves do hardly differ (the t-test gives a t-value of 0.91 at $n = 118$, thus not significant). In freshwater populations from Bretagne, there is a marked tendency for abbreviation of the endopod, resulting in a higher value for the exopod/endopod ratio. The higher value is very significant ($PR < 0.0005$), but in the light of the great overlap not of much use for practical identification work. As the histograms suggest already, the C.D. values between the populations are low (Bretagne versus

Fig. 10. The microgeographic distribution of *Echinogammarus berilloni* (triangles), *Gammarus pulex* (asterisks), and *G. duebeni* (dots) in the stream system of the Aulne (= system 3 in fig. 6). Situation as found in February-March 1970.

³⁾ This standard is: 75% of population A is different from 97% of population B, corresponding with a C.D. value of ≥ 1.28 .

Eire 0.44; Bretagne versus brackish 0.65; Eire versus brackish 0.28), meaning that the differences observed are not on subspecific level.

VII-6. Summarizing, it can be said that the brackish water populations differ at a subspecific level from the freshwater populations in the length/width ratio of the merus. The Breton freshwater population is slightly different from the other populations in the shorter uropodal endopod, but — though statistically significant — this character is not of subspecific value. The Irish freshwater populations differ also in a statistically significant way from the others, viz., in the longer relative length of the 3rd peduncle segment of A 1; however, here again the observed difference does not attain subspecific level.

§ VIII. COMPARISON WITH NORWEGIAN MATERIAL

VIII-1. The original description

Gammarus duebeni has been described by Liljeborg in 1852. Although there is some persistent superstition in the literature that the type-locality is a warm thermo-mineral spring, salinity 10‰, temperature 40 °C, in Greenland (see e.g. Pacaud, 1952: 98), none of these details is borne out by the original description. On the contrary, it is stated explicitly that *G. duebeni* was collected by Mr. M. W. von Düben in 1843–44 “i trakten af Bergen och Christianssund i Norge” (in the surroundings of Bergen and Christianssund in Norway). No reference to any particular environmental condition was given, but since *G. duebeni* is listed together with 105 other arthropods, all of which are marine or polyhaline forms, it can safely be assumed, that the types came from a near-coast locality.

Attempts to locate the types (in Stockholm, Lund, Göteborg, Copenhagen, and Uppsala) failed.

VIII-2. Neotype

In order to assure stability in nomenclature, especially in the light of the morphological pluriformity observed within *G. duebeni*, it was thought wise to select a neotype for this species and to restrict the type-locality.

No particular trouble was encountered, since all the Scandinavian material examined by us (some 40 samples) proved to be mutually uniform, and to resemble morphologically the “brackish water form” from the Netherlands and from northern

France. (See figs. 15 and 16 for graphic representation of the morphology of some Scandinavian samples).

We have selected a male, collected in rock-pools near Bergen (Norway), as the species neotype (see § XI-2).

VIII-3. Freshwater records of *G. duebeni* in Scandinavia

There are a few literature records (J. Økland, 1959; K. A. Økland, 1965; Ofstad & Solem, 1966) of freshwater occurrence of *G. duebeni* in Norway. However, all these records are from near-coast localities (J. Økland: slightly brackish

Fig. 11. Distribution of three species of freshwater gammarids in relation to the width of the stream. These data have been recorded in areas of sympatric occurrence of the three species (i.e., stream systems 1, 3, and 4 in fig. 6). *G. duebeni* is more frequent in the smaller streams, *G. pulex* and *E. berilloni* in the wider streams.

§ IX. MORTALITY RATE OF *G. DUEBENI* FROM FRESH WATER WHEN TRANSFERRED TO HIGHER SALINITIES

IX-1. Several experiments are reported upon (e.g., Reid, 1939; Beadle & Cragg, 1940; Hynes, 1954) in which *G. duebeni* from brackish water was transferred to lower salinities. All these authors report that the brackish form of *duebeni* can survive in fresh water, but that it is unable to

Fig. 12. Sodium contents (in mg/l) in 166 stations of *Gammarus duebeni*, 142 stations of *G. pulex*, and 146 stations of *Echinogammarus berilloni* in Bretagne. Notice that the peaks for *G. pulex* and *E. berilloni* correspond with the peak in the lowest histogram, representing the composition of all 392 waters analysed, whereas *G. duebeni* is found in waters with a slightly higher sodium content.

water, chlorinity 150—1120 mg/l; K. A. Økland: 200—300 meters from the sea; Ofstad & Solem: 2 to 4 km from the sea). This makes it, even in the two last-mentioned records which obviously refer to limnic waters with a true freshwater fauna, likely that in the stormy season important amounts of sodium will be deposited in the area. We assume, therefore, in accordance with Sutcliffe's opinion (1967) that the brackish water form of *G. duebeni* is involved here.

We have examined one Scandinavian freshwater sample (Zool. Mus. Stockholm, Amph. 3102, from Bohuslän, Väderöarna), and this was morphologically similar to the brackish water form.

Fig. 13. Sodium contents of 166 stations of *Gammarus duebeni* and of 142 stations of *G. pulex*, both in Bretagne, as well as of 44 stations of *G. pulex* in Normandy (blackened part of the graph).

Fig. 14. The fifth leg (♂) of individuals of *Gammarus duebeni duebeni* from brackish waters in Holland (top) and of *G. duebeni celticus* from fresh waters in Bretagne

(middle) and Eire (bottom). Notice the short merus in *G. duebeni duebeni*.

reproduce, unless a certain threshold value of the external sodium concentration is reached. Very recently, however, Sutcliffe, 1970, was able to breed the brackish form for more than two years under limnic conditions.

During a short stay at the Station Biologique in Roscoff we did some experiments on the survival of the freshwater form of *G. duebeni* in 10 to 100‰ sea water. These experiments were very imperfect, as they lasted much too short, and only some data on survival after 3, 5, 7, and 10 days were obtained. Nothing about the reproductive capacity was observed, though precopulations

occurred regularly in the more concentrated media, up to 75‰ sea water.⁴⁾

IX-2. Our experiments about the survival of *G. duebeni* (Breton freshwater form) brought into more concentrated media can be summarized as follows (n = number of animals at the beginning of the experiment):

Mortality rate in 10–50‰ sea water: after 3

⁴⁾ In the hybridization experiments, reported upon in § X, the freshwater form of *G. duebeni* reproduced successfully in about 3‰ seawater.

Fig. 15. The length/width ratio ($= a/b$) of the merus of the 5th leg in 6 different populations of *Gammarus duebeni*. The upmost four histograms represent the condition found in brackish populations ($= G. duebeni duebeni$), the two histograms at the bottom represent freshwater populations ($= G. duebeni cellicus$). Each square represents one individual. The mean and 1 S.D. on either side of the mean are represented on the absciss.

days 4%, after 5 days 4%, after 7 days 8%, after 10 days 12% (n = 25).

Mortality rate in 50–100% sea water: after 3 days 13%, after 5 days 20% (n = 135); after 7 days 23% (n = 78); after 10 days 23% (n = 30).

Mortality rate in original fresh stream water (from Rivière La Flèche, at Pont-du-Chatel, Na concentration 23 mg/l): after 3 days 5%, after 5 days 13%, after 7 days 23%, after 10 days 23% (n = 39).

Admitting the short duration of these experiments, it may be of some importance that the mortality rate in the most dilute (natural) medium is exactly the same as that in the most concentrated medium.

§ X. HYBRIDIZATION OF *G. DUEBENI* FROM VARIOUS BRACKISH AND FRESHWATER LOCALITIES

X-1. Although Hynes, 1954: 47 reported on fertile crosses between *Gammarus duebeni* from a fresh stream and from the saline beach in the Isle of Man, his results are less convincing in the light of Sutcliffe's (1967a: 540) findings implicating that the *G. duebeni* from streams in the Isle of Man belongs to the same physiological race as the brackish water form. Since Sutcliffe & Shaw, 1968, alluded to the possibility that the Irish inland populations might belong to a distinct physiological race, it seemed indicated to repeat the crossing experiments between material from Irish fresh waters (and, of course, also from Bretagne) and from some brackish localities.

Such crossbreeding experiments have been carried out in the wintermonths of 1969–1970, with specimens originating from four different localities. Two of these were brackish, the other two limnic. It is conclusively shown, that individuals from these four localities are capable of producing fertile eggs with one another, whichever way the cross is made.

Fig. 16. The ratio cephalic length/length 3rd segment of A1 in 7 different populations of *Gammarus duebeni*. From top to bottom: 5 brackish water populations (*G. d. duebeni*), the arithmetic sum of the brackish water

populations from Holland and France, and 2 freshwater populations (*G. d. cellicus*). Each square represents one individual. The mean and 1 S.D. on either side of the mean are represented on the absciss.

X-2. Material. — The experiments have been carried out with 1500—2000 individuals from each of the following localities:

A) Fresh waters

- a) Bretagne, a small stream S.W. of Ploudaniel, near Lesneven (dépt. Finistère-Nord); collected on 22 October 1969 by S. Pinkster and P. Kant; temperature 15.2 °C, pH 7.1, chloride 17.3 mg/l, sodium 19.8 mg/l, calcium 7.3 mg/l.
- b) Eire, Lough Corrib, near the marble quarries on the southern shore of the lough, about 3 miles N. of Galway (Co. Galway); collected 18 November 1969 by J. H. Stock; temperature 7.05 °C, pH 5.5, chloride 23.0 mg/l, sodium 15.4 mg/l, calcium 79 mg/l, magnesium 5.4 mg/l.

B) Brackish waters

- c) France, small wells in the cliff and rockpools at the foot of the cliff at Cran d'Escalles, near Cap Blanc Nez (dépt. Pas-de-Calais); collected 16 October 1969 by H. G. Dennert and M. J. van Maren, temperature 12.2 °C, chloride 1130 mg/l.
- d) Holland, IJsselmeer (= former Zuydersea), on the northern slope of the dike from the mainland to the former isle of Marken (prov. North-Holland); collected on various days in November and December 1969 by J. H. Stock and S. Pinkster; temperatures 7.1°—0.3 °C, chloride 280—580 mg/l.

X-3. Methods. — The experiments were done in the Institute of Taxonomic Zoology, Amsterdam, in a room with indirect, diffuse daylight and temperatures slightly above, but fluctuating with the outside air temperatures.

The animals from abroad were transported by road or by air to Amsterdam in plastic bags, containing 200 specimens each in 500 cm³ natural water, under oxygen in a cooling jug (temperature 0°—5°C).

In the laboratory, the animals were kept in plastic storage basins of 25 x 25 x 10 cm, in 3 to 5 cm of water, under aeration. Some pebbles were added for shelter. About 200 specimens were kept in each basin. The water in the basins corresponded in composition with the water from which the animals originated. The animals were fed with *Stellaria media* Vill., a weed that was easily available in all seasons. It is eaten completely by the gammarids, leaving neither "skeleton" nor slimy bacterial growth.

In the storage basins, sexually active individuals formed readily precopulae. Such precopulated couples were separated and all females were checked as to the absence of eggs. The absence of eggs is a sufficient proof that fertilization has not yet taken place.

The precopulated males from one population were brought together with precopulated females from another population, and vice versa. Some 10 to 20 heterogeneous sets of animals were put together in the same plastic basins as mentioned above, in natural water of one of the two sexes. The number of animals used in the experiments was largely variable, depending on the number of precopulae available at a certain moment. The heterogeneous animals usually resumed the precopulated position very soon (often within seconds after being brought together). As soon as the females of such couples produced eggs, they were isolated in smaller plastic basins, 7 x 7 x 10 cm, again in 3—5 cm of water. Once hatching of the eggs occurred, the "empty" females were removed, in order to save the juveniles from being devoured by their mother.

Since the temperature in the experimentation room fluctuated widely (from 2°—15°C, maximum daily change of 8°C), the incubation period, which is dependent on temperature, varied also largely.

X-4. Results — All possible crosses were fertile (see table VI). The percentage of females producing an offspring varied from 10 to 15% in homogeneous (= intrapopulational) crosses, and from 7 to 35% in heterogeneous (= interpopulational) crosses. The low percentage of successful crosses, also in homogeneous couples, is most probably due to unfavourable temperature conditions in the experimentation room. Since the overall daily mortality rate in fertilized females was about 2%, after 50 days all ovigerous females were dead. At the low temperature present in the experimentation room in the earlier experiments (November and early December), the development of the eggs took so long, that a great percentage of the ovigerous females died before hatching their eggs. Later (late December and January), the fertilized females were placed at about 15°C; the duration of the development of the ova is then much shorter, and as a result, higher numbers of successful crosses were obtained.

The water composition in the experimentation basins has in general little influence on the results. There is, however, one — probably meaningful —

Table VI
Summary of the crossbreeding experiments between individuals
from different populations of *G. duebeni* (br. = brackish).

<i>Homogeneous couples</i>	<i>no. of couples</i>	<i>no. of ♀♀ producing offspring</i>
♂ Eire × ♀ Eire	20	3
♂ Bretagne × ♀ Bretagne	10	1
<i>Heterogeneous couples</i>		
♂ Eire × ♀ Bretagne	68	} 138
♀ Eire × ♂ Bretagne	70	
♂ Bretagne × ♀ France (br.)	4	} 8
♀ Bretagne × ♂ France (br.)	4	
♂ Eire × ♀ France (br.)	8	} 18
♀ Eire × ♂ France (br.)	10	
♂ Holland (br.) × ♀ Eire	41	} 83
♀ Holland (br.) × ♂ Eire	42	
♂ Holland (br.) × ♀ Bretagne	18	} 36
♀ Holland (br.) × ♂ Bretagne	18	

exception: crosses between brackish water animals and individuals from fresh waters (Eire or Bretagne) were more successful in brackish water than in fresh water. Of 24 crosses attempted between brackish animals and limnic animals, only 1 produced an offspring in the medium poor in ions. Of 110 similar crosses in media rich in ions, 44 were successful.

This difference is highly significant, of course, but we bear one reservation in mind in interpreting these observations: the experiments in media poor in ions have been done largely in November and December, whereas —as explained above— experiments in these months had a lower incidence of success than the January crosses. This fact may have influenced (but does not completely explain) the failure to obtain an offspring in crosses between brackish and fresh water animals with fresh water as medium.

At any rate, the failure to obtain such an offspring, is in agreement with Reid's (1939) and Hynes' (1954) observations that brackish water individuals of *G. duebeni* do not produce fertile eggs in culture media poor in ions.

The greatest difficulty encountered in mating experiments is that individuals from the different populations showed differences in the reproduction period. So, in October and November, the freshly caught limnic individuals (from Bretagne and Eire) reproduced actively, but hardly any sexual activity was observed at that period in the brackish water populations, which started reproducing in December, having optimal sexual activity in January.

In the light of the size differences that exist between males and females on the one hand ($\delta > \text{♀}$), and between individuals of different populations on the other hand (Holland - brackish and France - brackish $>$ Eire $>$ Bretagne), one more conclusion from table VI seems obvious: the larger the size difference between males and females in a crossbreeding experiment the less chance on fertilization. So, the crosses with the greatest size difference between the partners are ♂ Eire × ♀ Bretagne, ♂ France (brackish) × ♀ Bretagne, ♂ France (brackish) × ♀ Eire, ♂ Holland (brackish) × ♀ Eire, and ♂ Holland (brackish) × ♀ Bretagne. In these crosses, 141 couples were involved, of which only 9 produced an offspring. In the reciprocal crosses, thus those with less difference in size between the partners, 145 couples were involved, of which 45 produced an offspring. This difference is highly significant ($\text{Pr} < 0.0005$).

§ XI. *GAMMARUS DUEBENI* DIVIDED INTO TWO SUBSPECIES

XI-1. In the light of the distinct morphology (§ VII-6), the distinct physiology (Sutcliffe & Shaw, 1968), and the distinct ecology of the brackish water "form" and the freshwater "form", Stock & Pinkster, 1970, decided to evaluate the suggestion of Reid, 1939 and to describe the two "forms" as different subspecies.

As the nominal subspecies, they have — in accordance with the recognized usage — indicated the brackish water form. Moreover, this usage is in agreement with the fact that from the type

Fig. 17. Third uropods (δ) of *Gammarus duebeni duebeni* from brackish waters in Holland (top), and of *G. duebeni celticus* from fresh waters in Bretagne (middle) and Eire (bottom). Although the relative length of the endopod is very variable, specimens from fresh waters, especially in Bretagne, tend to have shorter endopods than in brackish water populations.

area only that form is known, and with the morphology of the neotype (see § VIII-2).

The nominal subspecies has a wide distribution from the White Sea to Bretagne, always in coastal localities.

The freshwater form is restricted to the southernmost part of the distribution area of *G. duebeni* and has been recorded from inland waters in Ireland and Bretagne.

XI-2. Diagnoses

G. duebeni duebeni Liljeborg, 1852.

Merus of 5th leg at most twice as long as wide. In brackish to hypersaline, coastal waters, or in near-coast fresh waters with a raised sodium content. Restricted type-locality: Stora Kalsøy (an exposed little island, about 25 km S. of Bergen, Norway), in supralittoral rockpool. From this locality, a male specimen has been chosen as neotype; it has been deposited in the Zoölogisch Museum, Amsterdam, under cat. nr. Amph. 102.369.

G. duebeni celticus Stock & Pinkster, 1970

Merus of 5th leg at least twice as long as wide. In fresh, inland waters (Ireland and Bretagne).

Type-locality: Lough Corrib, 3 miles N. of Galway, Co. Galway, Eire. Holo- and paratypes are deposited in the Zoölogisch Museum, Amsterdam, cat. nr. Amph. 102.370.

§ XII. DOES THERE EXIST AN ISOLATING MECHANISM BETWEEN THE TWO SUBSPECIES?

XII-1. As shown in a previous paragraph (§ X-4) the freshwater and the brackish water race are fully interfertile. Nevertheless, in nature the physiological and morphological differences between the two races are maintained, indicating that there is little gene flow only. This raises the question what barrier isolates the two subspecies to prevent too much gene flow.

XII-2. Although Reid's, Hynes' and other experiments seemed to demonstrate that the brackish race cannot successfully breed in fresh water with a low ion content, Sutcliffe (1970) could adapt it

Fig. 18. The ratio length exopod/length endopod of the 3rd uropod in three different populations of *Gammarus duebeni*. Top: a brackish water population (*G. duebeni duebeni*). Bottom: two freshwater populations (*G. duebeni celticus*). Each square represents one individual. The mean and 1 S.D. on either side of it are represented on the absciss.

to limnic conditions. The freshwater race as well is capable of reproducing in a brackish environment. Moreover, we noticed occasionally in Bretagne, that *G. duebeni* shows a certain amount of downstream drift (perhaps it is only carried away passively with the river current), and that it can be carried this way into estuarine regions. Nothing would then prevent such individuals to mate with members of the brackish water population. However, the number of individuals drifting downstream is very small (not at all comparable with the large numbers of *G. zaddachi* and *G. chevreuxi* found in drift nets), and it is concluded then that downstream drift certainly is not a frequent phenomenon in *G. duebeni*.

So, it remains theoretically possible that freshwater populations of *G. duebeni*, living in the more upstream reaches of a river, are in constant contact with estuarine populations. Microgeographic analyses in Breton streams flowing directly into the sea have been made in very few cases only by our team. An exception forms a small stream W. of Roscoff, called l'Horne, where one of our team members, Mr. H. G. Dennert, took samples every few hundred yards. These samples did not reveal a direct contact between the freshwater populations of *G. duebeni* (which were confined to the upper courses, and the adjacent part of the middle course, of the river) and the estuarine populations (which were confined to the mouth of the stream, where it occurred under cobbles of the river bed, above high neap-tide level). In between these two stretches, thus in the lower middle course of the river, two other species of gammarids were found, viz. *E. berilloni* in the fresh part, and *G. zaddachi* in the more seaward part. Since Kinne reported the latter to be strongly competing with *G. duebeni*, the absence of *duebeni* in the zone of *zaddachi* is not surprising.

Consequently, there are indications that the freshwater populations are effectively cut off from the brackish populations, by a zone of other gammarids in between. More microgeographic work must be done, however, to confirm or to disprove this idea.

Certain is, that in stream systems where both *G. duebeni celticus* and *E. berilloni* occur, the former is always confined to the upper reaches and smaller tributaries of the system, where it coexists (and probably can successfully compete) with the latter, whereas the latter is the only species present in the middle course of the main stream (see § V-4).

XII-3. There might exist another, partial, isolation mechanism between *G. duebeni duebeni* and *G. duebeni celticus*, viz., a seasonal reproductive barrier, in the sense that the latter reproduces in a period of the year in which the former is not sexually active.

Support for this idea is found in the observations of Kinne, 1952a, Hynes, 1954, and Steele & Steele, 1969, corresponding fully with those of our own, according to which a strong decline or a total stop in the reproduction of *G. duebeni duebeni* takes place from July or August to November or December. These observations have been made on populations from Germany, The Netherlands, northern France, and Great Britain.⁵⁾

On the other hand, our team observed in Bretagne *G. duebeni celticus* actively reproducing during the period from September to early March, thus in part during the "closed" period of *G. duebeni duebeni* (no observations are available from the rest of the year).

In laboratory experiments also (see § X-4), *G. duebeni celticus* (both from Eire and from Bretagne) was sexually active earlier in autumn than *G. duebeni duebeni*.

A difficulty in interpretation of these data is, that the reproduction period, temperature dependent as it is, almost certainly does not fall always in the same time of the year in different geographic regions. It would be correct then to compare Breton *G. duebeni celticus* with Breton *G. duebeni duebeni*, or Irish populations of the two subspecies with one another. At present, the observations on the period of sexual activity are too scanty to allow such a comparison.

So, we do possess only two observations on the reproduction of *G. duebeni duebeni* in brackish conditions in Eire or Bretagne. In September 1969, *G. duebeni duebeni* was not sexually active in western Bretagne. In a brackish Irish rockpool, just above HWS, this subspecies was found reproducing on 18 November 1969, at a water temperature of 10.95°C.

The only published data on the reproduction of Irish *G. duebeni celticus* are those obtained in a laboratory experiment by Dr. W. E. Frost (see Hynes, 1954: 76), recording sexual activity from the middle of May to early July. In addition, our

⁵⁾ However, no autumn stop in sexual activity was found in a population of *G. duebeni* (belonging, according to Sutcliffe's sodium regulation findings, probably to the nominal subspecies) living in a stream on the Isle of Man (Hynes, 1954).

own team observed reproducing fresh water populations in Eire from the middle of November to early January. Unfortunately no observations are available from the other months of the year.

§ XIII. DISCUSSION

XIII-1. Hynes (1954, 1955a) brought forward the hypothesis, that *G. duebeni* was formerly widespread in fresh waters in western Europe and that it is now being eliminated from freshwater through competition with *G. pulex*. In this concept, *G. duebeni* was (and still is) pushed into the brackish belt by invading *G. pulex*. On the other hand, Sutcliffe (1967a) gives a complete reversal of this suggestion, viz. that *G. duebeni* may be in the process of colonizing fresh waters, and that it may gradually extend its range into suitable streams, thus resembling the brackish water snail *Potamopyrgus jenkinsi* (Smith), which recently invaded fresh waters in western Europe (Hubendick, 1950; Warwick, 1952; Hunter & Warwick, 1957; Todd, 1964).

XIII-2. Sutcliffe based his suggestion on the following observations:

(a) *G. duebeni* is widespread in mixohaline coastal waters. With the exception of its range in Ireland, its distribution in freshwaters is restricted to habitats with a relatively high salt concentration. Such "freshwater" localities are always close to exposed coasts, and it seems likely that they are provided with salts from the seas carried inland by autumn and winter gales.

(b) Through natural selection of individuals with a sodium uptake rate higher than the average, gradually freshwater populations can be built up. Such freshwater populations thus retain a high blood concentration when under limnic conditions, but since they are still quite able to survive in full-strength sea water, it is likely that they originate from the sea, rather than that competitors push them into a new, hostile, peripherious environment, such as the sea.

(c) With the exception of its vast distribution in Eire, *G. duebeni* has only a very localized distribution in fresh water with a high salt content; the latter ecological factor determines, that no other competing species can enter into these waters. This very localized distribution leads to the suggestion that this is due to very recent colonization from the sea into an open niche.

(d) The absence of *G. pulex* in streams occupied

by *G. duebeni*, but especially its absence also in adjacent streams (still) free of *G. duebeni*, makes it more probable that *G. duebeni* is invading an open niche, rather than that *G. pulex* and *G. duebeni* show interspecific competition.

XIII-3. Let us consider these arguments one by one, in the light of the data obtained in the previous chapter on the distribution of various gammarids in western France.

(a) *G. duebeni* is a common species in western Bretagne, and is not restricted to near-shore localities. It occurs in numerous freshwater stations, with a low salt concentration, and thus behaves just like Irish populations of *G. duebeni*.

(b) Our own experiments, summarized in § IX-2, clearly support Sutcliffe's conclusion, that individuals from freshwater populations of *G. duebeni* can easily be brought into water with a higher ion content, and even into full strength sea water, with little ill effect. In such salt waters even pre-copulation can take place.

(c) In western France, the situation is completely identical to that found in the British Isles and Ireland: *G. duebeni* shows a vast inland distribution in Bretagne (as in Eire), but is otherwise localized to very restricted near-shore areas, where the winds carry much salt into the water.

So far, we are in complete agreement with Sutcliffe's suggestions, but as to point d, the alleged absence of competition, we can only partly agree.

(d) It is not true that in French near-shore waters, which have a relatively high salt concentration, the true freshwater gammarids cannot penetrate. This is particularly clear on the exposed, peninsular west coast of Normandy, where *G. pulex* was found in several localities with 40 or more mg sodium per l (highest sodium concentration observed 58 mg/l), and *E. berilloni* in two localities with 41 and 43 mg sodium per l. *G. duebeni* was not found in these Normandian waters.

Sutcliffe's suggestion that *G. pulex* might not be able to penetrate in waters with a raised ion content, comes in serious conflict with several pertinent observations in the literature, recording the ability of *G. pulex* (and of other freshwater gammarids) to live — both under experimental and under natural conditions — in salty waters.

So, Schmidt, 1913, found *G. pulex* in mineral springs at Salzkotten in Germany, in waters with salinities (= total amount of dissolved salts) of 5615—25370 mg/l. The locality was revisited by some members of our team in 1968 and *G. pulex*

was still found to be present; the 1968 analysis showed the presence of the amphipod in mineral waters with chlorinities up to 4000 mg/l. Von Alten (1915) records *G. pulex* from the Salzbach near Witzenhausen (Germany) at a salinity of 5500 mg/l, and from the Schunter at 1000 mg/l.

Vincent, 1966, has shown experimentally, that *G. pulex* shows "normal activity" in more concentrated media up to 30‰ sea water (= approx. 10.3‰ S, or 3200 mg Na/l, or 5880 mg Cl/l). These values compare fairly well with the concentrations found in natural saline waters inhabited by *G. pulex*.

More or less similar results were obtained by Oswald, 1905: 169, who found no ill effects neither in diluted seawater of 11.8‰ S. The first toxic effects were observed by him at salinities of 18.9‰ and higher.

Schmitz (1959) and Schmitz, Besch & Kneissl (1967) report also upon the salt tolerance of *G. pulex*, and show convincingly that adaptation to higher concentrations is quite well possible.

Similar adaptations — whether genetic or non-genetic is unknown — to more concentrated media have been found in nature in another freshwater species, *Gammarus fossarum*, a healthy population of which was observed by Stock, Nijssen & Kant (1966: 23) on the open, exposed beach of the French Channel coast N. of Boulogne, where the chlorinity (at fine weather and neap-tide) was 231 mg/l. Moreover, Vincent (1966) reports upon *Echinogammarus berilloni* withstanding experimentally even very concentrated media, viz. up to 80‰ sea water (= approx. 14080 mg Cl/l).

All these observations point into one direction: the so-called "freshwater" species can survive and thrive in mixohaline waters without difficulty, provided that competitors are absent.

We also reject Sutcliffe's suggestion, that there is no interspecific competition between *G. duebeni* and *G. pulex*. Our observations in Bretagne, based on 364 sampling points where gammarids were present, showed the species composition recorded in table IV. Although *G. pulex* and *G. duebeni* are sympatric in a considerable area (see figs. 1, 2), there is a surprisingly low incidence of joint occurrence of *G. pulex* and *G. duebeni*, viz. in 4 stations (1.1%) only. Joint occurrence of *G. pulex* and *E. berilloni* is much more frequent (56 stations or 18% of the stations in Bretagne, 30 stations or 46% in Normandy), and also joint occurrence of *G. duebeni* and *E. berilloni* is significantly greater (20 stations or 5.5%).

The only plausible explanation for these figures appears to be the assumption that *G. duebeni* and *G. pulex* do strongly compete, whereas *E. berilloni* is not involved in a strong interspecific competition with *G. pulex* and in a mild competition only with *G. duebeni*. This assumption is, as far as *E. berilloni* is involved, affirmed by the distribution of that species in a stream near Ambleteuse on the French Channel coast, recorded by Stock, Nijssen & Kant, 1966. There, *G. pulex* and *G. fossarum* are confined to more or less well-defined stretches of the stream, only showing a slight overlap in distribution, whereas *E. berilloni* completely overlaps the zones of either of these two *Gammarus* species, and is apparently not involved in a strong competition with either of them.

It might be remarked here as a sideline, that one has to sample very intensively to demonstrate joint occurrence of *pulex* and *duebeni*, and that there is a great chance that when sampling is done in less than 100 stations, no joint occurrence at all is found.

XIII-4. On the other hand, we can agree with Sutcliffe's assumption, that *G. duebeni*'s presence in near-coast fresh waters is due to fairly recent colonization. We assume, as explained in the sequel (§ XIII-6) that *G. duebeni* entered into these coastal fresh waters just in postglacial times (i.e., less than 10.000 years ago).

XIII-5. Summarizing, it can be said that there are certain arguments in favour of Hynes' theory, but also some other arguments that tend to support Sutcliffe's ideas.

XIII-5-1. Pro Hynes plead the following arguments:

- (a) There is apparently strong competition between *G. pulex* and *G. duebeni* (this paper § V-3, V-4).
- (b) *G. pulex* evidently is a species that had its refugia during the glacial periods somewhere "in the East", and that is invading now western Europe (the absence of *pulex* s.str. in northern Scandinavia, Spain and Italy, and the wealth of *pulex*-like forms in the Balkans and further East prove this convincingly).

Against Hynes' theory pleads, as Sutcliffe emphasized:

- (a) *G. duebeni* from brackish waters do not breed in fresh waters, but freshwater *duebeni* does reproduce in brackish media. If *G. duebeni* originally was a freshwater species, it would

— even after being chased away from inland waters by *G. pulex* — be able to reproduce under experimental conditions in its original medium.

- (b) In localities where *G. pulex* (still) is absent, *G. duebeni* is (still) present in fresh waters. In these areas, however, *G. duebeni* is not yet forced —through competition— to evade to peripherous niches, consequently these niches should (still) be free of *G. duebeni*. Now, the actual situation, both in Bretagne and in Ireland, is that great inland populations of *G. duebeni* are present, whereas at the same time *G. pulex* is absent (although a zone of sympatric occurrence is present in Bretagne). But at the same time also brackish populations are present (abundant in estuaries and rockpools in Eire, rare in estuaries and absent in rockpools in France). It is difficult to see why *G. duebeni* should migrate into a peripherous suboptimal niche in absence of competition.

XIII-5-2. Pro Sutcliffe are the following arguments:

- (a) The arguments (a) and (b) contra Hynes.
- (b) The limited distribution of *G. duebeni* in near-coast fresh waters, e.g., in southern Britain and in Norway.
- (c) The sodium regulation mechanism in brackish and freshwater populations.

Contra Sutcliffe are:

- (a) The obvious presence of competition between *G. pulex* and *G. duebeni* in Bretagne.
- (b) The ability of *G. pulex* to penetrate into waters with high salt contents.
- (c) A very recent invasion of *G. duebeni* into freshwater does not fit with the morphological differentiation (on subspecies level) observed in Irish and Breton *G. duebeni*. The evolution of both morphological and physiological features in these populations of *G. duebeni* point to a certain lapse of time necessary for the acquisition of such features.
- (d) The microgeographical evidence presented in this paper (§ V-4).

XIII-6. Our ideas about the origin of freshwater populations of *G. duebeni*

It thus appears that both Hynes' and Sutcliffe's theories, although each supported by some evidence, meet with serious objections in other fields. We have made an attempt to construct a historical zoogeographic picture, explaining all

presently available facts, and not contradicting any piece of available evidence.

(1) It is assumed that *G. duebeni* was, in preglacial periods, a marine cold-temperate species inhabiting the tidal belts of the coasts of northern Europe and eastern North America.

In the tidal belt, salinity conditions can vary enormously, due to rainfall and evaporation, and some authors (e.g., Dahl, 1959) even classify the littoral zone ecologically within the scale of polyhaline waters. The species still prefers cold-temperate conditions, as is shown by its distribution pattern: shores up to Greenland and the White Sea; avoiding too warm niches, like rockpools, at the southern end of its distribution area, i.e., in Bretagne; reproducing in brackish waters in the winter. The species is still restricted to very shallow waters, where it lives from the mid-tidal zone to the very edge of water and land (see e.g. Den Hartog, 1964).

From these facts, the original, preglacial *G. duebeni* arises as a cool-temperate, euryhaline, littoral species, cold stenotherm in the reproduction period, eurytherm outside the reproduction period.

(2) In the glacial periods, practically no inland waters were present, but larger waterbodies were dammed up against the icewalls occasionally. Most of these waterbodies were presumably brackish, from salts expelled by the freezing of the ice, and from contact with sea water in coastal areas. In these cold, brackish, dammed up glacial lakes, *G. duebeni* may have had a wide distribution during the glacial periods.

(3) In the Mindel-Riss interglacial period, the melting ice sweetened the waters at the edge of the ice cover, and the populations of *G. duebeni* living in these waters got gradually adapted to the lower ion content.

(4) In this interglacial period, such adapted *G. duebeni* populations could easily invade fresh, inland waters, but they did not get enough time to become —morphologically or physiologically— fully adapted to the freshwater habitat, since they were expelled again from it in the Riss and Würm (= Illinoian and Wisconsin) glacial periods, at least from fresh waters in the areas glaciated at these periods, i.e., from Scandinavia, the greatest part of Great Britain, and the northern part of Germany and Holland. In areas not glaciated during the Riss and Würm glacials, inland freshwater populations of *G. duebeni* could be maintained, and could adapt themselves gradually better

Fig. 19. The ratio sodium/chloride, both expressed in mg/l, for 100 freshwater stations of *Gammarus duebeni* in Bretagne. The mean of these 100 analyses is 0.58, which is very close to the mean Na/Cl ratio of 0.51-0.56 occurring in normal sea water (see also § VI-4).

to this environment. These non-glaciated inland waters occurred along the southern boundary of the species' distribution area, in particular in coastal refugia in Ireland and along the Atlantic coast of France (and perhaps also in southern England).

It should be borne in mind that southwestern England, Ireland and Bretagne were not separated in the Riss glacial by sea, but formed one coherent coastline together.

(5) Point 4 explains the presence of freshwater populations in areas not glaciated since the Mindel glacial period (or never at all glaciated), and the acquisition of characteristic, subspecific features by these populations. The time elapsed since the Mindel glacial period (some 425.000 years, see De Lattin, 1967 : 314) seems sufficiently long to account for subspecific differentiation.

It also explains the absence of freshwater populations of *G. duebeni* in areas that were covered by ice in younger periods, viz., in the Riss and Würm glacials. Since the Würm glacial period is over for 10.000 years only, it is clear that no extensive adaptation to fresh waters was possible

in this short lapse of time in Scandinavia and Scotland.

(6) Nowadays, like in Mindel-Riss interglacial period (= Yarmouth interglacial period), one sees again infiltration of *G. duebeni* into freshwaters, but these new invaders have not yet acquired the morphological or physiological adaptations, present in the older migration waves inhabiting Bretagne and Ireland. Such recent invasions account for the presence of *G. duebeni* in certain near-coast freshwaters in England, the Isle of Man, Scotland, and Norway. They are helped by the fact that near-coast localities usually have a higher salt content than inland waters, the salts being blown in by gales from the sea. (The mean ratio Na : Cl in inland Breton waters is very close to the mean ratio of these ions in sea water, see fig. 19.)

(7) In the postglacial period, other freshwater gammarids spread from their refugia in the warmer parts of Europe into the deglaciated open niches. One of these species, *G. pulex*, reached England in time, before the break-through of the English Channel, but failed in reaching in time Ireland. So, in Ireland we find *G. duebeni* as practically the only inland species (in some restricted localities along with another glacial relict, *G. lacustris*).

(8) Competition between *G. pulex* and *G. duebeni* seems pretty obvious from the data presented in this paper. Apparently *G. duebeni* is the loser of this competition in fresh, running waters. In waters with a higher ion content, both species occasionally coexist (see Den Hartog & Tulp, 1960), but usually *G. duebeni* is in the advantage there.

(9) In certain non-glaciated areas in western France, like Normandy, *G. duebeni* presumably was present after the Mindel glacial period, but is now (= 1969) entirely replaced by *G. pulex* migrating from the East. There is an indication, that *G. duebeni* was eliminated through competition from Normandy very recently only. As a matter of fact, there exist two older papers recording *G. duebeni* from fresh, inland Normandian waters, viz. of Chevreux & Fage, 1925 : 257, and of Pacaud, 1952 : 99. Chevreux & Fage mention a well-defined locality, "ruisseau le Dic, eau douce". We have sampled this locality in 1969 and found only *G. pulex* in it. Pacaud is much less specific, stating merely: "En France, ce Gammarus est fréquent, en eau douce comme en eau saumâtre, en Normandie et en Bretagne". Though Pacaud apparently intended to introduce his records on a distribution map (map 1 on page 97),

as can be deduced from the caption ("observations anciennes" and "observations nouvelles"), the map does not bear this intention out; Pacaud's sudden death no doubt prevented him completing the map.

Not in agreement with Chevreux & Fage and with Pacaud is Legueux's study (1927) on the freshwater gammarids of Normandy, recording *G. duebeni* from two brackish localities only, whereas she found *G. pulex* "dans toutes les rivières où il m'a été possible de pêcher" (1927: 38). This situation agrees with that found during the 1969 samplings.

(10) In Bretagne, *G. pulex* is still in the process of moving to the West. There is a narrow overlapping zone where both *G. duebeni* and *G. pulex* occur. Microgeographic studies show that though there are several stream systems where both species exist, there are very few stations where they really occur simultaneously. In all cases examined, *G. duebeni* is restricted to the very upmost reaches of the streams, thus to the swampy spring regions, whereas it is replaced by *G. pulex* further downstream. Now, if *G. duebeni* was migrating inland, as Sutcliffe postulated, just the reverse situation would be true.

(11) In the westernmost part of Bretagne, not yet reached by *G. pulex*, *G. duebeni* still inhabits all kinds of waters: springs, upper, middle and lower courses of streams, and lakes; in the part of Bretagne reached already by *G. pulex*, *G. duebeni* shows a relict distribution, being pushed back into the uppermost parts of the brooks.

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Although the present paper is, we hope, a unity, each of the authors took special care for certain sections of it. So, Mr. S. Pinkster did most of the interbreeding experiments, Mrs. A. L. Dennert executed the sodium determinations, Mrs. B. Stock plotted the distribution pattern and correlated the wateranalyses, Mr. J. H. Stock contributed the morphological and biometric analyses. The species identifications were done by Mr. S. Pinkster, Mr. J. H. Stock, Mr. W. M. van der Leeuw, and Mrs. C. C. M. van der Leeuw-Leegwater.

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