NOTES AND NEWS

A NEW AMPHIPOD FOR THE TURKISH FAUNA:

*PONTOGAMMARUS MAEOTICUS* (SOWINSKY, 1894)

BY

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The genus *Pontogammarus* was described by Sowinsky in 1904, without indicating a type species. Stock (1974) later selected a type species, *Pontogammarus robustoides* (Sars, 1894), for the genus. *Pontogammarus* is represented by six species worldwide that are all are distributed in the Ponto-Caspian area (Carauşu et al., 1955). On the other hand, *P. robustoides* has extended its native distribution area during the last decades towards the Baltic and the North Sea using river systems, that have been connected to each other through man-made channels, in particular in middle and eastern Europe (Jazdżewski, 1980; Bij de Vaate et al., 2002).

*Pontogammarus maeoticus* (Sowinsky, 1894) has a Ponto-Caspian distribution. The distribution area covers the Caspian, Azov, and Black Seas including the Dniester, Don, Bug, and Danube rivers (Barnard & Barnard, 1983; Stock et al., 1998).

There are only two records indicating the existence of the genus *Pontogammarus* along the Turkish coasts and in Turkish fresh waters. The pioneer study by Mordukhai-Boltovskaï (1964) documented the distribution of *P. robustoides* from the lakes Apolyont, İznik, Sapanca, and Manyas, situated along the southern and eastern coasts of the Sea of Marmara. The other study (Kocataş & Katağan, 1980) mentioned the distribution of benthic amphipods on the Black Sea coast of Turkey, where *Pontogammarus* specimens from İğneada-Demirköy, near Kırklareli, were reported at the generic level.

For this paper, we checked the *Pontogammarus* material collected earlier by Kocataş & Katağan (1980) from İğneada-Demirköy (fig. 1) again, and present *P. maeoticus* (Sowinsky, 1894) as a new species for the Turkish fauna. Papers used for its identification include: Carauşu (1943), Carauşu et al. (1955), Barnard & Barnard (1983), and Stock et al. (1998).
**Fig. 1.** Sampling locality along the Black Sea coast of Turkey.

**Pontogammarus maeoticus** (Sowinsky, 1894) (figs. 2-3)


*Euxinia fagei* Tuculesco, 1933: 35-41, 19 figs.


*Niphargoides* (Pontogammarus) *maeoticus.* — Birstein & Romanova, 1968: 265, fig. 285 (refs.).


Material examined. — İğneada-Demirköy (41°52’N 27°59’E) near Kirklareli, Black Sea coast, NW Turkey (fig. 1); 54 specimens, 4.8-15.8 mm total length, from sandy bottom habitat of supralittoral zone.

Remarks. — The shape of the eye is variable, in most specimens reniform or elongated reniform. Antenna 1 with robust peduncle segments, 10-segmented flagellum, and 4-segmented accessory flagellum. Flagellar segments with long setae in ventral section (fig. 2a). Antenna 2 with a forward-pointing gland cone. Peduncle segments 3 to 5 and flagellum with numerous setae along the ventral side. On the same segments, some spine-like armament was also observed in the lateral and dorsal sections (fig. 2b). Mandibular palp rather characteristic, with numerous long, plumose setae on ventral margins of second and third segments (fig. 2c). The number of A and B setae is variable; C-setae are absent. Gnathopod 1 and 2