

First record of *Limnopus rufoscutellatus* (Hemiptera: Gerridae) from Turkey, with some ecological notes

Limnopus rufoscutellatus (Hemiptera: Gerridae)'un Türkiye'den ilk kaydı ve bazı ekolojik notlar

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Özet: *Limnopus rufoscutellatus* (Latreille, 1807) Ağustos 2006'da Türkiye'nin Doğu Karadeniz Bölgesi'ndeki bir dağ gölü olan Kuzeyaksu Gölü'nden iki erkek birey ilk kez kaydedilmiştir ve lokaliteye ait bazı ekolojik özellikler hakkında bilgi verilmiştir.

Anahtar kelimeler: Doğu Karadeniz Bölgesi, Kuzeyaksu Gölü, Hemiptera, Gerridae, *Limnopus rufoscutellatus*, Türkiye.

Abstract: *Limnopus rufoscutellatus* (Latreille, 1807) is reported for the first time from Turkey. Two male specimens were collected from the Lake Kuzeyaksu, where is a mountain lake located in the Eastern Black Sea Region of Turkey, in early August 2006. Some ecological features of the lake were given as well.

Keywords: Eastern Black Sea Region, Lake Kuzeyaksu, Hemiptera, Gerridae, *Limnopus rufoscutellatus*, Turkey.

INTRODUCTION

Water striders (Gerridae) live on the water surface of ponds, marshes and slow-flowing streams (Savage, 1989). As Andersen (1995), the family Gerridae was represented by only three genera (*Limnopus* Stål, 1868; *Aquarius* Schellenberg, 1800 and *Gerris* Fabricius, 1794) for Europe.

According to the review of the Turkish water bugs (Fent et al., 2011; Dursun, 2012), the Turkish water striders fauna includes 10 confirmed taxa *Aquarius ventralis* (Fieber, 1860), *A. paludum paludum* (Fabricius, 1794), *Gerris* (*Gerris*) *argentatus* Schummel, 1832; *G. (G.) caucasicus* Kanyukova, 1982; *G. (G.) costae fieberi* Stichel, 1938; *G. (G.) lacustris* (L., 1758); *G. (G.) maculatus* Tamanini, 1946; *G. (G.) kabaishanus* Linnavouri, 1998 and *G. (G.) thoracicus* Schummel, 1832, *Gerris* (*Gerriselloides*) *asper* (Fieber, 1860). Fent et al. (2011) also listed an additional species, *Limnopus rufoscutellatus* (Latreille, 1807), referring to the preliminary version of this manuscript. Here we present the details considering the record.

MATERIALS AND METHOD

The material used in this study was collected mainly on 4th August 2006. The samples were collected by ladle and net with a mesh diameter of 0.5 mm from the water surface of the Kuzeyaksu mountain lake. The specimens were killed with ethylacetate solution and put into small bottles. The water striders were identified using the keys by Poisson (1957),

Southwood and Leston (1959), Savage (1989), Andersen and Spence (1992) and Kanyukova (2006). The materials are stored in the collection of Ege University, Faculty of Fisheries Museum (ESFM), Izmir, Turkey.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Infraorder: Gerromorpha Popov, 1971

Family: Gerridae Leach, 1815

Limnopus rufoscutellatus (Latreille, 1807)

Material examined and ecological notes: TURKEY: Rize Province: 2 ♂, 04/08/2006, Lake Kuzeyaksu (Kazançukuru plateau-İkizdere-Rize) (40°39'19"N 40°50'57"E), leg. Esat T. Topkara, ESFM-INS/2006-040 (Figure 1,2); alt. 3070 m, water pH 7.65, conductivity 37.1 µS₂₅°C, water temperature 17.9°C.

Distribution: Palearctic Region: Europe: Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Britain, Bulgaria, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Norway, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Ukraine **Asia:** Armenia, Azerbaijan, Central Asia, Georgia, Japan, Northern China, Mongolia, Russian Far East, Siberia **Nearctic Region:** Alaska, North-western Canada (Andersen 1995; Kanyukova 1982, 2006; Fent et al., 2011).

Ecology: According to Savage (1989), this species can be found in rivers, lakes ponds or pools. Nummelin et al. (1988) reported that, *Limnopus rufoscutellatus* occurs in ditches, temporary and permanent waters, ponds and lakes. Similarly, we found this species among the aquatic macrophytes of a small mountain lake. Poisson (1957) indicates that, the species has less crowded populations than that of *Gerris* species. We observed three specimens at the sampling site but could only collect two of them, in the field.

After reporting this new record, the exact number of the taxa belonging to Gerridae reported from Turkey so far has reached to 11.

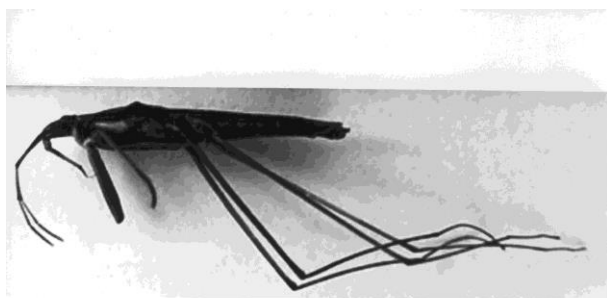


Figure 1. Lateral view of *Limnopus rufoscutellatus* (♂)



Figure 2. Ventral view of the apical abdominal segments of *Limnopus rufoscutellatus* (♂)

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