

Short Communication

On the variability of structures of the genital tract of *Cylindrus obtusus* (Draparnaud, 1805) (Gastropoda, Helicidae)

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In the 1990ties, noticeable variation of length of mucus glands and dart sac of two different populations of *Cylindrus obtusus* were detected (Schileyko 1996; Schileyko et al. 1997). Subsequently, during field trips in 1997/98 individuals of an additional number of populations over the whole distribution area of the species were collected. The aim of this investigation was to learn if there is any geographical pattern in lengths and variation of mucus glands and dart sac. Visual inspections of the sections indicated that there is a clear east-west separation concerning the variability of these traits. Yet, besides drawings resulting from this material, no further investigations, quantifications of the differences and tests of their statistical significance were attempted. Thus, these findings have never been published.

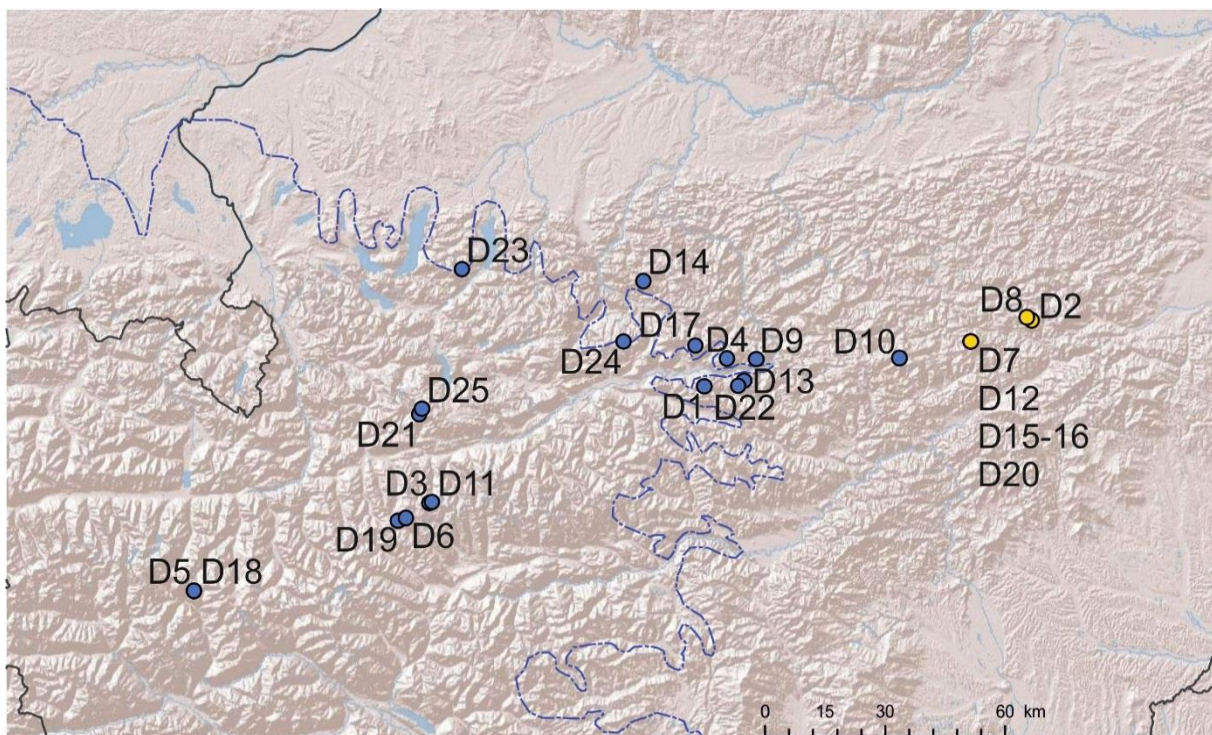


Figure 21. *Cylindrus obtusus* sampling sites.

After extensive collecting of new material of *C. obtusus* starting in 2005, detailed studies on anatomy as well as on molecular phylogeny and population genetics were performed on this comprehensive material. Those analyses revealed a similar geographic separation in *C. obtusus*, confirming previous assumptions. These recent studies will be presented at the "Workshop Alpine Land Snails" 2016 in Johnsbach (Kruckenhauser et al. 2016) and the manuscripts are now ready to be submitted for publication. Therefore, we decided to present the hitherto unpublished initial drawings here, allowing to refer to these important preliminary results.

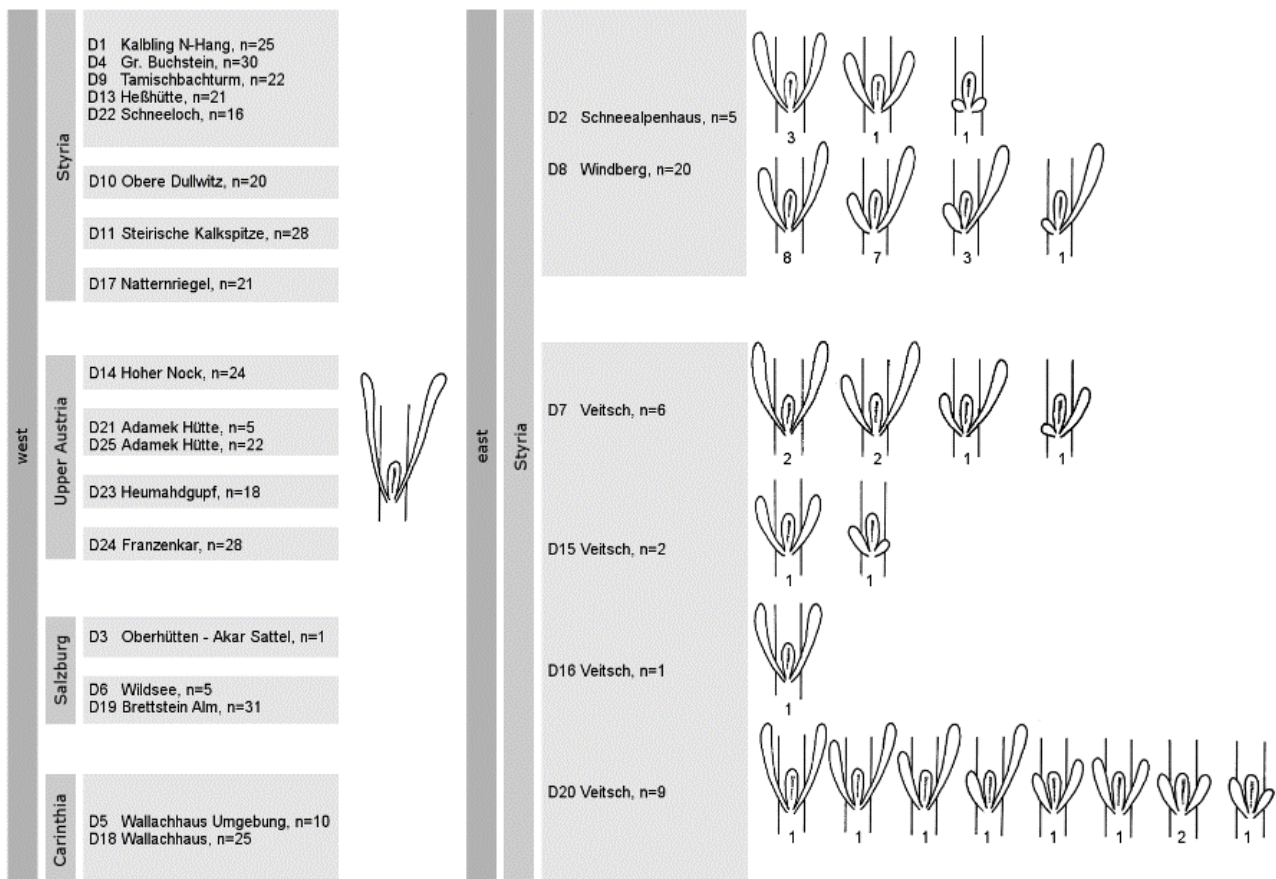


Figure 22. *Cylindrus obtusus* genital anatomy at various sampling sites; © A. Schileyko

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Figure 23. *Cylindrus obtusus* in the Haller Mauern; © M. Sonnleitner

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Artikel/Article: [On the variability of structures of the genital tract of *Cylindrus obtusus* \(Draparnaud, 1805\) \(Gastropoda, Helicidae\) 32-33](#)