

Table 3: Comparison of characters in female *Triturus vulgaris* and *T. montandoni*.

| Character | <i>T. vulgaris vulgaris</i> females | <i>T. montandoni</i> females |
|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Dorsal coloration | Brown to yellowish-brown, sometimes with thin, interrupted longitudinal stripes | Brown to yellow-green, with darker indistinct spots and vermiculations, sometimes a marbled pattern or two irregular paravertebral stripes |
| Ventral coloration | Whitish with median dull orange stripe and small black spots | All bright orange, without spots |
| Limit of flanks and abdomen | Two rows of dark spots between which an unspotted strip can usually be discerned | Irregularly disposed dark spots, from very few to numerous, never disposed into two distinct rows |
| Paravertebral canthi | Absent (they sometimes seem present in dehydrated preserved specimens) | Present, well marked |
| Gular fold | Absent | Present |

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KEY WORDS: Amphibia; Urodela: *Triturus montandoni*; *Triturus vulgaris*; distribution, hybridization; Southern Carpathians, Romania

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First record of the Wall Lizard *Podarcis muralis* (LAURENTI, 1768), from the Ionian Island of Corfu

In the southern Balkan Peninsula *Podarcis muralis* (LAURENTI, 1768) inhabits mainly higher elevations and is very rare along the coast because of dry climate and competitive disadvantage with other lacer-tids (GRUSCHWITZ & BÖHME 1986). The occurrence of this lizard on the Ionian Island of Corfu (Greece) was never mentioned so



Fig. 1: Male hybrid newt (*Triturus vulgaris* x *Triturus montandoni*), Plaiu Foi, Piatra Craiului massif, May 2003; photo by A. IFTIME.

far (MERTENS 1961, 1968; CHONDROPOULOS 1986; TOTH et al. 2002).

During a herpetofaunal survey on Corfu Island in May 2003, the senior author and members of the field herpetology group of the Austrian Herpetological Society discovered a population of *P. muralis* close to the old harbour of Corfu City (fig. 1). About 30 specimens were observed next to the old fortress in a park area, characterized by poor herbaceous vegetation and some Judas trees (*Cercis siliquastrum*) (fig. 2) - a habitat quite unusual for this species. In adjacent areas probably more suitable for *P. muralis*, we found only *Algyroides nigropunctatus* (DUMÉRIL & BIBRON, 1839), the most common lacertid lizard on Corfu which occupies a wide range of habitats. Due to similar preferences, *P. muralis* appears often as a competitor to *A. nigropunctatus*, for example in Istria, Croatia (J. H. and W. M. unpublished). Because of the obviously small area inhabited and the unusual habitat structure, we suspected that this population of *P. muralis* had been introduced quite recently.

In order to ascertain the origin of the population, four specimens were collected, preserved in 70% ethanol and deposited in the herpetological collection of the Natural History Museum in Vienna (NHM 36981: 1-4; leg. et don. K. BILEK). DNA was extracted from the tail tip of one specimen and a segment of 1039 bp including parts of the cytochrome-b gene and the threonin t-RNA gene was amplified by PCR (primers:

“sict-L” 5’-TTTGGATCCCTGTTAGGC CTCTGTT-3’ and “H15906” 5’-GGTTA CAAGACCAGTGCCTTT-3’) and sequenced (primers: “sict-L” and “murnum” 5’-AGG CACCTCCATAGTTCCAC-3’) by MWG-BIOTECH (Ebersberg, Germany) sequencing service. A part of the cyt-b gene consisting of 887 bp was used for analysis. The sequence was compared with homologous regions of sequences from samples scattered over the most part of the area of *P. muralis* which were analyzed in the course of a thorough genetic analysis of the species (SCHWEIGER & MAYER in prep.). The sequence of the Corfu sample was most similar but not identical to samples of western Greek mainland (from south-western Macedonia [FYRM] in the north along the western part of the Pindos chain as far as to lake Trichonida in the south). We therefore assume accidental introduction from this area.

The sequence was deposited at GenBank under accession number AY585686.

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Fig. 1: Male specimen of the Wall Lizard *Podarcis muralis* (LAURENTI, 1768), from the Ionian Island of Corfu (Greece). Photograph by F. RATHBAUER.



Fig. 2: Park area between the old harbour and the fortress of Corfu City where about 30 specimens of the Wall Lizard were observed. Photograph by CH. RIEGLER.

KEY WORDS: Reptilia: Squamata: Lacertidae: *Podarcis muralis*, Corfu Island, Greece, new island record, cytochrome-b sequence

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Corrigenda to

Spatial distribution of Red-backed Salamanders *Plethodon cinereus* (GREEN, 1818) in relation to microhabitat structure

by

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The first author of the above short note in *Herpetozoa* 16 (3/4): 169-171 points to a misprint in table 1, page 169. The error was not present in the final proof and thus was caused by the editor in a subsequent production step.

Row five of table 1 should read

Females *) 23 (10 + 13) 4 (0 + 4)

Find the correct version of table 1 below.

Another editorial mistake concerning the above contribution refers to the incomplete reference to authorship. The name of the third author R. G. JAEGER was omitted by mistake both in the table of contents (cover page 4) and in the index to volumes 15 and 16 (pages 177-192) of volume 16 (3/4).

The editor feels sorry for the mishap and tries to repair the adversity occurred by providing these errata and a correct citation of the paper in the online contents to the journal *Herpetozoa* at <http://www.nhm-wien.ac.at/nhm/herpet/HPOGH06!.htm>

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Table 1: Numbers of observed and recaptured individuals of *Plethodon cinereus* (GREEN, 1818) on two 100 m² study plots.

| Individuals | Observed (plot A + plot B) | Recaptured (plot A + plot B) |
|----------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1-yr juveniles | 12 (5 + 7) | 4 (2 + 2) |
| 2-yr juveniles | 17 (6 + 11) | 2 (1 + 1) |
| Females *) | 23 (10 + 13) | 4 (0 + 4) |
| Males | 11 (4 + 7) | 3 (1 + 2) |
| Total | 63 (25 + 38) | 13 (4 + 9) |

*) Four (2+2) females attending their eggs are included in the count of individuals, but no attempts were made to recapture them (see text).

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