



## On the karyotype of the Long-clawed mole vole, *Prometheomys schaposchnikovi* Satunin, 1901 (Mammalia: Rodentia), in Turkey

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SATUNIN (1901) described *Prometheomys schaposchnikovi* from Gudaur (Georgia), examining a male specimen. VINOGRADOV and ARGYROPULO (1941), and OGNEV (1948) recorded this species from various localities in Caucasia. SPITZENBERGER and STEINER (1964) gave the first record of *P. schaposchnikovi* from Turkey. The aim of this study is to contribute to karyological characteristics of *P. schaposchnikovi*.

We collected 19 specimens from two localities (Fig. 1) (Kutul plateau of Ardanuç 7, and Ardahan 12). Five specimens from Kutul (n = 2) and Ardahan (n = 3) were karyotyped based on the technique of FORD and HAMERTON (1956).

The diploid number of chromosomes is  $2n = 56$ , the number of autosomal arms is  $NFa = 100$ , and the fundamental number is  $NF = 104$ . The autosomal set consists of 12 metacentrics, 34 subtelocentrics, and 8 acrocentrics. The X chromosome is a large sub-metacentric, and the Y chromosome is the smallest metacentric (Fig. 2).

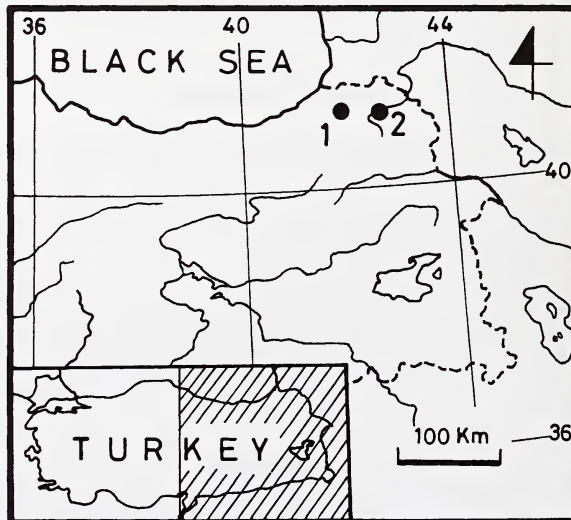


Fig. 1. Recorded localities (●) of *P. schaposchnikovi*. 1. Ardanuç 2. Ardahan.

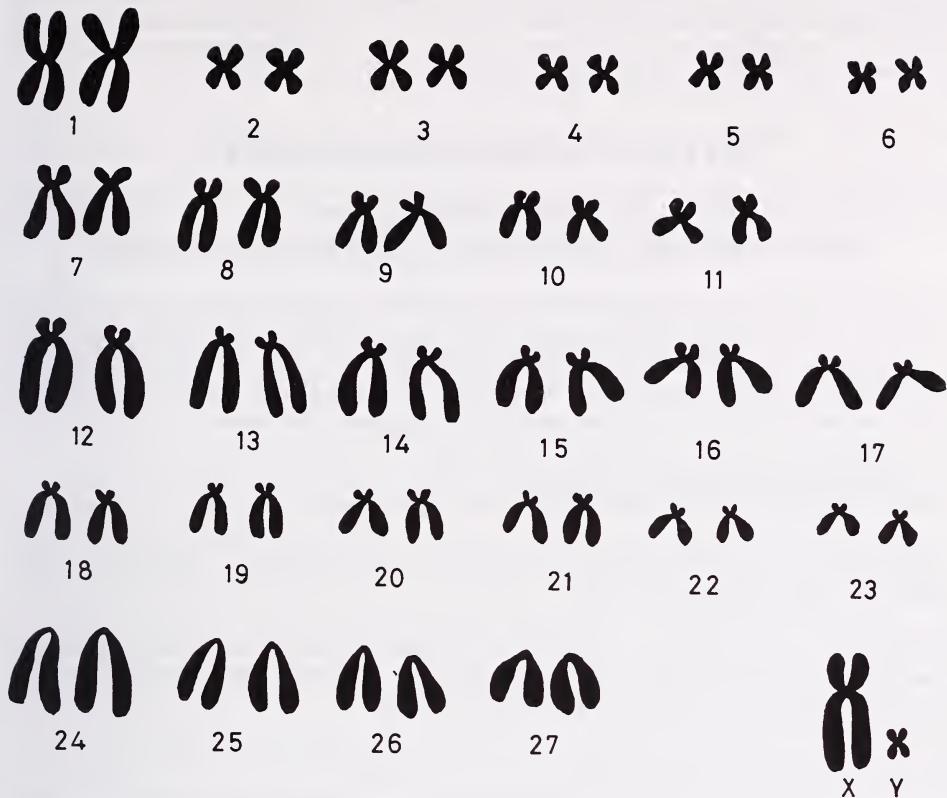


Fig. 2. Karyotype of a male *P. schaposchnikovi* from Ardahan.

According to ZIMA and KRAL (1984), NFa is 70 and the Y chromosome is the smallest acrocentric, whereas in Turkish population the NFa is 100 and the Y chromosome is the smallest metacentric. MATTHEY (1958) described the karyotype of this species from Caucasia. We examined a metaphase plate from his publication and found that it is similar to that of Turkish specimens.

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