

## NEW RECORDS OF ACICULIDAE FROM TURKEY

The Aciculidae (Caenogastropoda) are small carnivorous land snails feeding mainly on eggs of other land snails. They have their highest diversity in southern Europe (Boeters *et al.*, 1989). There are also some species in north-western Africa and in Asia anterior southwards to Israel and eastwards to the Iran. So far two species are known from Turkey. Both, *Acicula riedeli* Boeters, Gittenberger & Subai 1989 from the province Trabzon and *Platyla turcica* Boeters, Gittenberger & Subai 1989 from the province Bolu, have been recorded only once from a single locality (Boeters *et al.*, 1989). Thus, it is likely that there are several additional species of this family in Turkey. In the following, new findings of two additional species from Turkey are recorded.

*Acicula palaestinensis* Forcart 1981

*Acicula palaestinensis* is so far known only from northern Israel (Boeters *et al.*, 1989; Forcart, 1981). It has now (7 August 2007) been found at the south coast of Turkey in the province Antalya at Taşkesiği 10 km towards Akseki on calcareous rocks above the road, at about 300 m altitude: 36°47'23"N 31°43'33"E, UTM UF87 (Zoological Museum of the University of Hamburg ZMH 51229). The new locality is more than 500 km northwest of the known localities in northern Israel. Nevertheless there are no obvious morphological differences between the specimens from Turkey (Fig. 1) and Israel. It is possible that this small species is more widespread along the coast of the Levant and has been overlooked because of its size.



**Figures 1–2** 1 *Acicula palaestinensis* Forcart 1981, Turkey, Province Antalya: Taşkesiği 10 km towards Akseki (ZMH 51229). 2 *Platyla similis* (Reinhardt 1880), Turkey, Province Zonguldak: Amasra 0.5 km towards Bartın (ZMH 51833), Turkey, Province Antalya: Taşkesiği 10 km towards Akseki (ZMH 51229). Scale bar = 0.5 mm.

*Platyla similis* (Reinhardt 1880)

The recent distribution of *Platyla similis* extends from Romania through Serbia and Bulgaria to Greece (Boeters *et al.*, 1989). There are also isolated occurrences in Italy. In the Pleistocene interglacials the species spread northwards to Britain, Germany and Czechia (Boeters *et al.*, 1989). It has been found at the north coast of Turkey in the province Zonguldak at Amasra 0.5 km towards Bartın on calcareous rocks above the road: 41°44'N 32°22'E, UTM VM42 (ZMH 51833) (Fig. 2), 30 September 1987. The new locality is more than 500 km east of the closest known localities in Bulgaria. This tiny species is probably more wide spread in the western Pontic region.

The new findings demonstrate that our knowledge about terrestrial microsnails of Turkey is

still fragmentary and that many additional species can be expected to be found in Turkey by a more thorough survey of microsnails.

BOETERS HD, GITTENBERGER E & SUBAI P 1989 Die Aciculidae (Mollusca: Gastropoda Prosobranchia). *Zoologische Verhandelingen, Leiden* **252**: 1–234.

FORCART L 1981 Descriptions of new land snails from Israel. *Basteria* **45**: 97–108.

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