

FIRST RECORD OF *LEPTINARIA LAMELLATA* (POTIEZ & MICHAUD) AS A GREENHOUSE SPECIES IN EUROPE

The Subulinid land snail *Leptinaria lamellata* (Potiez & Michaud, 1835) [= *L. unilamellata* (d'Orbigny, 1835) (nomen nudum), *L. unilamellata* (d'Orbigny, 1837) cf¹] is native to tropical South America, and extends at least from Brazil, Bolivia, Peru and Venezuela northwards through the Central American states to Mexico^{2,3}. By the help of man it has become widely spread on the Greater and Lesser Antilles^{1,4,5,6} and it has also been introduced to French Polynesia⁷. It thrives in the ground litter and is often found under rotten logs⁶. The species may occur in large numbers in introduced sites and in some cases it might be difficult to distinguish its native occurrences from introduced.

In the spring 2015 J. Roth (Linköping, Sweden) drew my attention to two specimens (both living when collected) of a rather small snail, collected in the rainforest house of the Public Science Centre Universeum, Göteborg, province of Västergötland, W. Sweden [57°41'44.18"N 11°59'20.67"E] by F. Persson (Göteborg) in the autumn 2014. J. Roth identified them as *Leptinaria lamellata*, a determination that I could confirm⁸. The species has so far not been reported from Sweden or from Europe. This record made me look through once more my collected material from Universeum in 2004⁹ and among the juveniles of *Subulina octona* (Bruguière) I found one specimen (living when collected) of *L. lamellata*. Either a small population of the species has lived in the hothouse during the years 2004–2014, or there have been two separate introductions – quite possible as tropical plants have been continuously imported since the Universeum was opened in 2001. The rainforest house was thoroughly converted in early 2016 and the once rich fauna of introduced species such as: *Allopeas clavulinum* (Potiez & Michaud), *Subulina octona* (Bruguière), *Afropunctum semineum* (Moretlet), *Hawaiiia minuscula* (Binney), *Zonitoides arboreus* (Say) and *Ambigolimax valentianus* (Férrussac) has become much impoverished. At a search in Marsh 2017 neither living animals nor shells of *L. lamellata* could be found, possibly the species is now lost.

L. lamellata is able to reproduce by self-fertilization, is ovo-viviparous and can reproduce

before the shell has reached its final size^{10,11}. One or more of these characteristics are common among land-snail species, which are able to establish themselves in the artificial, highly disturbed pseudo tropical habitats in hot-houses – e.g. other Subulinids, *Afropunctum semineum* (Morelet). Further occurrences of *L. lamellata* in the greenhouse milieu are to be expected.

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