

The zooplankton of some mountain lakes in the Taurus Range (Turkey)

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Abstract. The zooplankton of 16 mountain lakes in the Taurus Range was studied during 1996 and 1997, and a total of 116 zooplankton taxa, comprising 69 rotifers, 33 cladocerans, 12 copepods, one anostracan, and one chonchostracan was identified. Four rotifers (*Brachionus polyacanthus*, *Asplanchnopus hyalinus*, *Lecane haliclysta*, *Dissotrocha aculeata medio-aculeata*) and one copepod (*Arctodiaptomus (Rh.) alpinus*) are new for Turkish inland waters, and they are illustrated.

Kurzfassung. Zwischen 1996 und 1997 wurde das Zooplankton von 16 Gebirgsseen des Taurusgebirges untersucht, und es wurden insgesamt 116 Taxa identifiziert: 69 Rotifera, 33 Cladocera, 12 Copepoda, eine Anostraca und eine Chonchostraca. Vier Rotiferen (*Brachionus polyacanthus*, *Asplanchnopus hyalinus*, *Lecane haliclysta*, *Dissotrocha aculeata medio-aculeata*) und eine Copepode (*Arctodiaptomus (Rh.) alpinus*) sind neu für die Türkei und werden hier abgebildet.

Key words. Rotifera, Cladocera, Copepoda, Anostraca, Chonchostraca, Anatolia.

Introduction

There have been a number of recent studies of the zooplankton of Turkey, but almost all of them were carried out in lowland lakes and Inner Anatolian lakes (DEMIRHINDI 1972, 1989-90, USTAOĞLU 1986, 1993, USTAOĞLU & BALIK 1990a, 1990b, USTAOĞLU & AKYÜREK 1994, EMIR 1994, EMIR & DEMIRSOY 1996, ALTINDAĞ 1997, ALTINDAĞ & ÖZKURT 1998, ALTINDAĞ & YİĞİT 1999, AKBULUT (EMIR) 2000, AKBULUT (EMIR) & AKBULUT 2002). Only a few studies have been made of high altitude lakes (>1500 m a.s.l.). The purpose of the present study is to contribute to the knowledge of the species richness of mountain lakes in the Taurus Range by investigating their zooplankton fauna.

Material and methods

In order to study the zooplankton fauna of 16 mountain lakes in the Taurus Range, two excursions were conducted in 1996 and 1997. Zooplankton samples were collected by horizontal and vertical hauls, using a standard plankton net (mesh diameter 55 µm), and fixed in 4% formaldehyde.

The following lakes were studied (Fig. 1): 1. Lake Yazır (Çavdır-Burdur) (1500 m), 9.7.1996; – 2. Lake Yeşil (Elmalı-Antalya) (1600 m), 10.7.1996; – 3. Lake Karın (Gündoğmuş-Antalya) (2000 m), 14.7.1996, 13.7.1997; – 4. Lake Karıncalı (Gündoğmuş-Antalya) (2130 m), 14.7.1996, 13.7.1997; – 5. Lake Kızılot (Gündoğmuş-Antalya) (1950 m), 14.7.1996, 13.7.1997; – 6. Lake