

A new freshwater amphipod species, *Gammarus katagani* sp. nov., from Turkey

(Amphipoda: Gammaridae)

Murat Özbek

Abstract. A new species of freshwater Amphipod, *Gammarus katagani* sp. n., collected from Domaniç in Kütahya province, Turkey, is described and illustrated. The new species belongs to the *Gammarus balcanicus*-group. The presence of an additional row of setae on the last two metasome segments in both sexes is the most diagnostic character for the species. A detailed morphological description and illustrations of the new species are given and differences from related species are discussed.

Key words. *Gammarus*, new species, freshwater, Kütahya, Turkey, Middle East.

Introduction

Among the various amphipod genera, *Gammarus* is probably the genus with the highest number of epigeal freshwater taxa (KARAMAN & PINKSTER 1977). The genus is widely distributed, centered in Europe but extending to China and North America; it also includes taxa in coastal marine waters (VAINOLA et al. 2008). The amphipod fauna of Turkish freshwaters has been the subject of intensive studies in the last decades, and to date 38 species belonging to the genus *Gammarus* have been reported from the inland waters of Turkey (ÖZBEK 2011). Recently, ÖZBEK & ÇAMUR-ELİPEK (2010) described a new species, *Gammarus kesanensis*, from a fountain in Edirne province, Turkish Thrace region. I describe here another species new to science, which I found in Western Turkey.

Gammarus katagani sp. n. (Figs 1-4)

Material. Holotype male, 12.1 mm (ESFM-MALI/11-01), collected with a fine-mesh hand-net in a small limnocene habitat, Domaniç, Kütahya Province, Western Anatolia (39°46'N, 29°38'E), 16.iv.2011; collected by T. KATAĞAN. – Paratypes: Female, 9.2 mm (ESFM-MALI/11-02), same data as holotype; many males and females (ESFM-MALI/06-3), same data as holotype. – All specimens fixed in 70% ethanol in the field. The material is deposited in the Museum of Faculty of Fisheries, Ege University, İzmir, Turkey (ESFM).

Diagnosis. A medium-large species. Similar to *Gammarus dorsosetosus* Mateus & Mateus, 1990 except for the presence of additional seta groups on the last two metasome segments in both sexes, the longer antenna 1, the shape and the setation of uropod 3 and the epimeral plates 2 and 3.