

Distribution of earthworms belonging to families Acanthodrilidae, Criodrilidae, and Megascolecidae in Turkey

(Oligochaeta)

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Abstract. Out of 76 earthworm species recorded in Turkey, 70 species belong to family Lumbricidae, three species to family Megascolecidae (*Amyntas corticis* (Kinberg, 1867), *A. gracilis* (Kinberg, 1867), and *Metaphire californica* (Kinberg, 1867)), two species to family Acanthodrilidae (*Microscolex phosphoreus* (Dugès, 1837) and *M. dubius* (Fletcher, 1886)) and *Criodrilus lacuum* Hoffmeister, 1845 to the family Criodrilidae. The presence and distribution in Turkey of these species is described.

Key words. Earthworms, Fauna, Turkey, Megascolecidae, Acanthodrilidae, Criodrilidae.

Introduction

In spite of the limited number of studies of Turkish earthworm fauna, 76 earthworm species have been recorded in Turkey (MISIRLIOĞLU 2009, PAVLIČEK et al. 2009, 2010). Seventy of them belong to family Lumbricidae and only six species belong to other families. The aim of this paper is to review the distribution of non-lumbricid earthworms in Turkey.

Results & Discussion

Family Criodrilidae

Criodrilus lacuum Hoffmeister, 1845

Distribution in Turkey: Hatay and Ankara (CSUZDI et al. 2007, OMODEO 1952) (Fig. 1).

World distribution: Sardinia, Spain, France, Russia, Caucasus, Moldavia, Letonia, Turkmenistan, around the Caspian Sea, Far East (MISIRLIOĞLU 2002, OMODEO 1952, PEREL 1997). Syria, Algeria, Palestine, Israel, Lebanon, Hungary, Greece, former Yugoslavia, Italy, Austria, Germany, rivers and tributaries of Danube and Po, Portugal, Latvia, Poland, Amur region of Siberia. Introduced in plant pots into America, India, UK and Brazil (BLAKEMORE 2008a).

Family Megascolecidae

Amyntas gracilis (Kinberg, 1867)

Distribution in Turkey: Eskişehir (MISIRLIOĞLU 2007) (Fig. 1).

World distribution: Its indigenous range covers Thailand and China, but it has been recorded