

Copyright © 2006 Magnolia Press





## A new *Canariella* species (Gastropoda: Helicoidea: Hygromiidae) of the new subgenus *Majorata*, both endemic to the Jandía Peninsula (Fuerteventura, Canary Islands)

MARÍA R. ALONSO<sup>1</sup>, CARMEN E. PONTE-LIRA<sup>1</sup>, CAROLINA CASTILLO<sup>1</sup>, YURENA YANES<sup>1</sup>, KLAUS GROH<sup>2</sup> & MIGUEL IBÁÑEZ<sup>1,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Animal Biology, La Laguna University, E-38206 La Laguna, Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain.

<sup>2</sup>Mainzer Straße, 25, D-55546 Hackenheim, Germany <sup>3</sup>Corresponding author

## Abstract

*Canariella jandiaensis* **sp. nov.** and *Canariella (Majorata)* **subgen. nov.** are described from the Jandía Peninsula mountains (Fuerteventura Island). The new subgenus, which includes *C. jandiaensis* and *C. eutropis*, is characterized mainly by the following synapomorphies: The shell is without hairs and there is a large penial papilla present arising from all the five epiphallar folds. *C. jandiaensis* differs from *C. eutropis* in the unkeeled, almost globular shell, which is smaller but taller than that of *C. eutropis* and has more numerous but smoother radial ribs. Also, *C. jandiaensis* has a pseudopapilla in the distal penial cavity instead of the thick longitudinal pilaster present in *C. eutropis*.

The range of *Majorata* is small, declining from 30,000 years ago and the new species should be classified as "Critically Endangered" based on the very small size of its distribution area (smaller than  $1 \text{ km}^2$ ) and the very abundant and free-range livestock present. Mainly goats, grazing freely destroy the habitat in the entire Jandía mountains. Protection of their habitat is recommended, mainly by means of strict livestock control.

Key words: Gastropoda, Hygromiidae, *Canariella jandiaensis* sp. nov., *Majorata* subgen. nov., taxonomy, conservation, Jandía Peninsula, Fuerteventura, Canary Islands

## Introduction

*Canariella* Hesse, 1918 is one of the four species-rich land snail genera present in the Canarian Archipelago. Its oldest fossil record is from the Miocene of Lanzarote Island (Gittenberger & Ripken 1985). Eighteen living species have been described, being present