



Description of a new species of genus *Gobio* from Turkey (Teleostei: Cyprinidae)

DAVUT TURAN^{1,4}, F. GÜLER EKMEKÇİ², VERA LUSKOVA³ & JAN MENDEL³

¹Rize University, Faculty of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, 53100 Rize, Turkey. E-mail: dvturan@yahoo.com

²Department of Biology, Faculty of Sciences, Hacettepe University, Beytepe Campus, 06800 Ankara, Turkey.
E-mail: gulere@hacettepe.edu.tr

³Department of Ichthyology, Institute of Vertebrate Biology ASCR, v.v.i., Květná 8, 603 65 Brno, Czech Republic.
E-mail: luskova@IVB.cz, jmendel@seznam.cz

⁴Corresponding author. E-mail: dvturan@yahoo.com

Abstract

Gobio sakaryaensis, a new species from the Tozman and the Porsuk streams of the Sakarya River drainage (northwestern Anatolia, Black Sea basin), is described. The species is distinguished from other gudgeons by a combination of the following characters: breast completely scaled, scales approximately extending to isthmus; head length 27.2–30.0 % SL; 39–42 lateral line scales; 4–6 scales between anus and anal-fin origin; 6–8 scales between posterior extremity of pelvic-fin bases and anus. A key is provided for *Gobio* and *Romanogobio* species recorded from Turkey.

Key words: *Gobio sakaryaensis*, gudgeon, Anatolia, taxonomy

Introduction

The genus *Gobio* has a wide distribution throughout Europe and northern Asia. Over the last decade there have been many attempts to clarify the taxonomy of this genus; several new species have been described and some former subspecies are now recognized as distinct species (Vasil'eva *et al.* 2004, Doadrio & Madeira 2004, Kottelat & Persat 2005, Naseka *et al.* 2006). In 2007, Kottelat & Freyhof re-diagnosed the European taxa, while Naseka *et al.* (2006) revised those of Anatolia.

Ten species of gudgeon recognized as valid from Turkey: *Gobio microlepidotus* Battalgil, 1942 (Lake Beyşehir), *G. intermedius* Battalgil, 1944 (Lake Eber and Lake Akşehir basin), *G. gymnostethus* Ladiges, 1960 (Eastern Lake Tuz basin), *G. insuayanus* Ladiges, 1960 (western Lake Tuz basin), *G. hettitorum* Ladiges, 1960 from southern Lake Tuz basin), *G. battalgilae* Naseka, Erk'akan & Küçük, 2006 (Eyilik Stream, Lake Beyşehir basin), and *G. maeandricus* Naseka, Erk'akan & Küçük, 2006 (Lake Işıklı basin), *G. bulgaricus* Drensky, 1926 (in Meriç and Ergene Rivers from the Thrace part of Turkey) (Erk'akan *et al.* 2005, Naseka *et al.*, 2006). As stated by Naseka & Freyhof (2004) *Romanogobio macropterus* (Kamensky, 1901) occurs in the rivers Arax and Kura.

Our fish surveys in western Anatolia and Thrace region yielded three species of *Gobio*. Using the keys and characteristics given in Kottelat & Freyhof (2007), we identified two of these as *G. bulgaricus* (from the River Meriç, Maritza, Evros), and *G. kovatschevi* (from Istranca Stream, Bakacak Stream, and Kara Menderes Stream). The identity of the latter species was confirmed by J. Freyhof (pers. comm.), who used these *G. kovatschevi* specimens from Turkey in his study of the genetics of gudgeons. The third species, however, is evidently new. The aim of the present paper is to describe this species and to provide a revised identification key for the species of *Gobio* in Turkey.

Material and methods

Fish were caught using pulsed DC electro-fishing equipment. The material is deposited in Rize University Zool-