

The *Stagnicola* spp. of the Republic of Macedonia with the first record of *Stagnicola fuscus* (C. Pfeiffer, 1821) (Mollusca: Gastropoda: Lymnaeidae)

PETER GLÖER¹, VALENTINA SLAVEVSKA STAMENKOVIĆ² & JELENA HINIĆ²

¹ Biodiversity Research Laboratory, Schulstr. 3, D 25491 Hetlingen, Germany. E-mail: gloeer@malaco.de

² Department of Invertebrates and Animal Ecology, Institute of Biology, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, University "St. Cyril and Methodius", Arhimedova 3, 1000 Skopje, Macedonia.
E-mails: vstamen@yahoo.com; jelenahinikj@gmail.com

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So far, three species of the genus *Stagnicola*, i.e., *S. corvus* (Gmelin, 1791), *S. montenegrinus* Glöer & Pešić, 2009 and *S. palustris* (O.F. Müller, 1774) have been reported from the Republic of Macedonia (Stanković, 1985; Bank, 2011; Soes, 2014).

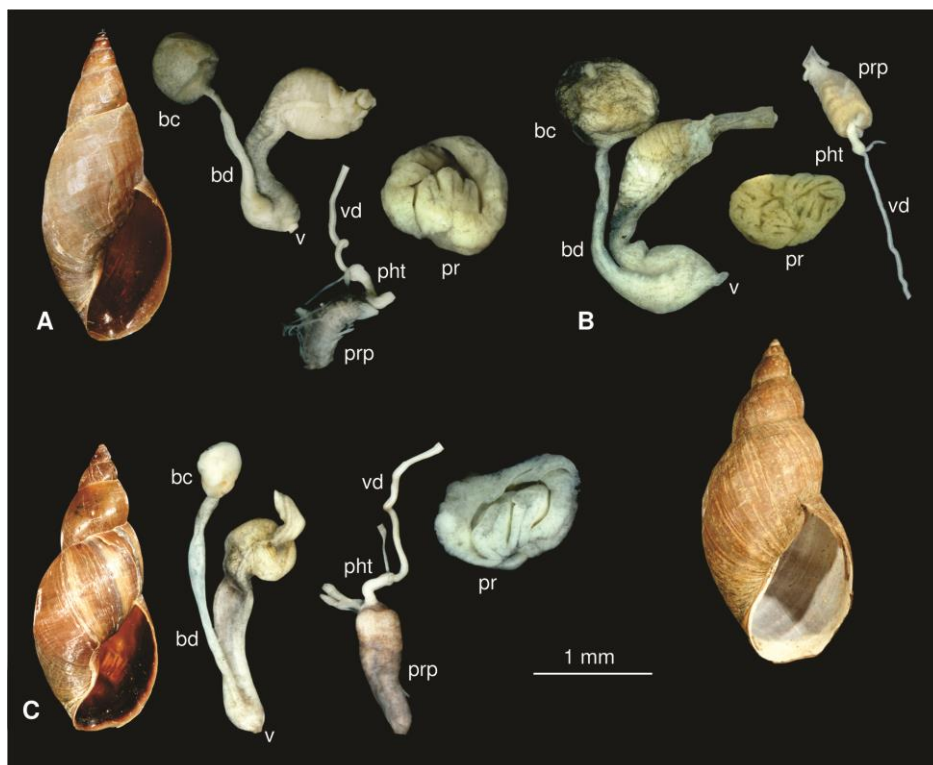


Figure 1. The *Stagnicola* spp. of the Republic of Macedonia. A: *S. montenegrinus*, B: *S. corvus*, C: *S. fuscus*. Abbreviations: bc: bursa copulatrix, bd: bursa duct, pht: phallotheca, prp: praeputium, v: vagina, vd: vas deferens.

However, the reports of *S. palustris* in Republic of Macedonia (Stanković, 1985), as well as in surrounding Balkan regions like Montenegro (Wohlberedt, 1909) and Albania (Dhora & Welter-Schultes, 1996) are questionable because identification was based on the shells only. *S. palustris* occurs from Britain and the North German lowlands to Siberia (Schniebs *et al.* 2016).

The aims of this paper are: (i) to summarise the available information about the genus *Stagnicola* from Republic of Macedonia, (ii) to report first record of *Stagnicola fuscus* (C. Pfeiffer, 1821) in the country and (iii) to present distinguishing features of the Macedonian species of genus *Stagnicola*.

The specimens of *S. fuscus* were collected at four sampling sites in R. Macedonia using a hand-net with mesh size of 500 µm. Specimens are deposited in MNCI (Macedonian National Collection of Invertebrates, Faculty for Natural Science and Mathematics, Skopje).

1. Marsh Ezerca in the upper part of Lakavichka Reka River, Jablanica Mt. [N41.3414993059, E20.5034507006], V. Slavevska-Stamenković leg., 18.09.2014;
2. Modrichka Reka River, below village Modrich, Jablanica Mt. [N 41.3704236951, E 20.5961106340], V. Slavevska-Stamenković leg., 18.09.2014;
3. Pond below peak Chungovec, Maleshevo Mt. [N 41.69568900, E 22.69878409], D. Kitanova leg., 11.08.2015;
4. Rice fields near Kochanska Reka River, village Dolni Podlog [N41.88157900, E 22.35220700], D. Kitanova leg., 11.08.2015.

In addition *S. fuscus* is known from Prespa Lake (in collection Glöer).

The differences between the *Stagnicola* spp. occurring in Republic of Macedonia lie mainly in the number of prostate folds, while *S. fuscus* has two folds, *S. montenegrinus* has three and *S. corvus* has many folds (Fig. 1).

According to Schniebs *et al.* (2016) *S. fuscus* is distributed from the North German lowlands to Southern Europe. *S. montenegrinus* Glöer & Pešić 2009 is only known from Montenegro (Glöer & Pešić, 2009), Bulgaria (Schniebs *et al.* 2012) and Macedonia (Soes, 2014) so far. *S. corvus* is a rare species which occurs from southern Scandinavia, south to Italy and east to the Ukraine (Bank *et al.* 2015).



Figure 2. Marsh Ezerca in the upper part of Lakavichka Reka River, Jablanica Mt. Photo: Lj. Melovski.

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