

On the identity of *Clausilia (Albinaria) luschani* E. von Martens, 1889 (Gastropoda, Pulmonata, Clausiliidae)

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The distribution records of *Albinaria* species along the southwestern coast of Turkey and the identity of the specimens collected near its type locality indicate that *Clausilia (Albinaria) luschani* E. von Martens, 1889 is a junior synonym of *A. anatolica* (Roth, 1839).

Key words: Mollusca, Clausiliidae, Turkey, Lycia, *Albinaria*.

INTRODUCTION

In 1889, von Martens described two land snail taxa from a place called Säret at an altitude of 940 m in Lycia – the former name of southwestern Turkey. These were *Helix codringtoni* var. *lycia* and *Clausilia (Albinaria) luschani*. While the former taxon, now *Isaurica lycia*, has been studied on occasion (for example, Subai, 1994), the latter species sank into oblivion; the only noteworthy mention of it in the literature after 1889 that I have found is in Schütt (2010) where it is listed as a junior synonym of *Albinaria forbesiana* (L. Pfeiffer, 1846). In this paper I will discuss where Säret is located, as well as the identity of *Clausilia (Albinaria) luschani*.

RESULTS

Säret was most likely the Lycian mountain village referred to as Saaret by Spratt & Forbes (1847). As Subai (1994) noted, the toponym is reminiscent of the Turkish word “Seyret”, but there is no Saaret or Seyret in the present day maps of southwestern Turkey. However, a Turkish government publication (Anonymous, 1968: 751) indicates that the name of a village called Seyretköy (“Seyret Village”; administratively

connected to Kaş in the province of Antalya) was changed to Gökçeören before 1968. Gökçeören is located northwest of the coastal town of Kaş, and the island of Kastellorizo, which von Martens (1889) wrote was very close to Säret, lies half way between Gökçeören and Kaş. The location of Gökçeören also roughly matches that of Saaret on the map of Lycia in Spratt & Forbes (1847). Therefore, it is clear that the type locality of von Martens’ specimens was the present day Gökçeören.

The only *Albinaria* species that has been collected in recent years in the coastal limestone areas of southwestern Turkey between the vicinity of Kaş in the south and Fethiye in the north is *A. anatolica* (Roth, 1839) (Neubert et al., 2000; Örstan, unpublished surveys). In comparison, the range of *A. forbesiana* starts in the north of Fethiye and extends into the ruins of Kaunos about 50 km further northwest (Nordsieck, 2014; Örstan, unpublished surveys). Clearly, Schütt’s listing of *Clausilia (Albinaria) luschani* as a synonym of *A. forbesiana* is problematic, because it places *A. forbesiana* outside its known range. The type material on which von Martens based his species could not be located in the Museum für Naturkunde Berlin (Christine Zorn, personal communication March 19, 2019). Indeed, it is also missing in the type catalogue of Kiliass (1974).

Gökçeören is situated in a broad valley that rises to an altitude of only about 850 m. I suspect that von Martens’ specimens, from 940 m, came from a locality on the higher mountain ridges on each side of the village. On 15 September 2018, I drove up the road from Kaş to Gökçeören and collected *Albinaria* shells along the road at altitudes of 776 m and 990 m. Because my latter station, where I also found *Isaurica lycia*, was only about 1 km southeast of Gökçeören, I am assuming that its species composition matches that of von Martens’ type locality – wherever it may have been.

There are several subspecies and forms of *A. forbesiana*, but they can all be easily distinguished from *A. anatolica* (see Nordsieck, 2014). The shell of *Albinaria forbesiana* is relatively narrow, and usually have in its aperture a short basal and sometimes a frontal upper palatal fold and its basal and dorsal keels are more or less equally prominent (Figs 1-2). *Albinaria anatolica* shells are stouter than *A. forbesiana* shells and have



Figs 1-5. Dorsal views of representative *Albinaria* shells. **1.** *A. forbesiana* (form *dunkeri*) (17.1 mm); ruins of Kaunos (36.8256°N, 28.6234°E). **2.** *A. forbesiana* (17.6 mm); canyon north of Göcek (36.7679°N, 28.9463°E). **3.** *A. anatolica* (17.7 mm); hillside south of Fethiye (36.6144°N, 29.1357°E). **4.** *A. anatolica* (15.6 mm); ruins of Xanthos (36.3567°N, 29.3186°E). **5.** *A. anatolica* (17.9 mm); road to Gökçeören (36.2304°N, 29.5444°E). The aperture edge is broken, but the only keel (basal) is visible. To allow for the comparison of shell diameters, individual photographs were resized to approximately the same shell height.

neither a basalis nor a frontal upper palatal fold and either completely lack or have an insignificant dorsal keel (Figs 3-5). Using these characteristics, I have identified the shells collected along the road to Gökçeören as *A. anatolica* (Fig. 5). Von Martens (1889) himself noted that *Clausilia (Albinaria) luschani* differed from the form *dunkeri* (L. Pfeiffer, 1850) of *A. forbesiana* (Fig. 1), which he thought it resembled, in its more bulbous shell that lacked two equal keels.

Therefore, the collective evidence presented here leads me to conclude that *Clausilia (Albinaria) luschani* is a junior synonym of *A. anatolica*.

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