

**The genus *Agathylla* in Greece
(Gastropoda Pulmonata: Clausiliidae)**

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The genus *Agathylla* is reported from Greece for the first time, and from a locality in S. Albania nearby. This concerns the southernmost records for the genus and the second and third record of *A. merditana scraparana*, hitherto known only from the type locality in S. Albania, c. 50 km NW. of the localities reported here. For the first time, data on the structure of the genitalia are also given; by these data the generic assignment of the subspecies is confirmed.

Key words: Gastropoda, Pulmonata, Clausiliidae, *Agathylla*, taxonomy, Albania, Greece.

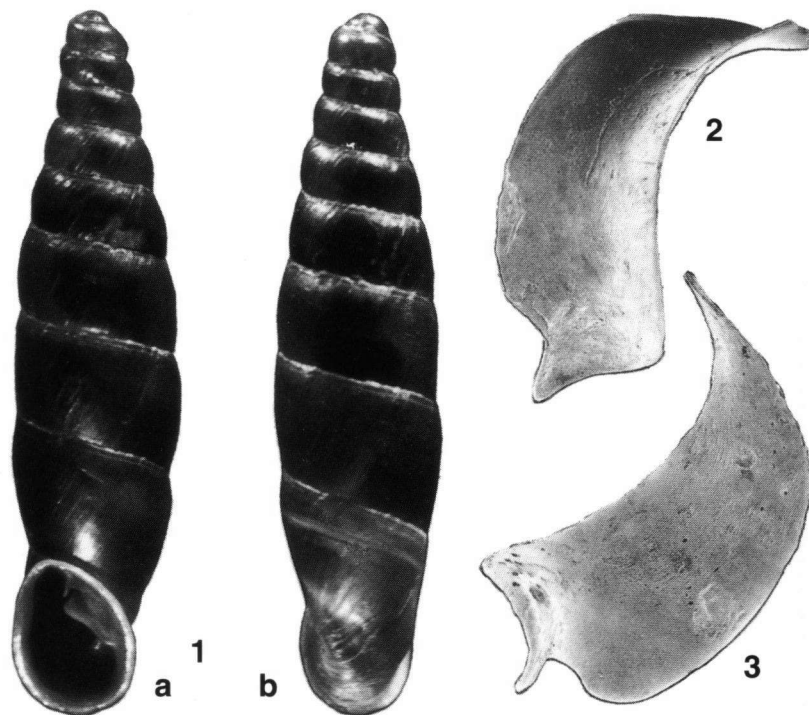
Recently, Nordsieck (1996) described a subspecies of *Agathylla merditana* (A.J. Wagner, 1914), i.e. *A. m. scraparana*, on the basis of shells collected September 1995 by F. W. Welter-Schultes and E. Naska in S. Albania, district of Skrapar, Mali Gradecit, 2.5 km E. of Çorovodë, at 800-1000 m altitude (UTM: DK38). This concerned the southernmost published record of the genus *Agathylla* H. & A. Adams, 1855. Subsequently it turned out that even further south, c. 50 km SE. of the type locality of this subspecies, in the northern part of the Greek province of Ipiros, specimens of the same subspecies had been collected, May 1991, by the present author. The shells are similar to those described by Nordsieck (1996). The anatomical data, presented here for the first time, are in agreement with the current generic classification. Recently a second record from Albania, close to the locality in Greece, was brought to my attention; this occurrence is also reported.

Agathylla (A.) *merditana scraparana* Nordsieck, 1996 (figs. 1-5)

Agathylla merditana scraparana Nordsieck, 1996: 8, pl. 2 fig. 1 (holotype). Dhora & Welter-Schultes, 1996: 129, pl. 9 figs. 91-93 (paratypes).

Shell. — Shell (fig. 1) very slender spindle-shaped, corneous, with a narrow, whitish, sub-sutural line with some inconspicuous papillae. Initial teleoconch whorls with irregular, coarse growth-lines, which become obsolete on the lower whorls; only the cervical sculpture on the final quarter of the body whorl is more prominent, consisting of riblets which are more narrowly spaced close to the apertural border. The riblets are not or hardly lighter than the general colour of the shell. There is a prominent basal keel, accompanied by a basal groove. Shortly behind the apertural lip there is a vague external rib. There may be a more or less prominent subsutural swelling running along c. the final half of the body whorl.

Apertural lip broadly reflected, clearly protruding. Parietalis and spiralis shortly overlapping. Lamella parallela inconspicuous. Columellaris flaring to nearly halfway into the aperture; its frontal part forming a stretched, recumbent S. Subcolumellaris not or at least not clearly visible in frontal view. Lunellar area situated about dorsally;



Figs. 1-3. *Agathylla (A.) merditana scraparana*. Greece, Ipiros, province of Ioannina, 0.5 km SE. of Loutro (= 16.5 km N. of Konitsa), 1030 m altitude; UTM DK7548; 29.v.1991. 1, shell, actual height 10.3 mm; 2, 3, clausilium, showing the conspicuous notch in the clausilial plate. Photographs by A 't Hooft, Leiden.

upper part of the lunella obsolete. Principalis ending inside between dorsolaterally and laterally; suturalis shorter and much less prominent, running parallel to the principalis for only c. 2/3 of its length inside. The upper palatal lamella measures c. 1/3 of the length of the principalis. The lower part of the lunella is connected to a very prominent basalis, which is visible in frontal view; inwards it forms a short subclaustralis. There may be a whitish, vague, upper palatal denticle. The clausilial blade (figs. 2, 3) forms a broad notch, which fits around the basalis.

Dimensions (Greece: $n = 12$). — Height 9.3-10.3 mm; width 2.2-2.4 mm. Shells from the type locality ($n = 20$) measure 9.6-11.8 x 2.4-2.9 mm. Some specimens from the second Albanian locality (in NNM: $n = 6$) measure 8.8-11.1 x 2.2-2.3 mm.

Genitalia (Greece: $n = 1$) (fig. 4). — Proximally, near the genital atrium, the penis is narrower than at its distal end. Externally, the proximal and the somewhat shorter distal part of the penis cannot be clearly separated, but there are differences in the luminal structures (see fig. 4a). The caecum is hardly shorter than the distal part of the penis. The epiphallus inserts laterally at the entity formed by the penis distalis and the penial caecum, and is about equally broad over its entire length. The retractor muscle of the male part of the genitalia splits into two branches, inserting halfway at

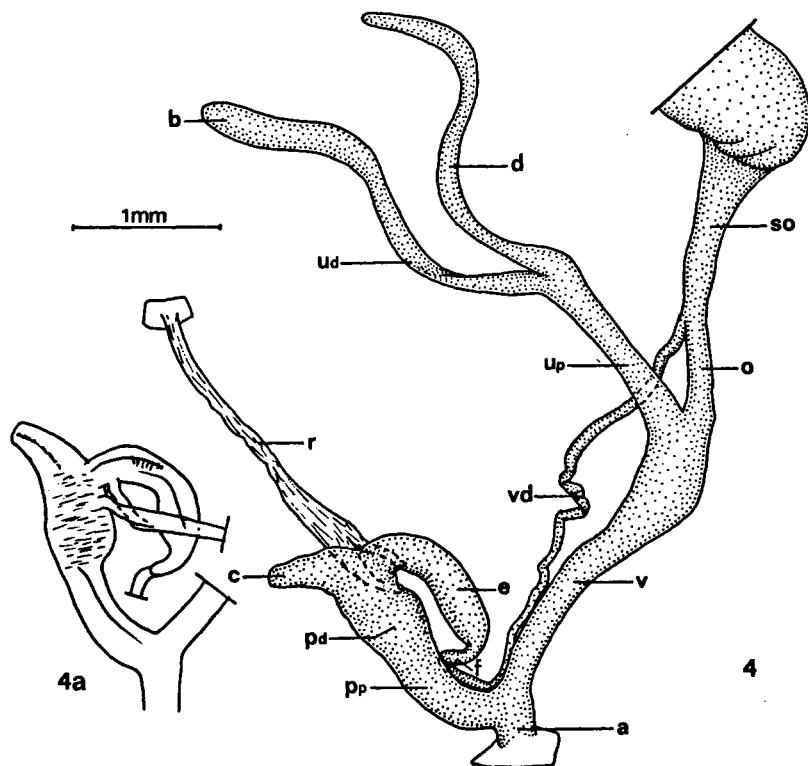


Fig. 4. Structure of the genitalia in *Agathylla* (*A.*) *merditana scraparana*. Locality: see legends with fig. 1. Abbreviations: a, genital atrium; b, bursa of the bursa copulatrix; c, caecum; d, diverticulum of the bursa copulatrix; e, epiphallus; f, flagellum; o, oviduct; p, penis (d, distalis; p, proximalis); so, spermoviductus; u, pedunculus of the bursa copulatrix (d, distalis; p, proximalis); v, vagina; vd, vas deferens. 4a, detail of the male part of the genitalia, after a transparent genital slide, showing aspects of the inside.

the distal part of the penis and, by definition, between the rudimentary proximal and the dominating distal part of the epiphallus, respectively. The flagellum is tightly connected to the vas deferens; it is about half as long as the caecum. The vagina is nearly twice as long as the penis; its distal third is nearly twice as broad as the proximal part, which equals the pedunculus proximalis in width. A vaginal retractor muscle is lacking. The proximal part of the pedunculus has half the length of the distal part together with the bursa copulatrix sac. The latter reaches slightly further than the tip of the diverticulum. In situ, the bursa copulatrix sac comes close to the glandula albuminifera. The oviduct is somewhat longer than 1/4 of the vaginal length.

New records. — Greece, Ipiros, province of Ioannina, 0.5 km SE. of Loutro (= 16.5 km N. of Konitsa), 1030 m altitude; UTM DK7548; E. G. leg., 29.v.1991. Albania, Korçë, Mal e Melesinit (= 6 km W. of Leskovik), UTM DK64; Z. Eröss & Z. Fehér leg., 7.vii.1996.

Notes. — The three known populations of this subspecies are similar conchologically.

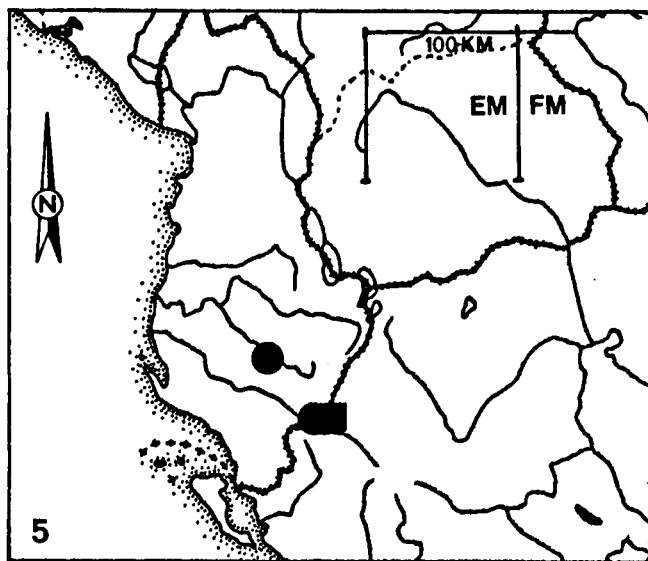


Fig. 5. Location of the type locality of *Agathylla* (*A.*) *merditana scraparana* in Albania (dot) and, close to each other, a second record for Albania (dot) and the first record in Greece (square), indicated on a UTM-map.

The shells from Greece and southern Albania are generally somewhat smaller than those from the type locality, and their cervical, subsutural swelling is less conspicuous. See Nordsieck (1996) for a discussion of the subspecific status of this taxon, and its relation to *A. biloba* (A.J. Wagner, 1914).

On the basis of the structure of the genitalia, *A. merditana* has to be classified with *Agathylla* s. str. (see Nordsieck, 1969).

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