MEMBA Su Bilimleri Dergisi

https://dergipark.org.tr/tr/pub/memba

Contribution to manuscript titled “Diversity of Mollusca along the coasts of Türkiye” by Öztürk et al. 2024

Herdem Aslan[1*]

Abstract: The recent checklist of molluscan diversity along the coasts of Türkiye by Öztürk et al. (2024) provides valuable insight into regional biodiversity. However, it overlooks two species newly recorded for Turkish waters, have already been published. This technical note presents those records and emphasizes their inclusion in the national checklist. Incorporating *Turbonilla sinuosa* and *Alvania zaraensis* increases the total molluscan species count to 1135, Pyramidellidae to 93, Rissoidae to 65, and species reported in the Aegean Sea to 877.

Keywords: Mollusca, Biodiversity, Aegean Sea, Checklist, New records, Türkiye

Öztürk ve ark., 2024 tarafından yazılan “Türkiye kıyılarındaki yumuşakça çeşitliliği” başlıklı makaleye katkı

Özet: Türkiye kıyılarındaki Mollusca çeşitliliğine dair Öztürk ve ark. (2024) tarafından yayımlanan güncel tür listesi, bölgesel biyoçeşitliliğe dair önemli bilgiler sunmaktadır. Ancak bu çalışma, Türk sularında ilk kez bildirilen iki türü içermemektedir. Bu teknik notta, söz konusu kayıtlar sunulmakta ve ulusal tür listesine dahil edilmeleri önerilmektedir. *Turbonilla sinuosa* ve *Alvania zaraensis* türlerinin listeye eklenmesiyle birlikte Türkiye kıyılarındaki toplam Mollusca tür sayısı 1135’e, Pyramidellidae familyası tür sayısı 93’e, Rissoidae familyası tür sayısı 65’e ve Ege Denizi'ndeki toplam tür sayısı 877’ye yükselmektedir.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Mollusca, Biyoçeşitlilik, Ege Denizi, Tür listesi, Yeni kayıtlar, Türkiye

Article Info (Technics Note)

1 Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University, Faculty of Sciences, Department of Biology, Çanakkale, Türkiye

*** Corresponding Author** e-mail: asherdem@comu.edu.tr

Citation: Aslan, Herdem, (2025 Contribution to manuscript titled “Diversity of Mollusca along the coasts of Türkiye” by Öztürk et al. 2024, MEMBA Journal of Water Sciences, 11, (3) 361-363. DOI: 10.58626/memba.1744946

Submission Date: 17 July 2025
Acceptance Date: 24 September 2025
Publishing Date: 30 September 2025

1. Introduction

The recent paper “Diversity of Mollusca along the coasts of Türkiye” by Öztürk et al. (2024) compiles data until April 2024. When preparing checklists of comprehensive phyla such as Mollusca, ensuring inclusion of all relevant species records is challenging due to the diversity of sources. When preparing checklists of comprehensive phyla such as a Molluscan, assurance of inclusion of the presence/absence of species studied may be a difficult task especially due to publications in extensively wide array of journals in the field. However, having examined the paper in question, I recognized that the study titled "Spatial Variation Ecological Quality Assessment of Live and Dead Molluscan Assemblages in the Aegean Sea,", published by Herdem Aslan and Panayotis Ovalis, a researcher from Greece, in 2023 has been overlooked and has furthermore not been cited.

Our study, published online on 24 July 2023, reports the spatial ecological quality of dead and alive mollusc species, in samples collected with the van Veen grab at 16 stations representing the entire Aegean Sea during August 2014. As a result of this study, detailed microscopic examination of the samples collected as part of the Integrated Marine Pollution Monitoring Programme 2014, two new molluscan species records were reported for the Türkiye coastline (Fig 2 in Aslan and Ovalis, 2023).

2. Materials and Methods

The Mollusca species list presented by Öztürk et al. (2024) was compared with the complete lists of live and dead Mollusca species provided by Aslan and Ovalis (2023).

3. Results

During the examination of the updated checklist, it was determined that two newly recorded gastropod species for the Turkish seas were not included in the list. One of the species is *Turbonilla sinuosa* (Jeffreys, 1884) from the family of Pyramidellidae was found from Canakkale Strait, the inner and outer Izmir Bay and Marmaris whereas the other new record species belongs to Rissoidae family: *Alvania zaraensis* Amati & Appolloni, 2019 was obtained from Çeşme and Didim Bay (Table 1). All these newly recorded individuals were obtained as dead from soft substratum, also dead and live species were discussed in detail in the same study (Aslan and Ovalis, 2023).

Table 1. Some detailed information of new recorded gastropod species from the coastline of Türkiye (summarized information from Table 1 and Supplementary Data 1 presented in Aslan and Ovalis 2023)

Station name	Date	Depth (m)	Latitude Longitude	Species	Number_of Individuals m^{-2}
Çanakkale Strait	12.08.2014	18	39.953867 26.150817	*T. sinuosa*	3
Inner Izmir Bay	14.08.2014	11.5	38.435100 27.124500	*T. sinuosa*	7
Outer Izmir Bay	15.08.2014	22	38.386667 26.774550	*T. sinuosa*	3
Marmaris	19.08.2014	21	36.843750 28.270967	*T. sinuosa*	3
Çeşme	16.08.2014	23	38.307700 26.252817	*A.zaraensis*	363
Didim Bay	17.08.2014	34	37.419200 27.204600	*A.zaraensis*	357

4. Discussion

With the addition of these previously overlooked species, the total number of Mollusca species in Türkiye reported by Öztürk et al. (2024) has increased from 1133 to 1135. The number of species in the Pyramidellidae, the richest family in terms of species diversity, has risen to 93, while that of the Rissoidae family has increased to 65. The number of Mollusca species in the Aegean Sea, which has been reported as the most species-rich sea, has thus increased to 877 from 875.

5. Conclusion

The update contributes to a more accurate and comprehensive national biodiversity inventory. Continual integration of recently published findings is necessary to maintain accurate biodiversity assessments. This note highlights the importance of regularly updating national species lists and ensuring that peer-reviewed new records are systematically incorporated.

6. Compliance with Ethical Standards

a) Author Contributions

H. Aslan conceived the study, compiled the data, and wrote the manuscript.

b) Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

c) Ethical Approval

Not applicable. This study involves no new data collection or experimental procedures.

d) Artificial Intelligence Use

No AI-generated content was used in the preparation of this manuscript. - Authors' Contributions: H. Aslan conceived the study, compiled the data, and wrote the manuscript.

e) Funding

No external funding was received for this work

7. References

Aslan H & Ovalis P. (2023). Spatial Variation Ecological Quality Assessment of Live and Dead Molluscan Assemblages in the Aegean Sea. Ocean Science Journal, 58:20. https://doi.org/10.1007/s12601-023-00114-1

Öztürk B, Bitlis B. & Türkçü N. (2024). Diversity of Mollusca along the coasts of Türkiye. Turkish Journal of Zoology, 48:531-571. https://doi.org/10.55730/1300-0179.3195