



*The Freshwater Crab *Potamon ibericum* (Crustacea: Decapoda: Potamidae) in the Maritsa River in Plovdiv City*

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Abstract. The current short note presents literature data about the presence of *Potamon ibericum* in the Maritsa River in Plovdiv City, as well as some new data are presented.

Key words: *Potamon ibericum*, Plovdiv City, Maritsa River, Bulgaria.

Introduction

The freshwater Decapoda in the rivers of Provdiv Region have not been the subject of a special study. Data for the presence of *Potamon ibericum* (Bieberstein, 1808) in the Maritsa River, near city of Plovdiv, are given in BULGURKOV (1961) and thereafter in BECHEV (2000), GEORGIEV & STOYCHEVA (2006).

Material and Methods

All data from the above cited sources are presented and some new data are added.

Results and Discussion

Potamon (Pontipotamon) ibericum (Bieberstein, 1808)

Literature data:

P. potamios (Oliv.): BULGURKOV (1961), Halvadziyka River near Plovdiv.

P. fluviatilis (Herbst, 1785): BECHEV (2000), Maritsa River, 2 km W of Plovdiv, near “Rowing base”, 14.06.1997.

P. ibericum: GEORGIEV & STOYCHEVA (2006), “eight kilometre long stretch of the

River Maritsa, UTM-grid: LG06 and LG16”, between 28.04.2005 and 12.07.2006.

New data:

Maritsa River, Plovdiv City, 42.1503 N, 24.6812 E, 23.08.2002, 1 male, D. Bechev observation.

Maritsa River, Plovdiv City, 42.1548 N, 24.7605 E, 11.07.2012, 1 female, D. Bechev observation (Fig. 1).

The above presented data indicate a permanent presence of *P. ibericum* in Maritsa River in the city of Plovdiv.

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References

- BECHEV D. 2000. New localities of *Potamon fluviatilis* (Herbst, 1785) (Crustacea: Decapoda) in Bulgaria. *Travaux Scientifiques de l’Universite de Plovdiv, Biologie, Animalia*, 36(6): 95-96. (In Bulgarian, English summary).



Fig. 1. *Potamon ibericum* (female), Maritsa River, Plovdiv, D. Bechev observation.

BULGURKOV K. 1961. Systematik, Biologie und zoogeographische Verbreitung der Süßwasserkrebse der Familien Astacidae und Potamidae in Bulgarien. *Bulletin de l'Institut de Zoologie et Musée*, 10: 165-192. (In Bulgarian, German summary).

GEORGIEV D., S. STOYCHEVA. 2006. Freshwater crabs preyed on by the Eurasian otter *Lutra lutra* in a river habitat of Southern Bulgaria. *Hystrix, the Italian Journal of Mammalogy* (n.s.), 17(2): 129-135.

**Сладководният рак (*Potamon ibericum*)
(Crustacea: Decapoda: Potamidae) в река Марица,
град Пловдив
Димитър Бечев**

Резюме: Настоящото кратко съобщение представя литературни данни за наличието на *Potamon ibericum* в р. Марица в град Пловдив, както и някои нови данни.