

## **Faunistic diversity of Vrachanski Balkan Nature Park**

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**Abstract.** The whole faunistic data in this issue are summarized for more realistic assessment of the number of the recent animal taxa inhabiting the region. About 2216 recent species that belong to 1217 genera and 350 families are recorded to the fauna of the Vrachanska Planina Mts. and the Vrachanski Balkan Nature Park. More than 36 species are considered as local endemics for Vrachanska Planina Mts., 20 species – as Bulgarian endemics and 34 species – as endemics for the Balkan Peninsula.

**Key words:** fauna, NW Bulgaria.

### **Introduction**

The Vrachanska Planina Mts. is situated in North-Western Bulgaria, north of the main chain of Stara Planina Mts. The main part of the mountain is a protected area, the Vrachanski Balkan Nature Park, and also the Vrachanski Karst Reserve. More information about the geographic features is presented in Bechev & Georgiev (2016).

### **Methods**

The whole available information concerning the fauna of the region is summarized and compared from the Management plan of Nature Park “Vrachanski Balkan” (Plan) and from the publications in this issue (This issue). Based on the new data, more realistic assessment of the number of the recent animal taxa inhabiting the region was made. The exact number of the endemic species at this stage is difficult to calculate.

### **Results and Discussion**

The summarized information about known animal taxa in the research area is presented in Table 1. Based on the included new data in this issue, we can conclude that to the fauna of the Vrachanska Planina Mts. and the Nature Park Vrachanski Balkan about 2216 species that belong to 1217 genera and 350 families have been reported till now. More than 36 species are considered as local endemics for Vrachanska Planina Mts., 20 species – as Bulgarian endemics and 34 species – as endemics for the Balkan Peninsula. Most of the endemics are cave species (troglodytes).

The number of species referred to in Article 4 of Directive 2009/147/EC and listed in Annex II of Directive 92/43/EEC is: Invertebrates – 13, Amphibia – 3, Reptilia – 3, Aves – 61, Pisces – 4, Mammalia – 16 (summarized from: Natura 2000 - Standard Data Form).

**Table 1.** Number of the recorded recent animal taxa to the region.  
**Abbreviations:** VM = local endemics for Vrachanska Planina Mts., BG = Bulgarian endemics, BP = endemics for the Balkan Peninsula.

Taxa	Rang	Number according Plan		Number according This issue			Revised total number
		Total number	Number endemic species	Total number	New to region	Number endemic species	
Acanthocephala	families			2			2
	genera			2			2
	species			4			4
Gastropoda and Bivalvia - aquatic	families	7		7			7
	genera	13	2 BP	10		3 VM	10
	species	20		13			13
Gastropoda terrestrial	families	28	4 VM,	30		7 VM,	30
	genera	59	4 BG,	54		3 BG,	54
	species	90	9 BP	90	12	14 BP	90
Crustacea - groundwater	families			10			10
	genera			22		2 VM,	22
	species			31		1 BP	31
Scorpiiones	families	1		1			1
	genera	1		1		1 BP	1
	species	1		1			1
Pseudoscorpiones	families	4					4
	genera	6					6
	species	10					10
Araneae	families	19	4 VM,	22			22
	genera	72	3 BG,	77		3 BG,	77
	species	113	3 BP	110	32	4 BP	110
Myriapoda	families	12	2 VM,				12
	genera	20	3 BG,				20
	species	36	3 BP				36
Tardigrada	families			2			2
	genera			6			6
	species			6			6
Ephemeroptera	families			7			7
	genera			11			11
	species			18	12		18
Odonata	families			7			7
	genera			8			8
	species			8			8
Plecoptera	families			7			7
	genera			12		4 BP	12
	species			20	3		20

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Blattodea	families			1			1
	genera			1			1
	species			1			1
Mantodea	families			1			1
	genera			1			1
	species			1			1
Orthoptera	families	7	2 BG, BP	6	2	1 BG, 5 BP	6
	genera	32		55	16		55
	species	47		79	31		79
Trichoptera	families	1		7	7	1 BP	7
	genera	3		13	13		13
	species	6		21	21		21
Carabidae (Coleoptera)	families	1	11 VM, 3 BG, 0 BP				1
	genera	35					35
	species	96					96
Scarabaeoidea (Coleoptera)	families			4			4
	genera			29			29
	species			64	45		64
Chrisomelidae (Coleoptera)	families			1			1
	genera			46			46
	species			154	82		154
Lepidoptera	families	17	2 BP				17
	genera	159					159
	species	214					214
Crabronidae (Hymnroptera)	families	1					1
	genera	5					5
	species	6					6
Formicidae (Hymnroptera)	families			1			1
	genera			13			13
	species			29	10		29
Sciaroidea (Diptera)	families	6	3 VM, 2 BP	5		1 VM, 1 BP	5
	genera	57		50			50
	species	162		165	3		165
Tabanidae (Diptera)	families	1		1			1
	genera	6		4			4
	species	13		13	3		13
Diptera	families	41	3 VM				40
	genera	248					238
	species	504					507
Terrestrial cave invertebrates	families		18 VM, 12 BG, 28 BP	83		23 VM, 13 BG, 3 BP	83
	genera	154		165			165
	species	217		218			218
Pisces	families			2			2
	genera	10		3			3
	species	11		8			8
Amphibia	families			5			5
	genera	6		9			9
	species	11		11	3		11

Reptilia	families			7			7
	genera	12		12			12
	species	15		16	5		16
Aves	families	40		43			43
	genera	100		112			112
	species	181		208	23		208
Mammalia	families	13		12			13
	genera	38		33			38
	species	58		43			58
Tatal number	families	199	45 VM,	274	9	36 VM,	350
	genera	1036	27 BG,	749	29	20 BG,	1217
	species	1811	60 BP	1332	285	34 BP	2216

### References

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## Фаунистично разнообразие на Природен парк Врачански Балкан

ДИМИТЪР БЕЧЕВ, АНЕЛИЯ СТОЯНОВА, АНЕЛИЯ ПАВЛОВА, ИВАНКА ПОПОВА

### (Резюме)

Обобщени и сравнени са наличните данни за фауната на региона от План за управление на ПП "Врачански Балкан" и тези, включени в настоящото издание. На базата на новите данни е направен опит да се представи една по-реална оценка за броя на известните досега рецентни таксони животни.

За фауната Врачанска планина и Природен парк Врачански Балкан досега са съобщени около 2216 рецентни вида, принадлежащи към около 1217 рода и 350 семейства. Повече от 36 вида се приемат за локални ендемити за Врачанска планина, 20 – за български ендемити и 34 – за ендемити за Балканския полуостров. Точният брой ендемични видове на този етап е трудно да бъде изчислен. По-голямата част от ендемитите са пещерни видове.