

NOTES AND NEWS

A NEW RECORD OF *MUNIDA RUGOSA* (J. C. FABRICIUS, 1775) (DECAPODA, ANOMURA, GALATHEIDAE) FROM THE EASTERN AEGEAN SEA, TURKEY

BY

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The composition of decapod assemblages along the Turkish shores of the Aegean Sea is primarily known with respect to that of other shores in the Mediterranean Sea, the Black Sea, and the Sea of Marmara. Recently, Kocataş & Katağan (2003) reported a total of 33 species of anomurans from the Aegean coasts of Turkey, and a comprehensive study on the diversity of the Anomura along the Turkish Aegean shores was carried out by Koçak et al. (2001), who recorded a total of 28 species.

The genus *Munida* (Anomura, Galatheidae) has a worldwide distribution, and is represented by at least five species in the northeastern Atlantic (Valerías & Fariña, 2002). *Munida rugosa* (J.C. Fabricius, 1775) is one of the six species of *Munida* in the Mediterranean Sea, and is widely distributed in the eastern Atlantic (southwestern Norwegian coasts, British Isles) and in the entire Mediterranean (Noël, 1992; Falciai & Minervini, 1996). It constitutes an Atlantic component of the Mediterranean decapod fauna, and is known to occur off the Iberian peninsula (Zariquiey Alvarez, 1968), the central Mediterranean (Pastore, 1972), the Adriatic Sea (Števcíć, 1976), and in the Greek waters of the Aegean (d'Udekem d'Acoz, 1995; Koukouras et al., 1998).

Abelló et al. (2002) reported three species [*Munida rutllanti* Zariquiey Alvarez, 1952; *M. intermedia* A. Milne-Edwards & Bouvier, 1899; and *M. tenuimana* G.O. Sars, 1872] of the genus from the continental slope off the Iberian Mediterranean coasts. Koukouras et al. (1998) mentioned five species [*M. curvimana* A. Milne-Edwards & Bouvier, 1894; *M. rutllanti*; *M. rugosa*; *M. tenuimana*; and

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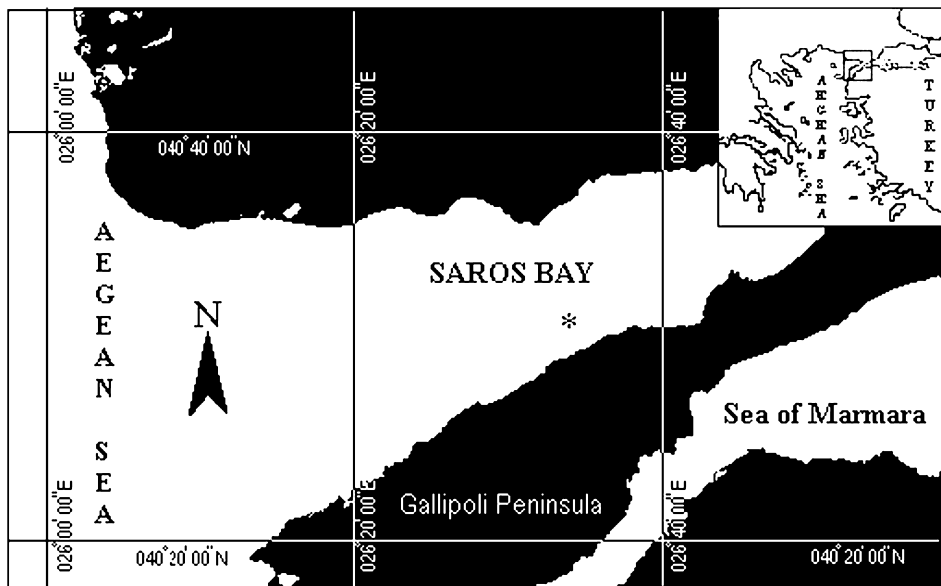


Fig. 1. Map of sampling area and the location (*) of the new record, of *Munida rugosa* (J. C. Fabricius, 1775).

M. intermedia] from the Greek Aegean. *Munida rugosa* lives on soft bottoms, such as sand and mud, at depths of 40-70 m, and shares this biotope with fossorial species like the Norway lobster, *Nephrops norvegicus* (Linnaeus, 1758) (cf. Noël, 1992).

We collected two females (total length 65 and 66 mm, respectively; weight 9.80 and 9.98 g) and one male (total length 87 mm; weight 19.30 g) of *Munida rugosa* on 27.vi.2005 at a depth of 296 m on a sandy bottom in Saros Bay (northeastern Aegean Sea, GPS coordinates: 40°30'60"N 26°33'32"E). The individuals were taken during an experimental demersal fisheries study by bottom trawl, with a cod end mesh size of 22 mm (fig. 1). The present specimens here reported are in accordance with the earlier descriptions by Zariquiey Alvarez (1968), Noël (1992), and Falciai & Minervini (1996), so no further description is required.

Katağan et al. (1988), recorded two species of *Munida* in the bathyal zone of the Turkish Aegean Sea: *M. intermedia* at a depth of 520 m, and *M. rutllanti* at 290 m. Ateş (2003) only reported *M. rutllanti* at 109 m depth from the Aegean coasts of Turkey. Kocataş & Katağan (2003), reported four *Munida* species (*M. intermedia*; *M. rutllanti*; *M. rugosa*; *M. tenuimana*). Until then, *M. rugosa* was reported from the Sea of Marmara only (Kocataş & Katağan, 2003).

In conclusion, *Munida rugosa* as here reported presents the second record of this species for the Turkish part of the eastern Aegean Sea.

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