

FIRST RECORD OF THE PLANORBID SNAIL *GYRAULUS ROSSMAESSLERI* (AUERSWALD, 1852) IN THE LITTLE CARPATHIAN MTS., WEST SLOVAKIA

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Abstract. A numerous population of the nationally scarce freshwater snail *Gyraulus rossmaessleri* (Auerswald, 1852) (Gastropoda, Planorbidae) was found in the submontane alder carr in the NW part of the Little Carpathian Mts. It is a first record from the area.

Key words: *Gyraulus rossmaessleri*, conservation, alder alluvial forest, Little Carpathian Mts.

Locality and material examined: SW Slovakia, 1.2 km SE from village of Sološnica ($48^{\circ}26'56''N$, $17^{\circ}14'60''E$), temporary pool in an alluvial alder carr (Sološnický Potok brook), pool bottom covered with mud and thick layer of alder and ash leaves (Fig. 1), 285 m a.s.l., 23 April, 2009, J. Čačaný & T. Čejka leg., a numerous population found, 6 specimens of living adults collected, the material was dissected and identified by L. Beran, J. Čačaný et T. Čejka coll. (Fig. 2).

Distribution: *Gyraulus rossmaessleri* is a European species with very restricted central European range. Its more or less continuous occurrence is known from S, W, central and eastern Europe: Germany (Meier-Brook 1983; Glöer 2002), Austria (Falkner 1995), Czech Republic (Juřičková et al. 2001), Slovakia (Lučivjanská & Šteffek 1991), Switzerland (Turner et al. 1998), Poland (Piechocki 1979), Hungary (Richnovszky & Pintér 1979); according to Schlesch (1942) in Lithuania as well. Lisický (1991) did not mention the species in the monograph of Slovak molluscs; few records were discovered by Lučivjanská & Šteffek (1991) in collection of T. Weisz from 1960s (the latest record came from 1963, village of Senné, East Slovakia). Čejka (2000) found 3 fresh empty shells in the flood debris of the Danube River in the Bratislava City, and one living individual. J. Halgoš and E. Bulánková (Čejka et al. 2005) found in October 2001 one living individual and two fresh shells in the lower Morava River alluvial plain in SW Slovakia.

Note: The second author forgot five individuals of *G. rossmaessleri* together with some other living individuals of land molluscs in the 15 ml tube only filled by water. Within four days, all land molluscs died and then started decaying, water was highly stank. Surprisingly, all five individuals of *G. rossmaessleri* survived. This unmeant "experiment" confirms high tolerance of this snail to low oxygen saturation and decaying processes in aquatic environment.

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Fig. 1 Habitat of the snail *Gyraulus rossmaessleri* by village of Sološnica, West Slovakia (photo J. Čačaný).



Fig. 2 Original shell of the snail *Gyraulus rossmaessleri* from the alder carr by village of Sološnica, Slovakia (photo J. Čačaný).