

Rediscovery of *Sesteria gallandi* Bourguignat, 1884 (Mollusca, Pulmonata, Buliminoidea, Enidae)

Hartwig SCHÜTT

Haydnstrasse 50, D-40593 Düsseldorf-Benrath.

Rıdvan ŞEŞEN

Biology Department, Science and Art Faculty, Dicle University, TR-21280 Diyarbakır - TURKEY

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Abstract: Rediscovery of the land-snail *Sesteria gallandi* Bourguignat, 1884 is reported. The original description was based on only one empty shell, which later was lost and never found again, and the exact type locality in Turkey was unknown. Now we found this species in Mardin Province near the village of Sarıköy on the Cizre - İdil - Midyat road 20 km after İdil in the forest, in May 2000.

Key Words: Mollusca, Pulmonata, Buliminoidea, Mardin, Taxonomical study

Sesteria gallandi Bourguignat, 1884 (Mollusca, Pulmonata, Buliminoidea, Enidae)'ün Yeniden Saptanması

Özet: Kara salyangozu *Sesteria gallandi* Bourguignat, 1884 yeniden saptanmıştır. Bu türün tanımı bir tek boş kavki üzerinde yapılmış, daha sonra kaybolan bu kavki tekrar bulunamamıştır. İlk tanımın verildiği çalışmada lokalite tam olarak belirtilmemiştir. Bu tür, Mayıs 2000 de, Mardin ili Cizre - İdil - Midyat yolu üzerinde Sarıköy köyü civarındaki ormanlık alanda yeniden saptanmıştır.

Anahtar Sözcükler: Mollusca, Pulmonata, Buliminoidea, Mardin, Taksonomik çalışma

Introduction

The Turkish land-snail *Sesteria gallandi* was described by Bourguignat in 1884 and he created the monotypic genus *Sesteria* "Je ne connais, de ce nouveau genre, qu'une espèce recueillie morte au pied des arbustes, sur la rive droite du Tigre, entre Mardin et Djezireh, le long de la route de Diarbekir à Mossoul". That means he had only one empty shell of this new genus and species, which was found at the bottom of bushes above the right bank along the Dicle Nehri (Tigris) between Mardin and Cizre, along the old road from Diyarbakir to Mosul in Iraq (1).

As Bourguignat wrote, the road construction engineer J. Galland found only one empty shell and he gave no more detailed information about the type locality than that mentioned. For 116 years after the description, this unique species never was found again because its exact locality was unknown and this single shell, in the collection of Bourguignat in Museum Genève, Switzerland, was lost (2).

Complete bibliography of *Sesteria*

The bibliography of the genus *Sesteria* has been summarized chronologically as follows (3-12):

1884 *Sesteria gallandi* Bourguignat, Bull. Soc. Malac. France, 1: 135-138, T.3 F.1-5.

1887 *Sesteria gallandi*,-- Westerlund, Fauna, 3: 76.

1897 *Sesteria gallandi*,-- Westerlund, Synopsis, 1: 3.

1898 *Sesteria gallandi*,-- Kobelt, Zoogeographie, 2: 76.

1901 *Sesteria gallandi*,-- Kobelt, Martini-Chernitz, 1. 13 (2): 707, T.105, F.14-16.

1901 *Sesteria gallandi*,-- Kobelt, Iconographie, (2) 9 (3/4): 36, T.254 F.1637.

1903 *Sesteria gallandi*,-- Kobelt, Nachr.BI. dtsch. malakozool. Ges., 35(7/8): 118.

1931 *Sesteria gallandi*,-- Thiele, Handbuch, 1: 522.

1940 *Sesteria gallandi*,-- Forcart, Verh. Naturf. Ges. Basel, 51 (1): 133.

1959 *Sesteria gallandi*,-- Zilch in Wenz, Handb. Paläont., 6 (2, 1): 184, Abb. 636.

1996 *Sesteria gallandi*,-- Schütt, Landschnecken der Türkei: 129, Textfig.

1998 *Sesteria gallandi*,-- Schileyko, Treatise, 2: 209, Fig. 258.

Material

After long endeavours in May 2000 we found shells of *Sesteria gallandi*, which enable us to specify the type locality. The Turkish province of Mardin on the Cizre - İdil - Midyat road 20 km after İdil in the village Sariköy, near the old road from Mardin to Mosul, in a forest with great-leafy oaks (37°17'N 41°37'E). We also found it at a second location about 23 km west of Cizre on the way to İdil. In the spaces around these places must have been the locality where Galland found his typical shell.

Discussion and Results

The decisive diagnostic mark of the genus *Sesteria* Bourguignat, 1884 is the hollow and corkscrew-like undulated axis of the columella: "l'axe columellaire, tubulaire dans toute sa longueur, prend, à partir de l'avant-dernier tour (pl. III, f. 5) une torsion si forte et si accentuée, qu'il ressemble à un tire-bouchon à circonvolutions très excentriques". Nearly nothing needs to be added to the original description by Bourguignat, apart from the fact that in our shells the lowermost part of the columella does not overlap the aperture to the extent depicted in his figure (Figure 1). Also, our shells are somewhat shorter than his. The highest shell of ours is 21 mm, while his single shell was "alt. 25 millim." It is worth mentioning that the border of the aperture at the area of the angular lump is especially thickened, and this and the upper insertion of the peristome form a small canal.

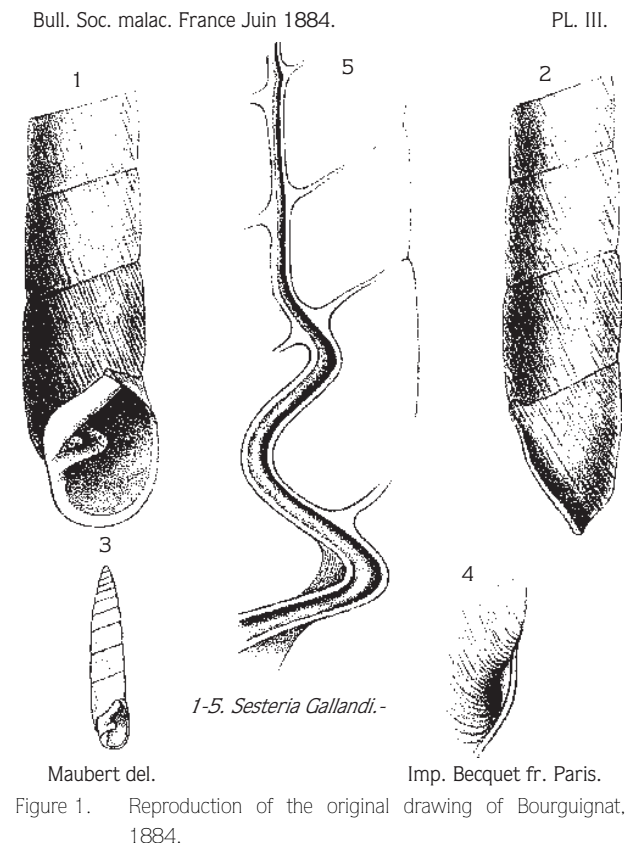
We checked the hollow and corkscrew-like undulated axis of the columella "l'axe columellaire, tubulaire dans toute sa longueur", and compared this decisive diagnostic mark of the genus with other Turkish species of *Buliminus*, and determined that all species have a hollow axis as long as the total shell: *B. akkumensis* Gittenberger & Menkhorst, 1991, *B. alepensis* (L. Pfeiffer, 1841), *B. carneus* (L. Pfeiffer, 1846), *B. labrosus* (Olivier, 1804). Therefore, this cannot be used as a real diagnostic

character for the genus *Sesteria*. The other character mentioned by Bourguignat also cannot be accepted, since we know the species *Buliminus (Pene) brunneus* (P. Hesse, 1914) [synonym *Buliminus (Pene) coluplicatus* Gittenberger & Menkhorst, 1991], which shows an equally pronounced end of the columella in its aperture, but has a bulgier shell.

Therefore, we recommend the cancellation of the taxon *Sesteria* and the designation of this southeast Anatolian species as *Buliminus gallandi* (Bourguignat, 1884).

Thus far, circumstances have not allowed us to find living animals for anatomical dissection, but this will be done in the future. At Sariköy we found seven shells, which are deposited in Senckenberg Museum Frankfurt, Germany, and in Naturhistorisches Museum Wien, Vienna, Austria, as well as in the collections of both authors.

Associated malacological fauna at both places follows: *Orculella palatalis* (Pilsbry, 1922), *Orculella sirianocoriensis libanotica* (Tristram, 1865), *Buliminus*



alepensis (L. Pfeiffer, 1841), *Buliminus gallandi* (Bourguignat, 1884), *Eopolita derbentina* (O. Boettger, 1886), *Assyriella escheriana* (Bourguignat 1864), *Assyriella mardinensis* (Kobelt, 1900), *Helix cheikliensis* Zilch, 1952.

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Figure 2. *Buliminus gallandi*, specimen from Sariköy köyü, Mardin-Turkey. Scale bar= 5 mm, photo: B. Graack.

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