A NEW FRESHWATER GASTROPOD SPECIES
OF THE GENUS PSEUDAMNICOLA PAULUCCI, 1878
FROM ALGERIA (GASTROPODA: HYDROBIIDAE)

Ghania Sadouk¹, Houria Bouaziz-Yahiatene¹, Ramdane Ramdini¹
Ferroudja Medjdoub-Bensaad¹ and Peter Glöer²

¹Laboratoire de production, sauvegarde des espèces menacées et des récoltes
Influence des variations climatiques. Département de Biologie. Faculté des Sciences Biologiques et
des Sciences Agronomiques. Université Mouloud Mammeri de Tizi-Ouzou, 15000, Algeria
E-mails: ghania.sadouk@ummto.dz, https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7017-7264
houria.bouaziz@gmail.com, https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3316-5234
ramdiniramdane@hotmail.com. https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1206-8681
medjdoubferroudja@yahoo.fr. https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9396-3775

²Biodiversity Research Lab, Schulstr. 3, D-25491 Hettlingen, Germany
E-mail: gloer@malaco.de. https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6995-3641

Pseudamnicola thawintae sp. n. (Gastropoda, Hydrobiidae) is described from Ait-Bouaddou,
Tizi-Ouzou (Algeria) by the shells and the anatomy. In addition, photos of the shell and the
penis morphology are given and photos of the type locality.

Key words: Algeria, Hydrobiidae, Kabylie, new species, Pseudamnicola.

INTRODUCTION

The freshwater gastropods of Algeria have been studied first particu-
larly by Letourneux (1870) and Bourguignat (1877). After the works of van
Damme (1984), Kristensen (1985), and Brown (1994), very few studies have
been carried out on the malacological fauna of freshwaters in Algeria, e.g.
Ramdini et al. 2020 who have rediscovered Armiger cristata (Linnaeus, 1758)
(Gastropoda, Planorbidae); the work of Glöer and Ramdini (2019) where they
rediscovered a population of Hippeutis complanatus (Linnaeus, 1758) in the Ti-
zi-Ouzou region; and the investigation of Glöer et al. 2010 who revised the
genera Pseudamnicola Paullucci, 1878 and Mercuria Boeters, 1971 from Algeria.

Pseudamnicola is a genus of continental freshwater gastropods that have a
circum-mediterranean distribution (Glöer et al. 2015), and it is considered as
a group that include many species. Algeria has in total 14 species known; nine
of them have been described recently. (Glöer et al. 2010).

This paper is intended to describe a new Pseudamnicola sp. collected in
the Kabylie region (Tizi-Ouzou, Algeria).
MATERIAL AND METHODS

The senior author has recently collected the specimens of *Pseudamnicola thawintae* sp. n. They were collected by eye-sight in Ait-Bouaddou region of Kabylie (Tizi-Ouzou, Algeria). The type locality is a small marsh, rich in vegetation, with an altitude of 720 m and coordinates 36°30’21”N 4°02’28”E. The materials have been fixed in 80% ethanol. The dissections and measurements of the genital organs and the shells were carried out using a stereomicroscope (Leica M205C) with a digital camera (Leica DMC500).

The type materials are stored in the Zoological Museum of Hamburg (ZMH) and the private collections of the authors.

SYSTEMATIC PART

Family: Hydrobiidae Troschel, 1857
Genus: *Pseudamnicola* Paulucci, 1878
Type species: *Bythinia lucensis* Issel 1866

**Pseudamnicola thawintae** sp. n.
(Figs 2–8)

Type material: holotype: 2.75 mm high and 1.8 mm broad, ZMH 140882. Paratypes: 30 specimens from type locality: 3 sp. ZMH 140883, 14 in coll. Glöer, 13 in coll. Sadouk. Type locality: Tizi-Ouzou region (North-central part of Algeria), 36°30’21” N 4°02’28”E, at an altitude of 720 m.

---

**Fig. 1.** Sampling habitat of *Pseudamnicola thawintae* sp. n.
NEW PSEUDAMNICOLA SPECIES FROM ALGERIA (GASTROPODA: HYDROBIIDAE) 181

Habitat: a marshy environment, rich in vegetation and shady (Fig. 1).

Etymology: Named after the locality where the species lives.

Description: The ovate shell has 3.5–4.0 slightly convex whorls separated by a deep suture. The aperture is ovate with a sharp peristome. The umbilicus is closed. The outer lip is straight from lateral view. The juveniles are more globular than the adults. The shell is 2.4–2.8 mm high and 1.7–1.8 mm broad.

The mantle is black pigmented. The penis is triangular with a broad blunt penis tip. The females have not been investigated.

Differentiating features: The shells of *Pseudamnicola* spp. from Algeria which are of similar size as *P. thawintae* sp. n. are more globular than *P. dupotetiana* (Forbes, 1838) or their apertures are triangular like *P. meluzzi* (Boeters, 1976) and *P. chabii* (Glöer, Bouzid et Boeters 2010). Other species have stepped whorls like *P. gerhardfalkneri* (Glöer, Bouzid et Boeters 2010) or *P. calamensis* (Glöer, Bouzid et Boeters 2010), or *P. linae* (Glöer, Bouzid et Boeters 2010), or

Figs 2–8. *Pseudamnicola thawintae* sp. n.: 2 = holotype, shell; 3–4 = penis in situ; 5–8 = para-types, shells
P. letourneuxiana (Bourguignat, 1862) (see fig. 30 in Glöer et al. 2010), as well the other species are markedly larger, P. luteola (Küster, 1852) 4.5–5 mm, P. constantinae (Letourneux, 1870) up to 4.1 mm, P. fineti Glöer, Bouzid et Boeters 2010 between 3.5 and 3.9 mm.

Ecology: The marsh is located in a scrubland of the Ait Bouadou region (Kabylia, Algeria). The marsh is narrow, approximately 1–1.5 meters deep and 2 meters wide. The sample site is near a stream characterized by a very dense herbaceous and shrub layer and very wet soil. The species is found on the edges of this marsh.

Distribution: Only known from the type locality.

REFERENCES

Bourguignat, J. R. (1887): Description de deux nouveaux genres Algériens, suivis d’une classification des familles et des genres mollusques terrestre et fluviales du système européen. – Louis et Jean-Matthieu Douladouile, Toulouse, 39, P58.

Brown, D. S. (1994): Freshwater snails of Africa and their medical importance. 2nd ed. – Taylor & Francis, London, 609 pp.

Glöer, P., Bouzid, S. & Boeters, H. D. (2010): Revision of the genera Pseudamnicola Paulucci 1878 and Mercuria Boeters 1971 from Algeria with particular emphasis on museum collections (Gastropoda: Prosobranchia: Hydrobiidae). – Archiv für Molluskenkunde 129(1): 1–22. https://doi.org/10.1127/arch.moll/1869-0963/139/001-022

Glöer, P., Yildirim, M. Z. & Kebapci, Ü. (2015): Description of two new species of Pseudamnicola from southern Turkey (Mollusca: Gastropoda: Hydrobiidae). – Zoology in the Middle East 23(4): 279–291. https://doi.org/10.1080/09397140.2015.1008189

Glöer, P. & Ramdini, R. (2019): Hippeutis complanatus Linnaeus, 1758 in Algeria, re-found after more than 150 years. – Ecologica Montenegrina 22: 226–227. https://doi.org/10.37828/em.2019.22.18.

Kristensen, Th. K. (1985): Guide pratique des gastéropodes d’eau douces Africains. 7. Espèces présentes en Afrique du nord-ouest. – Danish Bilharziasis Laboratory, 30 pp.

Letourneux, A. (1870): Excursions malacologiques en Kabylie et dans le Tell Oriental. – Annales de Malacologie 1: 258–322.

Ramdini, R., van Damme, D., Sadouk, G. & Medjoub-Bensaad, F. (2020): Rediscovery of Armiger crista (Linnaeus, 1758) (Gastropoda, Planorbidae) in Algeria. – Biodiversity Journal 11(4): 821–824. https://doi.org/10.31396/Biodiv.Jour.2020.11.4.821.824

van Damme, D. (1984): The freshwater Mollusca of Northern Africa: distribution, biogeography and paleoecology. – H. J. Dumont, Boston, 164 pp.

Revised version received December 5, 2021, accepted December 28, 2022, published May 16, 2022.

Acta Zool. Acad. Sci. Hung. 68, 2022