

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

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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 particularly 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 crista* (Linnaeus, 1758) (Gastropoda, Planorbidae); the work of GLÖER and RAMDINI (2019) where they rediscovered a population of *Hippeutis complanatus* (Linnaeus, 1758) in the Tizi-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 DMC5400).

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.

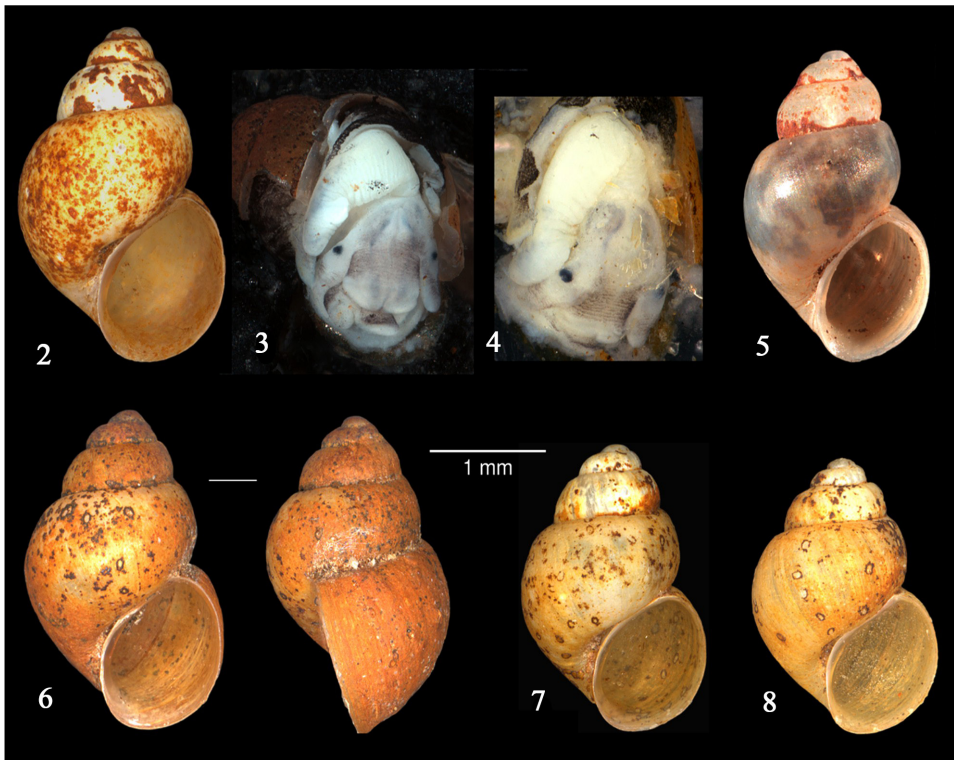
Habitat: a marshy environment, rich in vegetation and shady (Fig. 1).

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. dupo-tetiana* (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 = paratypes, 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.

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