



## FIRST RECORDS OF THE INTRODUCED SLUG *DEROCERAS PANORMITANUM* (LESSONA ET POLLONERA, 1882) FROM THE CZECH REPUBLIC (MOLLUSCA: GASTROPODA: AGRIOLIMACIDAE)

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ABSTRACT: First findings of the non-native slug *Deroceras panormitanum* from the Czech Republic are reported. First anatomically identified specimens were collected in a greenhouse in SW Bohemia. In N Moravia the species was however found in a natural habitat already in 1996.

KEY WORDS: Gastropoda, *Deroceras panormitanum*, Czech Republic, first records

### INTRODUCTION

*Deroceras (Deroceras) panormitanum* (Lessona et Pollonera, 1882) (Agriolimacidae) was reliably identified from the Czech Republic for the first time in 2000. This introduced slug was found in a greenhouse in the town of Sušice, SW Bohemia. Another recently identified single adult specimen was collected in a ruderal habitat in the town of Ostrava, district Svinov, N Moravia.

Juvenile specimens externally similar to *D. panormitanum* were found in several localities in the town of Plzeň, W Bohemia (JUŘIČKOVÁ 1998). As no adult specimens were found and the determination was not verified by anatomical characters, those data were not taken into account and the species was not included into the list of Czech molluscs (JUŘIČKOVÁ et al. 2001).

### DESCRIPTION AND ECOLOGY

*D. panormitanum* is a small slug (length up to 35 mm) of much variable coloration – from creamy-brown or brown to black, often with darker spots. The species cannot be mistaken for any other *Deroceras* species because of the distinct appearance of its penis: in

its posterior part, there are two appendices directed posteriorly. *D. panormitanum* inhabits open cultural landscape (fields, fallows, gardens and parks), ruderal environments and is often found in greenhouses (KERNEY et al. 1983, WIKTOR 2001).

### LOCALITIES

Czech Republic: N Moravia, (49°49'06.56", 18°12'21.69"), 6175, 215 m a.s.l., town of Ostrava,

district Svinov, ruderal habitats W of the railway station, 11 October 1996, 1 ex., M. Horsák lgt., det. anatom. et



coll. 2003; SW Bohemia, (49°13'36.47", 13°31'26.01"), 6747, 495 m a.s.l., town of Sušice, greenhouses of the gardening "Studio Garden", 10 July 2002, 11 ex., L. Dvořák lgt, det. anatom. et coll. M. Horsák rev. anatom. et coll.

Geographical co-ordinates (N, E) (Geobáze digital map of the Czech Republic 1:100,000), code of the central European mapping grid according to PRUNER & MÍKA (1996).

## DISTRIBUTION

*D. panormitanum* has a European distribution. Originally, this species occurs probably in the Mediterranean (WIKTOR 2001). Nowadays it is also known from central and northern Europe (KERNEY et al. 1983, WIKTOR 2001). The newest records from central Europe are those from northern and eastern parts of Germany (BÖSSNECK 1994, REISE, BACKELJAU 1994, 1999) and from Poland (WIKTOR 2001).

*D. panormitanum* is probably distributed in cultural landscape throughout the whole territory of the

Czech Republic. In our opinion, it has been overlooked because of its striking resemblance of *Deroceras sturanyi* (Simroth, 1894) or large and light specimens of *Deroceras laeve* (O. F. Müller, 1774).

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