

***Deroceras dewinteri* spec. nov. from the island of Crete, Greece
(Gastropoda, Pulmonata, Agriolimacidae)**

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Deroceras dewinteri spec. nov., known only from its type-locality, is described. The species is characterised by the absence of any glandular papillae on the penis.

Key words: Gastropoda, Pulmonata, Agriolimacidae, *Deroceras*, taxonomy, Greece, Crete.

Wiktor et al. (1994) described all *Deroceras* species known from Crete, which were dealt with again in a monograph on the Agriolimacidae by Wiktor (2000). Therefore, it was a surprise to discover a large population of an additional, apparently new species on the island during field work, January 1993.

***Deroceras dewinteri* spec. nov. (figs 1-3)**

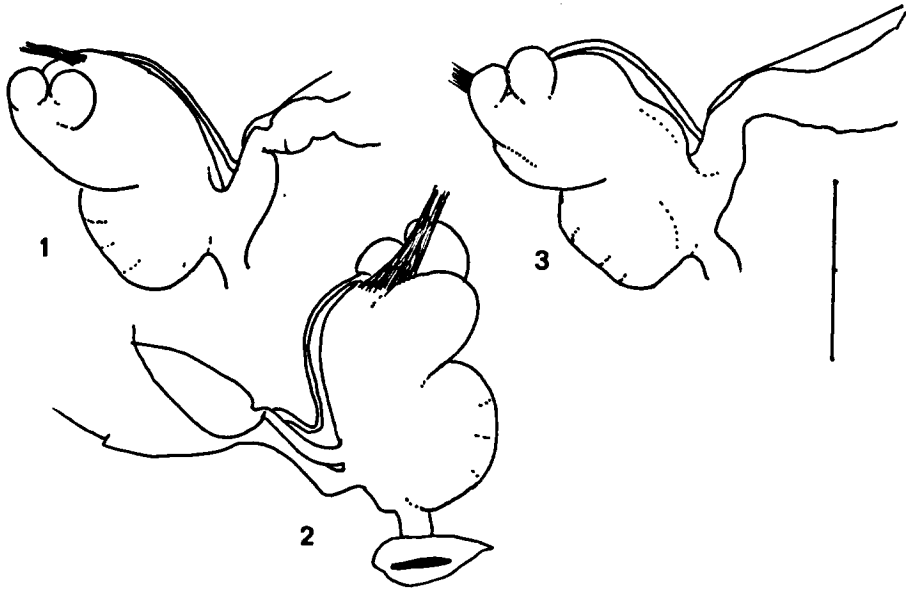
Material examined (holotype and paratypes). – Greece, Crete, nomos Lassithi, near the palm-beach of Vai; UTM MV30; under old wood and rubbish, i.1993 (RMNH alc. 9451/holotype, 9458/7); Colln Maassen/2; Zoologisch Museum Amsterdam/2; Museum of Natural History, Wroclaw/2; Colln Rähle/2).

Description. – Specimens preserved in alcohol measure up to 17 mm in length and 5 mm in width, with a mantle length up to 8 mm. The slim animal is graphite-blackish, without spots. In alcohol preserved specimens are somewhat paler at the sides. Skin very thin, limp, skin grooves hardly discernible. The slug cannot be distinguished from *Deroceras oertzeni* (Simroth, 1889) in colouration and external appearance.

Glandula hermaphroditica black, fairly big, well visible, not covered by the liver lobes and intestine. Penis somewhat blackish-pigmented, about oval, with a strong constriction in its mid-section. There is an indication of a penial gland with two more or less distinct lobe-shaped protuberances, without the characteristic glandular papillae which are normally connected to this organ in *Deroceras* species. Posterior section of the penis with a more or less lateral extension. Penial retractor muscle short, relatively broad and undivided, inserting more or less laterally at the penis, at some distance of the insertion of the vas deferens. Inside the penis there is a relatively small, conical stimulator with an acute tip. Due to inadequate preservation, the presence of a caecum on the rectum could not be investigated.

Ecology. – The specimens were observed in January under old wood near the palm-beach of Vai. They were reproductively active; quite a number were found copulating during the daytime.

Remarks. – Only a comparatively small number of specimens was collected because the slugs were not recognized as specifically distinct from *D. oertzeni* in the field. The latter species was found in several large populations near Aghios Nikolaos (UTM LU89)



Figs 1-3. *Deroceras dewinteri* spec. nov., paratype (RMNH 9452); penis viewed from different sides
Crete, nomos Lassithi, near the palm-beach of Vai. Scale 2 mm.

and Elounda (UTM LV80). It is characterized anatomically by the presence of a conspicuous penial gland with papillate ramifications and a penial retractor muscle with two branches, one of which inserting on the basal part of the penial gland (Wiktor et al., 1994: 27, fig. 59). *Deroceras minoicum* Wiktor et al., 1994, is similar to *D. dewinteri*, but in that species the animal has blackish spots. The former species can also be distinguished by a number of anatomical characters. Its penial retractor muscle is branched and covers the vas deferens, there is a distinct stalk with three lobes on the penis, and the glandula hermaphroditica is small.

Derivatio nominis. – The species is named after Dr. A.J. de Winter, malacological friend over many years.

REFERENCES

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