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**CONTRIBUTION TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF HYDRACARINA (WATER MITES) OF MONTENEGRO**  
***PRILOG POZNAVANJU HYDRACARINA***  
***(VODENIH KRPELJA) U CRNOJ GORI***

**Abstract**

In the paper there are reported 50 species and subspecies of water mites (Hydrachnellae and Limnohalacaridae) new for fauna of Montenegro, 45 of them registered for FR Yugoslavia for the first time. Mentioned species were mainly collected in Skadar Lakes drain basin (the Zeta and the Morača Rivers - Adriatic drainage basin), whereas a smaller number was collected in the Tara River drainage basin (Black Sea drainage basin).

**Key words:** Water mites, Hydracarina, taxonomy, Montenegro, Yugoslavia.

**Izvod**

U radu se navodi 50 vrsta i podvrsta vodenih krpelja (Hydrachnellae and Limnohalacaridae) novih za faunu Crne Gore, od čega su 45 vrste po prvi put registrovane za S.R. Jugoslaviju. Navedene vrste uglavnom su skupljene u slivu Skadarskog jezera (rijeke Zeta i Morača - Jadranski sliv), dok je manji broj skupljen u slivu rijeke Tare (Crnomorski sliv).

**Ključne riječi:** vodeni krpelji, Hydracarina, taksonomija, Crna Gora, Jugoslavija.

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## INTRODUCTION

Water mites fauna of Montenegro, as well as of Yugoslavia in general has been insufficiently studied (Đorđević, 1903 ; Viets, 1936, etc.). The first data on fauna of water mites (Hydracarina) in Montenegro date from the beginning of XX century. Czech zoologist, K. Thon(1903) is the first to give the list of 13 Hydracarina species for Skadar Lake basin, on basis of material collected by Czech investigator Dr. Mrazek. After him A. Musselius (1912) gives the list of 7 species of Hydracarina out of which 5 were new for Montenegro's fauna. K. Viets in several papers (1934, 1935, 1936) quotes 9 Hydracarina species new for fauna of Montenegro, on basis of material collected by S. Karaman on the territory of Montenegro, especially its northern part (the Lim River near Andrijevića, source in Berane), out of which 3 species were new for science (*Torrenticola tenuirostris*, *Acherontacarus fonticolus* and *Tartarothyas micrommata*).

On basis of our investigations of Hydracarina in Montenegro's waters we recorded 49 species new for fauna of Montenegro, and we present them in this paper.

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## RESULTS

### TAXONOMIC PART:

Fam. LIMNOCHARIDAE Grube, 1859

*Limnocharis aquatica* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Material examined: the Zeta River near village Kopito Petrovića, Danilovgrad, August 20,1998 - 1 female.

Geographical distribution: Europe, Asia (Siberia, Japan).

Ecology: Stagnant and slow flowing waters, eurithermic species.

Fam. PROTZIIDAE Koenike, 1909

*Protzia invalvaris* Piersig, 1898

Material examined: the Opanonica River near village Opanonica, August 24, 1998 - 3 exp.

Geographical distribution: Europe, Asia (Japan).

Ecology: Coldstenothermic species.

## Fam. HYDRODROMIDAE Viets, 1936

*Hydrodroma torrenticola* (Walter, 1908)

Material examined: the Zeta River near Spuž, Danilovgrad, hyporheic waters, August 1, 1999 - 1 female, 1 nymph.

Geographical distribution: Europe.

Ecology: Rheophilous species.

## Fam. TEUTONIIDAE Koenike, 1910

*Teutonia cometes* (Koch, 1837)

Material examined: spring by the Zeta River's bank near Danilovgrad, May 21, 1999 - 1 female.

Geographical distribution:

Ecology: stagnant and slow flowing waters, prefers colder waters.

## Fam. SPERCHONIDAE Thor, 1900

*Sperchon hibernicus* Halbert, 1944

Material examined: spring below the Mirkova Bara near Vidrovan, Nikšić, August 20, 1999 - 1 male.

Geographical distribution: Ireland, Spain, France, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Yugoslavia.

*Sperchon violaceus* Walter, 1947

Material examined: the Mrtvica River near village Mrtvo Duboko, 30 km north of Podgorica, July 11, 1999 - one male.

Geographical distribution: the Pyrenees, the Alps, Carpathians.

Ecology: typical high mountainous species which prefers colder waters.

*Sperchon denticulatus* Koenike, 1895

Material examined: the Jezerštica River, outflow of Biogradsko Lake, Bjelasica Mt., July 7, 1999 - 2 exp.

Geographical distribution: Europe, N. Africa (Algeria).

*Sperchon hispidus* Koenike, 1895

Material examined: the Morača River near Monastery Morača, 35 km north of Podgorica, June 12, 1999 - 4 exp.; the Mrtvica River near village Velje Duboko, September 5, 1999 - 3 exp.

Geographical distribution: Europe, Asia.

Ecology: Euritherm and rheophil.

*Sperchon brevirostris* (Koenike, 1895)

Material examined: the Jezerštica River, outflow of Biogradsko Lake, July 17, 1999 - one female.

Geographical distribution: Europe, Asia (Siberia, Japan).

Ecology: Stenotherm and reophil.

*Sperchon squamosus* Kramer, 1879.

Material examined: spring of the Biogradska rijeka, Bjelasica Mt., June 12, 1999 - 7 exp.

Geographical distribution: Europe.

*Sperchonopsis verrucosa* (Protz, 1896)

Material examined: the Mareza River, Podgorica, salmonid fish pond, September 15, 1999 - 1 female.

Geographical distribution: Europe.

Ecology: It lives under the stones thrust into mud.

## Fam. LEBERTIIDAE Thor, 1900

*Lebertia (Pseudolebertia) tuberosa* Thor, 1914

Material examined: spring of Biogradska rijeka, Bjelasica Mt., June 12, 1999 - 7 exp.

Geographical distribution: France, Switzerland, Italy, Austria, Germany, Russia, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia.

Ecology: Extremely coldstenothermic species.

*Lebertia (Pseudolebertia) zschokkei* (Koenike, 1902)

Material examined: spring under Mirkova Bara near Vidrovan, Nikšić, August 20, 1999 - 1 male.

Geographical distribution: Iberian Peninsula, Carpathian Mountains, Central Europe, Macedonia, Yugoslavia.

Ecology: Coldstenothermic species.

*Lebertia (Hexalebertia) stigmatifera* Thor, 1900

Material examined: spring Vukovo vrelo near Vidrovan, Nikšić, August 20, 1999 - 10 exp.

Geographical distribution: Europe.

Ecology: Coldstenothermic species.

*Lebertia (Pilolebertia) insignis saxonica* (Thor, 1911)

Material examined: the Morača near Botun, Podgorica, August 20, 1990- 12 exp.

Geographical distribution: Europe except for Scandinavia.

Fam. TORRENTICOLIDAE Piersig, 1902

*Torrenticola brevisrostris* (Halbert, 1911)

Material examined: the Morača River near Duklja, Podgorica, July 10, 1999.- 2 exp.

Geographical distribution: Europe except for Scandinavia, Asia.

Ecology: Euritherm and rheobiont.

*Torrenticola lativalvata* Viets, 1952

Material examined: the Morača River near village Velje Duboko, 35 km north of Podgorica, September 5, 1999 - 1 male.

Geographical distribution: N. Africa, Italy, France, Carpathian Mountains, Yugoslavia.

Ecology: Rheobiont.

*Torrenticola barsica* (Szalay, 1933)

Material examined: the Mrtvica River near village Velje Duboko, September 5, 1999 - 2 exp.

Geographical distribution: SW and SE Europe.

Ecology: Euritherm.

*Torrenticola anomala* (Koch, 1837)

Material examined: the Zeta River near Spuž, October 31, 1999 - 8 exp.; the Zeta River near Tunjevo, Danilovgrad, September 10, 1999 - 3 exp.

Geographical distribution: Europe except for Scandinavia, Asia, N. Africa, N. America.

Ecology: Rheobiont.

*Torrenticola elliptica* (Maglio, 1909)

Material examined: spring under Mirkova bara near Vidrovan, Nikšić, August 20, 1999- 2 exp.; the River Mrtvica near village Velje Duboko, May 9, 1999 - one male.

Geographical distribution: Europe except for Scandinavia and NE Asia (Siberia, Japan).

Ecology: Stenotherm, rheobiont.

*Torrenticola similis* (Viets, 1939)

Material examined: the River Morača near Medurečje, August 30, 1999 - one male; the River Morača near Ljuta, July 20, 1999 - 1 female.

Geographical distribution: the Pyrenees, the Alps, Italy, Poland, Yugoslavia.

Ecology: Rheobiont.

*Torrenticola stadleri* (Walter, 1924)

Material examined: the River Mrtvica near village Mrtvo Duboko, July 11, 1999 - 2 males.

Geographical distribution: Central, W and S Europe.

Ecology: Euritherm and rheobiont.

*Torrenticola madritensis* (Viets, 1930)

Material examined: the River Opananica near village Opananica, August 12, 1999 - one male.

Geographical distribution: England, Spain, France, Switzerland, Austria, Macedonia, Yugoslavia.

Ecology: Euritherm, hyporheic waters.

*Torrenticola ungeri* (Szalay, 1927)

Material examined: the River Mrtvica near village Mrtvo Duboko, July 11, 1999 - 6 exp.

Geographical distribution: S Europe and South of Central Europe, Turkey.

Ecology: Euritherm, hyporheic waters.

*Torrenticola amplexa* (Koenike, 1908)

Material examined: the River Morača near Duklja, Podgorica, July 10, 1999 - 1 male; the River Zeta near Spuž, hyporheic waters, August 1, 1999 - 3 exp.; the River Opananica near village Opananica, August 12, 1999 - 7 exp.

Geographical distribution: Europe, Asia (Japan).

Ecology: Euritherm, rheobiont.

## Fam. LIMNESIIDAE Thor, 1900

*Limnesia koenikei* Piersig, 1894

Material examined: Šiško Lake, Bjelasica Mt., July 17, 1999 - 12 exp.

Geographical distribution: Europe, Asia, N. America (Canada).

Ecology: Stagnant waters, euritherm.

## Fam. HYGROBATIDAE Koch, 1842

*Atractides primitivus* (Walter, 1947)

Material examined: the Šupački Creek near village Opananica, hyporheic waters, August 12, 1999 - 1 female.

Geographical distribution: France, Romania, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia.

Ecology: Hyporheobiont.

*Atractides nodipalpis nodipalpis* (Thor, 1899)

Material examined: the River Moraca near Dajbabe, Podgorica, June 8, 1999 - 1 female; the River Opananica near village Opananica, August 12, 1999 - 6 exp.

Geographical distribution: Europe, Asia (Japan), N. Africa (Morocco).

Ecology: Rheophil.

*Atractides nodipalpis robustus* (Sokolow, 1940)

Material examined: the River Zeta near Spuž, June 16, 1999 - 7 exp.; the Crnojevića River near Virpazar, October 8, 1999 - 3 exp.; brook near village Mrtvo Duboko, 3 exp.

Geographical distribution: Spain, Germany, Austria, Czech Republic, Caucasus, Macedonia, Yugoslavia.

Ecology: Rheophil.

*Atractides nodipalpis pennatus* (Viets, 1920)

Material examined: spring Ribničko vrelo, Podgorica, February 27, 1999 - 1 female.

Geographical distribution: Spain, France, Holland, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy, Croatia, Yugoslavia.

Ecology: Crenobiont.

*Atractides fluviatilis* (Szalay, 1929)

Material examined: the River Mrtvica near Velje Duboko, September 5, 1999 - 2 exp.

Geographical distribution: Iberian Peninsula, Central Europe, Hungary, Carpathian Mountains, Croatia, Macedonia, Yugoslavia.

Ecology: Rheophil.

*Atractides giberipalpis* Piersig, 1898.

Material examined: the River Mrtvica near village Velje Duboko, September 5, 1999 - 5 exp.; river Mrtvica near village Mrtvo Duboko, July 11, 1999 - 4 exp.; spring under Mirkova Bara near Vidrovan, Nikšić, August 20, 1999 - 8 exp.; the River Opananica near village Opananica, August 12, 1999 - 3 exp.

Geographical distribution: Europe, Asia (Tazikistan).

Ecology: Rheophil, stenotherm.

## Fam. FELTRIIDAE Viets, 1926

*Feltria zschokkei* Koenike, 1896

Material examined: spring of Biogradska rijeka, Bjelasica Mt., July 18, 1999 - 1 male.

Geographical distribution: France, Belgium, Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia.

Ecology: Stenotherm.



*Felria cornuta paucipora* Szalay, 1946

Material examined: the River Zeta near Spuž, hyporheic waters, August 1, 1999 - 2 exp. and 16.08.1999-2exp.; the River Zeta near Vidrovan, hyporheic waters, 20.08.1999.- 3 exp.

Geographical distribution: Spain, Germany, Romania, Yugoslavia.  
Ecology: Hyporheobiont.

*Feltria (Feltriella) rubra* Piersig, 1898

Material examined: spring under Mirkova Bara near Vidrovan, Nikšić, 20.08.1999.- 3 exp.

Geographical distribution: Europe, Asia (Sahalin), N. America (Canada).

## Fam. ATURIDAE Thor, 1900

*Axonopsis (Hexaxonopsis) rotundifrons* Viets, 1922

Material examined: the River Morača near Duklja, Podgorica, July 10, 1999 - 2 exp.; the River Mrtvica near village Mrtvo Duboko, July 11, 1999 - 1 exp.; the River Opasanica near village Opasanica, August 12, 1999 - 1 exp.

Geographical distribution: France, Germany, Austria, Italy, Czech Republic, Romania, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia.

Ecology: Rheophil.

*Axonopsis (Hexaxonopsis) serrata* (Walter, 1928)

Material examined: Skadar Lake near Vranjina, April 6, 1999 - 1 male.

Geographical distribution: Tunisia, Algeria, Portugal, Germany, Czech Republic, Croatia, Yugoslavia.

*Frontipodopsis reticulatifrons* Szalay, 1945

Material examined: the River Zeta near Spuž, Danilovgrad reg., hyporheic waters, August 1, 1999 - 3 exp.

Geographical distribution: Europe.

Ecology: Hyporheobiont.

*Albaxona gracilis* Schwoerbel, 1962

Material examined: the River Zeta near Vidrovan, Nikšić reg., hyporheic waters, August 20, 1999 - 5 exp. and 2 nymphs.

Geographical distribution: Germany, Austria, Yugoslavia.

Ecology: Hyporheobiont.

*Ljania macilenta* Koenike, 1908

Material examined: the River Zeta near Spuž, hyporheic waters, October 10, 1999 - 1 nymph.

Geographical distribution: France, Germany, Austria, Romania, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia.

Ecology: underground waters, running ground waters.

*Aturus scaber* Kramer, 1875

Material examined: the River Zeta near Spuž, hyporheic waters, August 1, 1999 - 1 female.

Geographical distribution: Europe.

Ecology: Euritherm, reophil.

*Aturus crinitus* Thor, 1902

Material examined: the River Mrtvica near village Mrtvo Duboko, July 11, 1999 - 2 females.

Geographical distribution: Iberian Peninsula, Central Europe, the Alps, the Balkans.

Ecology: Rheophil, euritherm.

*Aturus serratus* Viets, 1922

Material examined: spring under Mirkova Bara near Vidrovan, August 20, 1999 - 2 male.

Geographical distribution: Iberian Peninsula, the Alps, Central Europe, the Balkans.

Ecology: Rheophil.

*Konsbergia clypeata* Szalay, 1945

Material examined: the River Zeta near Spuž, August 1, 1999 - 3 exp. and August 16, 1999 - 3 exp.; the River Zeta near Vidrovan, August 20, 1999 - 4 exp.

Geographical distribution: the Pyrenees, Carpathian MST, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia.

Ecology: Hyporheobiont.

Fam. MOMONIDAE Viets, 1926

*Stygomomonía latipes* Szalay, 1943

Material examined: the River Zeta near Spuž, hyporheic waters, August 1, 1999 - 3 exp. and August 16, 1999 - 3 exp.; the River Zeta near Vidrovan, hyporheic waters, August 20, 1999 - 4 exp.

Geographical distribution: France, Germany, Switzerland, Romania, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Yugoslavia.

Ecology: Hyporheobiont.

Fam. MIDEOPSIDAE Koenike, 1910

*Mideopsis orbicularis* (Müller, 1776)

Material examined: the River Morača near Duklja in Podgorica, July 10, 1999 - 9 exp.

Geographical distribution: Europe, Asia (Siberia), N. America.

Ecology: stagnant and slow running waters, euritherm.

Fam. NEOACARIDAE Motas and Tanasachi, 1947

*Neoacarus hibernicus* Halbert, 1944

Material examined: the River Zeta near Vidrovan, Nikšić, hyporheic waters, August 20, 1999 - 1 male.

Geographical distribution: Ireland, Spain, France, Germany, Switzerland, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia.

Ecology: Hyporheobiont.

Fam. ATHINEMANIDAE Viets, 1922

*Stygohydracarus troglobius* Viets, 1932

Material examined: Martinići, Danilovgrad, well, August 7, 1999 - 1 nymph.

Geographical distribution: Romania, Macedonia, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia.

Ecology: Phreatobiont.

## Fam. LIMNOHALACARIDAE Viets, 1927

*Porolohmannella violacea* (Kramer, 1879)

Material examined: Šiško lake, Bjelasica Mt., July 17, 1999 - 1 female.

Geographical distribution: Europe.

Ecology: stagnant waters, hyporheic waters.

*Lobohalacarus weberi quadriporus* Walter, 1947

Material examined: the River Zeta near Spuž, August 1, 1999 - 9 exp., August 16, 1999 - 7 exp. and October 10, 1999 - 5 exp. ; the River Zeta near Vidrovan, August 20, 1999 - 5 exp.

Geographical distribution: France, Holland, Belgium, the Alps, Central Europe, the Carpathians, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia.

Ecology: hyporheobiont.

## CONCLUSIONS

On basis of data from the literature in Montenegro there were known so far 29 species of water mites (Hydracarina) from 16 genera, respectively 13 families.

During our investigations we have established 50 water mites species and subspecies (Hydrachnellae and Limnohalacaridae) new for the fauna of Montenegro which belong to the following families: Limnocharidae, Protziidae, Hydrodromidae, Teutoniidae, Limnesidae, Momonidae, Mideopsidae, Neocaridae and Athinemanidae - 1 species each, Sperchonidae - 7 species, Lebertiidae - 4 species, Torrenticolidae - 10 species, Hygrobatidae - 6 species and subspecies, Feltriidae - 3 species, Aturidae - 9 species, and Limnohalacaridae - 2 species.

Out of reported number 45 species and subspecies are new for fauna of FR Yugoslavia: *Protzia inavalvaris*, *Hydrodroma torrenticola*, *Teutonia cometes*, *Sperchon hibernicus*, *S. violaceus*, *S. denticulatus*, *S. hispidus*, *S. brevirostris*, *S. squamosus*, *Sperchonopsis verrucosa*, *Lebertia tuberosa*, *L. zschokkei*, *L. insignis saxonica*, *Torrenticola brevirostris*, *T. lativalvata*, *T. barsica*, *T. anomala*, *T. elliptica*, *T. similis*, *T. stadleri*, *T. madritensis*, *T. amplexa*, *Atractides primitivus*, *A. nodipalpis nodipalpis*, *A. nodipalpis robustus*, *A. nodipalpis pennatus*, *A. fluviatilis*, *A. giberipalpis*, *Feltria zschokkei*, *F. cornuta paucipora*, *F. rubra*, *Axonopsis rotundifrons*,

*A. serrata*, *Frontipodopsis reticulatifrons*, *Albaxona gracilis*, *Ljanía macilenta*, *Aturus scaber*, *A. crinitus*, *A. serratus*, *Konsbergia clypeata*, *Stygomomonía latipes*, *Neocarus hibernicus*, *Stygohydracarus troglobius*, *Porolohmannella violacea* and *Lobohalacarus weberi quadriporus*. Recorded species were mainly collected in the Skadar Lake drainage system (the Zeta and Morača Rivers - Adriatic drainage), whereas smaller number was collected in the Tara River drainage basin (the Jezerštica and Opanonica Rivers - Black Sea drainage basin). We expect that the continuation of our research will increase the number of known species on the territory of Montenegro.

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**PRILOG POZNAVANJU HYDRACARINA  
(VODENIH KRPELJA) U CRNOJ GORI.**

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**REZIME**

Na osnovu podataka iz literature u Crnoj Gori je do sada bilo poznato 29 vrsta vodenih krpelja (Hydracarina) iz 16 rodova, odnosno 13 familija.

Tokom naših istraživanja utvrdili smo 50 vrsta i podvrsta vodenih krpelja (Hydrachnellae and Limnohalacaridae) koje pripadaju sledećim familijama: Limnocharidae, Protziidae, Hydrodromidae, Teutoniidae, Limnesidae, Momonidae, Mideopsidae, Neoacaridae i Athinemanidae - po 1 vrsta, Sperchonidae - 7 vrsta, Lebertiidae - 4 vrste, Torrenticolidae - 10 vrsta, Hygrobatidae - 6 vrsta i podvrsta, Feltriidae - 3 vrste, Aturidae - 9 vrsta, i Limnohalacaridae - 2 vrste.

Od navedenih vrsta 45 vrste i podvrste su nove za faunu S.R. Jugoslavije: *Protzia invalvaris*, *Hydrodroma torrenticola*, *Teutonia cometes*, *Sperchon hibernicus*, *S. violaceus*, *S. denticulatus*, *S. hispidus*, *S. brevisrostris*, *S. squamosus*, *Sperchonopsis verrucosa*, *Lebertia tuberosa*, *L. zschokkei*, *L. insignis saxonica*, *Torrenticola brevisrostris*, *T. lativalvata*, *T. barsica*, *T. anomala*, *T. elliptica*, *T. similis*, *T. stadleri*, *T. madritensis*, *T. amplexa*, *Atractides primitivus*, *A. nodipalpis nodipalpis*, *A. nodipalpis robustus*, *A. nodipalpis pennatus*, *A. fluviatilis*, *A. giberipalpis*, *Feltria zschokkei*, *F. cornuta paucipora*, *F. rubra*, *Axonopsis rotundifrons*, *Axonopsis serrata*, *Frontipodopsis reticulatifrons*, *Albaxona gracilis*, *Ljania macilenta*, *Aturus scaber*, *A. crinitus*, *A. serratus*, *Konsbergia clypeata*, *Stygomomonía latipes*, *Neoacarus hibernicus*, *Stygohydracarus troglobius*, *Porolohmannella violacea* and *Lobohalacarus weberi quadriporus*.

Navedene vrste većinom su skupljene u slivu Skadarskog jezera (rijeke Zeta i Morača - sliv Jadranskog mora) dok je manji broj skupljen u slivu rijeke Tare (rijeke Jezerštica i Opasanica - Crnomorski sliv).

Očekujemo da će nastavak naših istraživanja povećati broj poznatih vrsta na teritoriji Crne Gore.