

A note on *Riccia canaliculata* (Ricciaceae, Hepaticopsida) in Turkey

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Abstract

In this study, *Riccia canaliculata* Hoffm. (Channelled Crystalwort) which was first given by Jovet-Ast from West Anatolia without locality details was collected for the second time. The species is described in detail and illustrated. The ecology and distribution of the species are reviewed.

Key words: Liverwort, *Riccia canaliculata*, Hepaticopsida, Turkey

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Türkiye'deki *Riccia canaliculata* (Ricciaceae, Hepaticopsida) üzerine bir not

Özet

Bu çalışmada, Jovet-Ast tarafından Batı Anadolu'dan lokalitesi belirtilmeksizin kaydı verilen *Riccia canaliculata* (Kanallı Kristalotu) türü ikinci kez toplanmıştır. Tür ayrıntılı olarak tanımlanmış, çizimi yapılmış, ekolojik ve dağılım özellikleri gözden geçirilmiştir.

Anahtar kelimeler: Ciğerotu, *Riccia canaliculata*, Hepaticopsida, Türkiye

1. Introduction

The *Riccia* genus comprises about 200 species, with a worldwide distribution up to the Arctic and Antarctic, but is more frequent in areas with Mediterranean-type climates (Jovet Ast, 1986). About 40 species are widely distributed in Europe and SW Asia (Heyn and Herrnstadt, 2004; Kürschner and Frey, 2011). The *Ricciaceae* is one of the richest families among the Turkish Liverworts. The genus *Riccia* L. accounts for the great majority of taxa, with 23 taxa reported up to now (Gökler and Öztürk, 1991; Kürschner and Erdağ, 2005; Ros *et al.*, 2007; Özenoğlu Kiremit and Keçeli, 2009; Özenoğlu Kiremit and Hugonnot, 2010; Özenoğlu Kiremit, 2011). This genus is recorded from Northwest, West and South Anatolia areas with Mediterranean-type climates (Walther, 1967, 1970; Crundwell and Nyholm, 1979; Gökler, 1992; Gökler and Aysel, 1998; Gökler *et al.*, 2000; Özenoğlu and Gökler, 2002; Özenoğlu Kiremit, 2007; Özenoğlu Kiremit *et al.*, 2007).

Riccia genus is divided into two subgenus: *Riccia* and *Ricciella*. Of the species recorded so far 14 belongs to the subgenus *Riccia*: *R. bicarinata*, *R. bifurca*, *R. ciliata*, *R. ciliifera*, *R. crozalsii*, *R. glauca*, *R. gougetiana*, *R. lamellosa*, *R. macrocarpa*, *R. michelii*, *R. nigrella*, *R. papillosa*, *R. sorocarpa* and *R. trabutiana*. The other five species belongs to the subgenus *Ricciella* (*Riccia canaliculata*, *R. crystallina*, *R. fluitans*, *R. frostii* and *R. rhenana*).

This paper contributes new record locality that intend to increase our knowledge on the distribution of *R. canaliculata* in Turkey (Figure 1).

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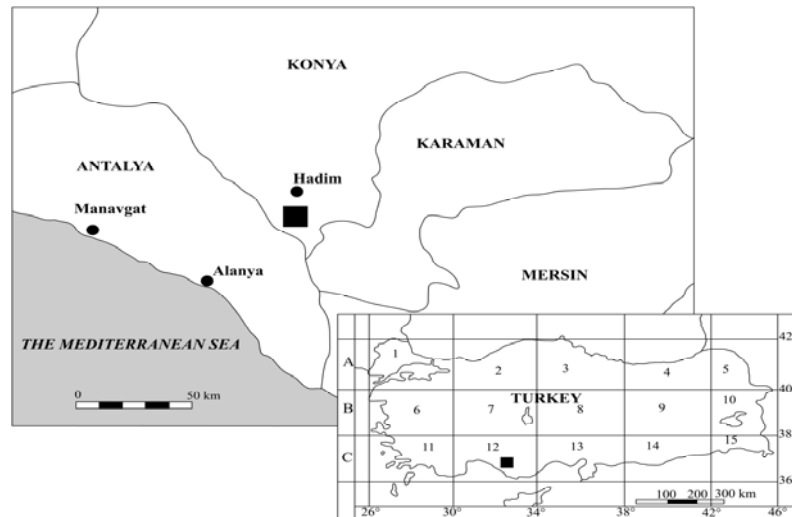


Figure 1. The Grid-Square System of Turkey Bryophyte Flora (Henderson, 1961) and distribution of *Riccia canaliculata* (■) in the Turkey.

3. Results

2.1 Description of *Riccia canaliculata* Hoffm. (Channelled Crystalwort)

Plants terrestrial, intricate mats, bright green and some of thalli margins violet; thalli thick, 2-4 furcate, branches 0.8-1 mm wide, ovate to linear, apex narrowly rounded; median groove narrow, at least older parts of thallus channelled, margins thick. Dorsal surface with pores but not appearing areolate areas. Ventral scales conspicuous, curved up and over apex and on to dorsal surface, cells (17) 21 x 70 (80) μm (Fig. 2). Thallus sections 240 - 360 μm high and 2-2.5 (3) times as wide, two or three layers of air-chambers layer; parenchyma poorly differentiated (Fig. 3). The material collected in Turkey was notably devoid of spores.

R. canaliculata can be easily recognized by the narrow chambered thalli with the apex of the branches distinctly narrowed and covered by the apical ventral scale and by the shape of the half-scales.



Figure 2. General view of *R. canaliculata*. Photographs by G. Uyar.

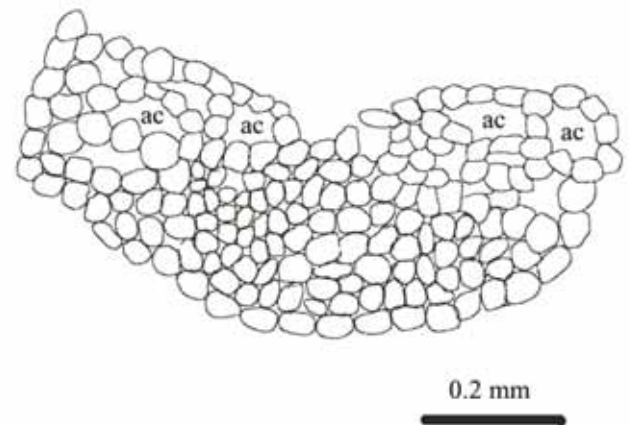


Figure 3. Transverse section of plants; ac: air chamber. Drawn by Hatice Özenoğlu Kiremit.

Specimen examined: Turkey, Konya, Hadim, Beyreli Plateau way, 1956 m altitude; 36°52'06.1"N, 032°25'29.1"E, 21.04.2013; ADÖ 118. The locality belongs to the grid square C 12 according to the system adopted by Henderson (1961).

2.2. Distribution

R. canaliculata is recorded from Corsica, Crete, Algeria, Spain, France, Greece, Italy, Israel, Morocco, Portugal, Sardinia and Tunisia in the Mediterranean Region (Ros *et al.*, 2007).

2.3. Ecology

R. canaliculata has been found in sub-alpine vegetation. It was growing on wet soil near ponds, in muddy grassland. This specimen was associated with *Aneura pinguis* (L.) Dumort., *Palustriella falcata* (Brid.) Hedenäs, *Bryum pseudotriquetrum* (Hedw.) J.R.Spence & H.P.Ramsay, *Calliergonella cuspidata* (Hedw.) Loeske and *Ceratodon purpureus* (Hedw.) Brid.

4. Conclusions

In Turkey, 4 of the 23 *Riccia* taxa have been given by Jovet-Ast (1986) from West Anatolia without locality details. These are *R. canaliculata*, *R. gougetiana* var. *armatissima*, *R. lamellosa* and *R. papillosa*. Among them, *R. lamellosa* is recorded for the second time from Turkey (Özenoğlu Kiremit and Kırmacı, 2012). In this study, *R. canaliculata* from these species was collected for the second time and expanded to its distribution area where restricted from Western Anatolia to South Anatolia. It is a very common species in Mediterranean Region, Europe and Southwest Asia (Jovet-Ast, 1986; Ros *et al.*, 2007; Özenoğlu Kiremit and Keçeli, 2009; Kürschner and Frey, 2011). It can be easily recognized by the narrow chambered thalli with the apex of the branches distinctly narrowed and covered by the apical ventral scale and by the shape of the half-scales.

The genus is in urgent need of a modern revision that would take benefit from molecular methods. A great number of taxa are, in spite of the numerous works of Jovet-Ast, still poorly known both from the taxonomic and distributional points of view.

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