

Dreissena bugensis (Mollusca: Bivalvia: Dreissenidae) – New Invasive Species to the Bulgarian Malacofauna

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Abstract: The first finding of the invasive bivalve mollusc *Dreissena bugensis* in Bulgaria is reported. The species was recorded in the Danube River section between the villages Koshava (km 811) and Sandrovo (km 477). It was identified by the morphology of its shell. A comparison with *Dreissena polymorpha* was made based on shell morphology. The mean shell lengths, which ranged between 18.27 and 27.99 mm at different sites, suggested an age of the specimens recorded around 2-4 years. **With the addition of this species, the number of Bulgarian fresh water molluscs becomes 98 species.**

Key words: Mollusca, *Dreissena bugensis*, Bulgaria, first record, shell morphology