Checklist of Bryozoa on the coasts of Turkey

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Abstract: The phylum Bryozoa includes a total of 185 species reported from the Turkish coasts of the Levantine Sea, the Aegean Sea, the Sea of Marmara, and the Black Sea. The class Gymnolaemata is represented by 159 species, followed by the class Stenolaemata (26 species). While the Aegean Sea had the highest species richness (139 species), the lowest bryozoan diversity (8 species) was reported from the Black Sea coast of Turkey. Only 2 alien species, Celleporaria brunnea and Rhynchozoon larreyi, were recorded from the Turkish coasts.

Key words: Bryozoa, checklist, Turkish coasts

1. Introduction
Bryozoans predominantly occur in marine habitats. They are sessile and colonial animals and cover an important part of the hard substrate in coastal environments. The phylum Bryozoa has 2 classes and 3 orders in the sea. The class Gymnolaemata is represented by 159 species, followed by the class Stenolaemata (26 species). While the Aegean Sea had the highest species richness (139 species), the lowest bryozoan diversity (8 species) was reported from the Black Sea coast of Turkey. Only 2 alien species, Celleporaria brunnea and Rhynchozoon larreyi, were recorded from the Turkish coasts.

The species richness of bryozoans in the Mediterranean Sea is closely related with environmental components of the studied localities. The lack of recruitment of propagules, homothermy at 13 °C, high salinity, and oligotrophy might be considered as limiting factors for deep-water bryozoan species richness noted below 200 m in the Mediterranean (Harmelin and d'Hondt, 1993). Bryozoan communities are mainly influenced by habitat and substratum types (Lombardi et al., 2008; Ben Ismail et al., 2012). Amini et al. (2004) found relationships between the bryozoan associations and water depth, water energy, sedimentation rate, and substratum type.

The marine biota of the Mediterranean is composed of species belonging to several biogeographic categories (Bianchi and Morri, 2000). Bryozoan fauna in the Mediterranean Sea possess different biogeographic distributions, expanding to the Pacific Ocean, Atlantic Ocean, Indian Ocean, and Red Sea, while some of them are endemic for the Mediterranean. Among surveyed biocoenosis, coralligenous habitats harbored the largest diversity of bryozoans, which is followed by semicave biocoenosis, seagrass meadows (particularly Posidonia oceanica), and photophilic algal biocoenosis (Novosel, 2005). In a Posidonia oceanica meadow, the scale of leaf variability showed significant variation for encrusting and erect bryozoans, while geographic area differences were found to be important for encrusting bryozoans (Pardi et al., 2006).

Bryozoan diversity in the Mediterranean comprises approximately 10% of 5000 extant bryozoan species recorded worldwide. In the Mediterranean Sea, Red Sea migrants were recorded in the Levantine Sea, while the Atlantic-originated species are found especially in the Alboran Sea (Harmelin and d'Hondt, 1993; Bianchi and Morri, 2000). Moreover, 31 out of the 986 alien species introduced to the Mediterranean Sea are bryozoan species. The number of nonindigenous bryozoan species was significantly greater in the eastern Mediterranean Sea and 22 species were introduced to the area by different pathways, such as shipping and the Suez Canal. However, 7 species that were found in both western and central parts of the Mediterranean might have been introduced through fouling (Zenetos et al., 2012).

The first knowledge on marine bryozoan fauna of the Turkish seas was given by Forbes (1844). In that study, 8 depth ranges extending from 3.66 to 213.36 m were distinguished according to their characteristics of the sea floor. In the community, as described by Forbes (1844), Cellaria ceremioides and Myriapora truncata were determined as the characteristic species of region IV.
(27–64 m) and V (64–100 m), respectively. The taxonomic validity of the former species is currently uncertain. The cyclostome genera, such as *Idmonea* and *Alecto*, were recorded from the deepest region (VIII) and extended to 421 m. Colombo (1885) identified *Flustra truncata*, *Retepora cellulosa*, and *Flustra carbasea* in the dredged material samples collected from the Dardanelles. In the Sea of Marmara and the Bosphorus, bryozoan species were identified with other faunal components by Ostroumoff (1894). In another study conducted by Ostroumoff (1896), plankton and benthic samples were taken from more than 60 stations during the ‘Selanik’ expedition to the Sea of Marmara and Bosphorus, and 49 bryozoan species were determined from different depths and biotopes. Marion (1898) reported 3 bryozoan species, *Retepora cellulosa*, *Myriozoum truncatum*, and *Porella cervicornis*, obtained in the dredged material collected to the north of the Sultan Castle at a depth of 65 m. Description and ecological peculiarities of bryozoan species appearing in faunal assemblages collected from the Bosphorus and near the Prince Islands in the Sea of Marmara were given for the first time by Demir (1952–1954). The preliminary study conducted by Geldiay and Kocataş (1972) on benthic organisms of İzmir Bay included 3 bryozoan species, namely *Retepora cellulosa*, *Membranipora membranacea*, and *Amathia* sp., which were abundantly found in Uzunada, Tuzla, and Güzelbahçe, respectively.

The description and illustration of the bryozoan species collected in the Aegean Sea, Black Sea, and Sea of Marmara was done by Ünsal (1975) and Ünsal and d’Hondt (1978–1979). In another study conducted by Ostroumoff (1896), plankton and benthic samples were taken from more than 60 stations during the ‘Selanik’ expedition to the Sea of Marmara and Bosphorus, and 49 bryozoan species were determined from different depths and biotopes. Marion (1898) reported 3 bryozoan species, *Retepora cellulosa*, *Myriozoum truncatum*, and *Porella cervicornis*, obtained in the dredged material collected to the north of the Sultan Castle at a depth of 65 m. Description and ecological peculiarities of bryozoan species appearing in faunal assemblages collected from the Bosphorus and near the Prince Islands in the Sea of Marmara were given for the first time by Demir (1952–1954). The preliminary study conducted by Geldiay and Kocataş (1972) on benthic organisms of İzmir Bay included 3 bryozoan species, namely *Retepora cellulosa*, *Membranipora membranacea*, and *Amathia* sp., which were abundantly found in Uzunada, Tuzla, and Güzelbahçe, respectively.

The description and illustration of the bryozoan species collected in the Aegean Sea, Black Sea, and Sea of Marmara was done by Ünsal (1975) and Ünsal and d’Hondt (1978–1979). In addition to species given as a new record from Turkish coast, *Cleidochasmidra canakkalense* Ünsal and d’Hondt was described as a new species (Ünsal and d’Hondt, 1978–1979). Balkis (1992) studied macrobenthic species around Marmara Island and *Cryptosula pallasiensis* was noted as a common species, whereas *Aetea truncata*, *Scrupocellaria* sp., and *Crisia* sp. were rare species. In 1992, the ‘Akdéniz Campaign’ was realized to increase knowledge of the eastern Mediterranean fauna. Samples for qualitative study were collected by SCUBA divers in a *P. oceanica* meadow near Yenikas at the 18–25 m depth range. Additionally, the knowledge of geographic distributions of 32 bryozoan species were given. Previously unrecorded species *Aetea lepadiiformis*, *Pentapora ocellularia*, *Fenestrulina joannae*, and *Microporella umbracula* and one new Indo-Pacific species, *Schedoceidochasma porcellaniformis*, were noted for the eastern Mediterranean Sea (Nicoletti et al., 1995). After a period of time, *S. porcellaniformis* was renamed as *Plesioleidochasma mediterraneum* (Chimenz Gusso and Soule, 2003). During the same expedition, a new species, *Retevirgula akdenizae* (type locality: Datça) was also described (Chimenz et al., 1997). Both spatial and temporal aspects of fouling communities developed on panels were analyzed in terms of physicochemical variables in different marinas located on the Aegean coast (Koçak et al., 1999; Koçak, 2008). The settlement of bryozoan species was investigated considering environmental changes in the marinas. In the inner part of İzmir Bay, morphological, ecological, and zoogeographical characteristics of an alien bryozoan species, *Celleporaria brunnea*, were discussed by Koçak (2007).

The aim of this study is to elucidate recent taxonomic and biogeographic knowledge of bryozoan species recorded from the Turkish coasts.

2. Materials and methods

For preparing the actual checklist of the Turkish bryozoans, all relevant faunal investigations were considered. Species-specific data obtained from these works were used to construct a distributional map (in a grid system, 15 × 15 km in dimension) of the bryozoan species along the coasts of Turkey. In the checklist, the valid names of the species are given according to the World Register of Marine Species (WoRMS, http://www.marinespecies.org) and Integrated Taxonomic Information System (ITIS, http://www.itis.gov) and some monographs and papers (Harmelin, 1976; d’Hondt, 1983; Hayward and Ryland, 1985, 1998, 1999; Hayward and McKinney, 2002; Novosel et al., 2005).

3. Results and discussion

The bryozoan fauna of the Turkish coasts includes a total of 185 species. The class Gymnolaemata includes 159 species, of which 140 species belong to the order Cheilostomatida and 19 species to the order Ctenostomatida. Moreover, the class Stenolaemata comprises 26 species. The status of the Turkish marine fauna was previously given by Kocataş et al. (2000), who reported 2683 invertebrate species, of which 151 species belonged to Bryozoa. They found the highest number of bryozoan species (131) from the Aegean Sea. In the present study, the total number of bryozoans obtained from the Aegean Sea has reached 139 species. The Sea of Marmara, the Levantine Sea, and the Black Sea have 89, 66, and 8 bryozoan species, respectively. The highest number of species belonging to orders Cheilostomatida, Ctenostomatida, and Cyclostomatida was reported from the Aegean Sea. The total number of species and their distributions among orders show that the highest species richness was followed by the Sea of Marmara and Levantine Sea. However, in the Black Sea, only Cheilostomatida species were recorded (Figure 1).

The localities with hard substrates had the highest species richness (63 species), while the soft substrates were characterized by 23 species. Furthermore, 19 species were found on both hard and soft substrates. The majority of bryozoan species were determined at 0–100 m depths.
Among them, 34 species at 0–50 m, 33 species at 11–50 m, and 40 species at 51–100 m depth ranges were determined. In addition, the distribution of 26 species was limited to 11–100 m depths. Eight species (Escharoides megarostris, Diporula verrucosa, Jaculina parallellata, Turbicellepora coronopus, Stephanollona armata, Cellaria salicornioides, Securiflustra securifrons, and Pherusella tubulosa) were recorded at depths of approximately greater than 100 m. Only a single species, Triticella flava, was reported from depths deeper than 600 m (Table).

The species richness of Bryozoa along the Turkish coasts is represented in Figure 2. According to the data, the highest number of bryozoan species was determined on the coast of the Aegean Sea, where Cheilostomatida contains the majority of the species. The western part of Gökçeada (45 species), Bozcaada (37 species), Gökova (20 species), and Bodrum-Turgutreis (19 species) can be indicated as hot-spot areas on the Aegean coast. However, limited data were available about bryozoan species along the Levantine Sea. The number of species was found to be higher at Yenikas (21 species) and Mersin Bay (20 species) with the contributions of various studies. In the Sea of Marmara, 20 species were recorded from the northern part of Marmara Island. Either environmental conditions or the poverty of the studies may be effective on the lowest species diversity (8 species) recorded from the Black Sea. A total of 185 species was found along the Turkish coasts and this number can be increased with further research.

The bryozoan species recorded from the Turkish coasts are listed in the Table. Lepralia foraminifera (Heller, 1867) and Membranipora rostrata Heller, 1867 are indicated as doubtful species as they were determined only once in the Sea of Marmara. Lepralia foraminifera was found at the 73–77 m depth range on sandy mud sediments with shell fragments (Ostroumoff, 1896). In addition, the taxonomic status of Retepora cellulosa Johnston, which was reported from the Dardanelles and the Sea of Marmara at 41 and 80 m depths (Forbes, 1844; Colombo, 1885; Ostroumoff,
**Table.** Checklist of marine bryozoans of Turkey. BS: Black Sea; SM: Sea of Marmara; AS: Aegean Sea; LS: Levantine Sea; DR: depth range (I: 0–10 m; II: 11–50 m; III: 51–100 m; IV: 101–200 m; V: 201–400 m; VI: 401–600 m; VII: >600 m); H: habitat (Hs: hard substratum including algae, sponge, mussels, etc.; Ss: soft substratum including all phanerogams).

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<td>Plagioecia sarniensis (Norman, 1864)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family: Tubuliporidae</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Idmidronea atlantica (Forbes in Johnston, 1847)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Idmidronea bidenkapi (Kluge, 1955)</td>
<td>18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Platonea stoechas Harmelin, 1976</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tubulipora biserialis Canu &amp; Bassler, 1925</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tubulipora fiabellaris (O. Fabricius, 1780)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tubulipora lilacea (Pallas, 1766)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tubulipora ziczac Harmelin, 1976</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family: Terviidae</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tervia irregularis (Meneghini, 1844)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1896; Marion, 1898), seems to be unclear nowadays. Although the valid name of Retepora cellulosa Smitt, 1867 was given as Reteporella grimaldii (Jullien, 1903) in the checklist prepared for Adriatic Sea (Novosel and Pózar-Domac, 2001), it is difficult to determine the systematic position of Retepora cellulosa Johnston. Among bryozoan species recorded in the Dardanelles, Lagenipora tubulifera Hincks, recently named as Corbulipora tubulifera (Hincks, 1881), was noted once at 75 m depth from a gravelly sand habitat with Lithothamnion fragments (Ostroumoff, 1896). However, the geographical distribution of this species was restricted to only Australasia (Bock and Cook, 2001).

Adeonella polystomella, which was reported by Ünsal (1975), most probably belongs to Adeonella pallasii, which is common in the eastern Adriatic and the Aegean Sea. Moreover, it was also recorded from Naples by Hincks (1866) (Hayward and McKinney, 2002).

Cellaria ceremioides recorded by Forbes (1844) and Margaretta buski determined by Ünsal (1975) probably belong to the same species, namely Margaretta cereoides. While the distribution of M. buski was restricted in the Gulf of Mexico, M. cereoides was recorded in the Atlantic, the Mediterranean, Europe, and North Africa. It was found on Posidonia oceanica rhizomes collected from Cyprus coastal waters (Koçak et al., 2002) and it is probably considered as an endemic species (Hayward and McKinney, 2002).

Recently Vieira et al. (2013) used some morphological features to erect a new genus, Cradoscrupocellaria, and described 18 new species. Furthermore, the new genus includes 9 species previously assigned to Scrupocellaria. Cradoscrupocellaria reptans was assigned to a new genus (Vieira et al., 2013). Morphologically, it is possible to distinguish 2 groups of Cradoscrupocellaria based on the scutal shape, including a group with scutum stout with truncate tips, comprising 8 species from the British coast, the North Sea, the Mediterranean, and eastern Australia. Among them only 4 species (C. aegyptiana, C. ellisi, C. gautieri, C. macrorhyncha) were recorded from the Mediterranean and the Aegean Sea. Although Scrupocellaria reptans was recorded by Ünsal (1975) and Demir (1952–1954) from the Turkish coast and by Bedini et al. (2014) from a coralligenous habitat in the northwestern Mediterranean Sea, it actually has a more restricted distribution and was recorded in the North Atlantic (British Isles) (Vieira et al., 2013). Thus, it may be a misidentified species.

Fouling and boring organisms in Amasra, Akbaş, Mersin, İzmir Harbor, and the Bay of Beykoz were investigated by Pınar (1974). Among 8 bryozoan species, Aplousina gigantea Canu & Bassler, 1927 was recorded for the first time from the Amasra Harbor and the Beykoz Gulf. However, the distribution of this species is restricted in the Gulf of Mexico (Canu and Bassler, 1928).

According to Hayward and Ryland (1999), Pentapora fascialis (Pallas) and Pentapora foliacea (Ellis & Solander) were merged into a single species as P. fascialis. Therefore, in this checklist, the specimens from Marmara Island (Turkey) identified as Lepralia foliacea by Ostroumoff (1876) are assigned to P. fascialis.

Monoporella bouchardii is a common bryozoan species in Lebanon, the Greek islands, Turkey, and Egypt (Harmelin, 2014). It was found in cavities of rocky bottoms, on Posidonia rhizomes, and on leaves in Turkey (Nicoletti et al., 1995; Kocak and Aydin-Onen, 2014). In these studies, specimens collected from Yenikâş and Engeceli Bay (İzmir) was assigned to M. nodulifera. The reexamination of the material collected from different regions has confirmed that these species are M. bouchardii (Harmelin, 2014). This species has a thermophilic tendency so it has not been recorded from the western Mediterranean Sea (Harmelin, 2014).

Idmonea bidenkapi Kluge 1955, recorded from Bozcaada Island (Aegean Sea) by Aslan-Cihangir (2007), is a North Atlantic (WoRMS, http://www.marinespecies.org/figure/2. Distribution of bryozoan species along the Turkish coast.
organism (Bryozoa Home Page, http://www.bryozoa.net/annual/taxa1953.html) species. Therefore, the actual presence of the species in the Turkish seas is doubtful.

In the checklist, some species need revisionary work. While the name of Retepora cellulosa encompasses several species of Retepora, one of the most common species in the Mediterranean is R. grimaldii. Thus, a total of 4 bryozoan species [Lepralia foraminifera (Heller, 1867), Membranipora rostrata (Heller, 1867), Polytrema corallinum Risso, and Retepora cellulosa (Heller, 1867), were recorded from the Turkish seas. However, only 2 species, Celleporaria brunnea and Rhynchozoon larreyi, have been excluded from the list.

**References**


The most recent studies for the alien species of the Mediterranean Sea (Zenetos et al., 2010, 2012) indicated that the highest number of nonindigenous bryozoan species reached 22 in the eastern Mediterranean Sea; however, only 2 species, Celleporaria brunnea and Rhynchozoon larreyi, were recorded from the Turkish coasts.

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