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**AN OLD FIND OF *RETUSA DESGENETTII* (AUDOUIN, 1826)  
FROM THE BARDAWIL LAGOON, EGYPT**

by Henk K. Mienis\*)

**Abstract:** A single shell of *Retusa desgenettii* was found among mollusc material from the Bardawil Lagoon, North Sinai, Egypt, which had been collected in December 1969. This means that the arrival of this Erythraean species in the Mediterranean Sea took place at least some 35 years ago.

**Key words:** Mollusca, gastropoda, Retusidae, *Retusa desgenettii*, distribution, Mediterranean Sea, Lessepsian migration.

Recently Bogi & Galil (2002: 11, figs. 1-2) reported numerous specimens of *Retusa desgenettii* (Audouin, 1826), Fam. Retusidae, a species from the Red Sea from four localities along the Mediterranean coast of Israel. This Lessepsian migrant was not included in the recently published "Atlas of exotic mollusc species in the Mediterranean Sea (Zenetos et al., 2004).

A study of a mollusc sample collected by the late Prof. Adam Ben-Tuvia in the Bardawil Lagoon, North Sinai, Egypt, in December 1969, revealed the presence of a single specimen of *Retusa desgenettii*. This record shows that this minute opisthobranch had already reached the Eastern Mediterranean some 35 years ago.

The specimen is stored in the National Mollusc Collection of the Tel Aviv University (MO 48849/1).

#### Literature

Bogi, C. & Galil, B.S., 2002. Finding of *Retusa desgenettii* (Audouin, 1826) (Gastropoda: Opisthobranchia) along the Israeli coast. *La Conchiglia*, 34 (305):11-13.

Zenetos, A., Gofas, S., Russo, G. & Templado, J., (2003). CIESM Atlas of exotic species in the Mediterranean. Volume 3: Molluscs. 376 pp. CIESM Publishers, Monaco.

\*) National Mollusc Collection, Tel Aviv University, IL 69978 Tel Aviv, Israel.

E-mail: [mienis@netzer.org.il](mailto:mienis@netzer.org.il)



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