

# A new species of a tiny freshwater snail collected from a mountainous spring in Greece

November 1 2011

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A new minute freshwater snail species belonging to the genus *Daphniola* was found by a researcher from University of Athens (Canella Radea) in a spring covered by snow on Mt. Parnassos, central Greece. This study was published in the open access journal *Zookeys*.

The new species, *Daphniola eptalophos*, has a transparent conical-flat coiled shell, grey-black pigmented soft body and a black penis with a small colorless outgrowth on the left side near its base. *D. eptalophos* differs from its congeners in shell dimensions, soft body pigmentation and coloration of penis.

*Daphniola* is an endemic genus for Greece, inhabiting most of mainland Greece. Two of the three currently known species are included in the category Endangered and Critically Endangered in the [IUCN Red List of Threatened Species](#) 2011.1. It is notable that *D. eptalophos* was found in only one spring until now and its population abundance seems to be low.

The new species could be threatened by habitat destruction because the localities of freshwater [gastropods](#) in Greece, most of them springs, are prone to changes due to urbanization, [water pollution](#), waste accumulation, tourism and [agricultural practices](#). Effective [conservation measures](#) must be urgently taken to protect these localities before their unique gastropod fauna disappears.

**More information:** Original source: Radea C (2011) A new species of hydrobiid snails (Mollusca, Gastropoda, Hydrobiidae) from central Greece. ZooKeys 138: 53-64. [doi: 10.3897/zookeys.138.1927](https://doi.org/10.3897/zookeys.138.1927)

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