

Short communication

First record of *Cabestana cutacea* (Linnaeus, 1767) (Gastropoda; Ranellidae) found on the coast of Montenegro: notes about the range of the species

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Summary. We report the finding of two empty shells of the Ranellidae species *Cabestana cutacea* (Linnaeus, 1767) on the coast of Čanj, Montenegro. Although we cannot exclude that this may be the result of inadvertent human transport, these findings are of interest because this species has not been recently reported in the Adriatic Sea.

Keywords: *Cabestana cutacea*; Montenegro; south-east Adriatic Sea.

INTRODUCTION

Cabestana cutacea (Linnaeus 1767) is a Ranellidae species wide-spread in the Western Mediterranean (Ghisotti and Melone, 1968; Settepassi 1970; Saunders 1980) and along the Atlantic coasts of Africa and Europe, from Senegal north to the Channel Islands (Jeffreys 1863; Fischer 1865; Locard 1886; Nobre 1938; Saunders 1980; Fretter and Graham 1981; Rolan Mosquera 1983; Trigo and Otero Schmitt 1987; Ruscoe 2007). However, the most northern findings are probably attributable to occasional settlements of veliger in particularly hot summers and do not indicate permanent populations (Saunders 1980). It has also been found in the Atlantic islands of Madeira, Canary and the Azores (Nobre 1937; Nordsieck and Garcia-Talavera 1979; Poppe and Goto 1991; Moro et al. 2003; Bacallado et al. 2008; Segers et al. 2009).

Although it is not very common elsewhere, there are numerous reports, old and new, for the Western Mediterranean, showing that there are at present stable and viable populations. In particular, there are countless reports of the species from the Italian regions on the Tyrrhenian Sea.

Although by no means exhaustive, here we present records known to us for the Mediterranean Sea (Fig. 1). In the western Mediterranean, *C. cutacea* was reported several times for Morocco, Algeria and southern Spain, while most of the data come from the western coast of Italy (Tyrrhenian

and Ligurian Sea, coast of Sardinia and Sicily), followed by the coast of France and northern Spain. In addition, the first author of the present work has personally found this species in various localities in northern and eastern Sardinia–Italy (Stintino, Santa Teresa, Cala Liberotto), and these data are presented in Fig. 1. as “Doneddu-personal observations”.

Despite its spread and relative abundance in the western Mediterranean, *C. cutacea* has only very rarely been reported in the central and eastern Mediterranean. There are two reports from the Ionian Sea: Taranto–Puglia, Italy (Settepassi 1970), Porto Cesareo–Puglia, Italy (Trono 2006); one from Malta (Cacchia et al. 1993); and two for Aegean Sea: Cyprus (Ozturk et al. 2003), Messina–Greece (Fischer 2005; Koukouras 2010) (Fig. 1). Regarding the Adriatic Sea, Costa (1829) wrote generically „found in Adriatic“, without specifying any locality. Coen (1937) reports a finding from “the Italian coast of the Southern Adriatic Sea” and again no specific information was provided. There are no other data available since 1937, in particular this species is not mentioned in specific works concerning the malacological fauna of Montenegro (Stjepčević 1967; Stjepčević and Parenzan 1980) or in general of the Middle and Southern Adriatic (Cossignani et al. 1992; Dhora 2009). *Cabestana cutacea* is not even mentioned for the Adriatic Sea in the “checklist of Italian marine animal species” (Oliverio 2008). Thus we consider it interesting to report this new record, as a contribution to the present knowledge of the malacological fauna of Adriatic Sea.

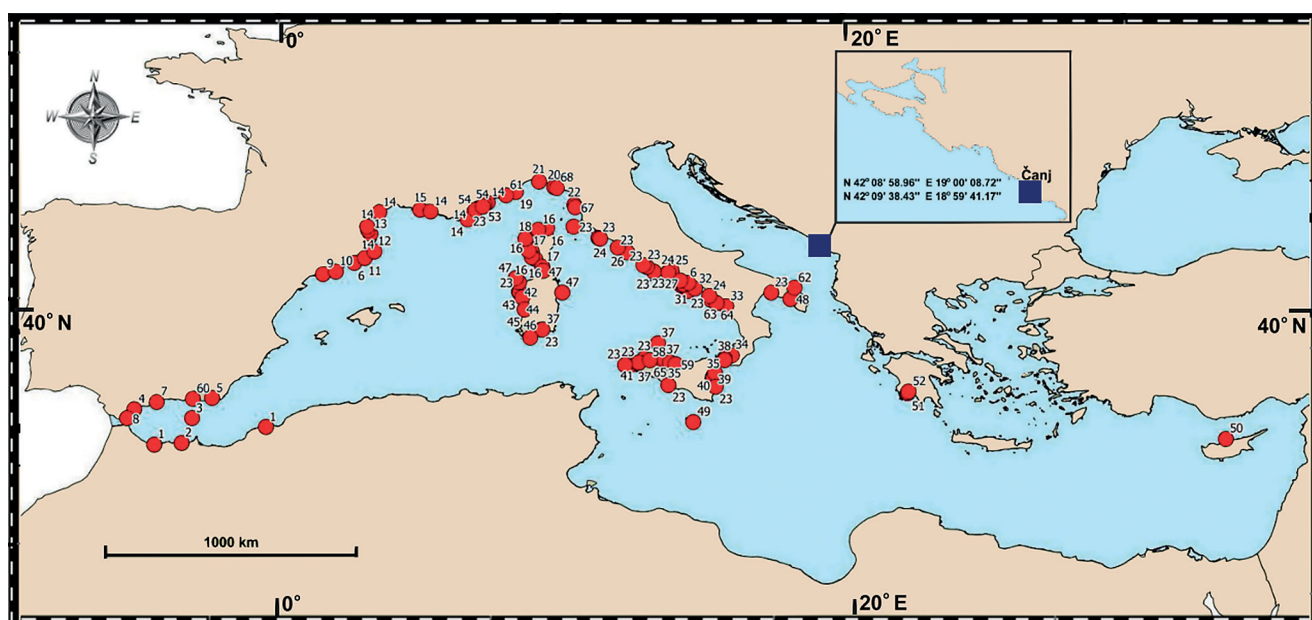


Figure 1. Distribution of *Cabestana cutacea* (Linnaeus, 1767) (Gastropoda; Ranellidae) in the Mediterranean Sea.

Location	Reference	No.	Cette dans l'Herault	Locard 1886	14
Acitrezza, Italy	Mannucci 1983	40	Circeo, Italy	Settepassi 1970	23
Ajaccio, France	Payraudeau 1826	16	Circeo, Italy	Cossignani and Ardevini 2011	24
Ajaccio, France	Requien 1848	17	Civitavecchia, Italy	Smriglio et al. 1989	26
Alboran, Spain	Salas and Luque 1986	3	Cyprus	Ozturk et al. 2003	50
Algeciras, Spain	Aartsen et al. 1984	8	Elba, Italy	Settepassi 1970	23
Alghero, Italy	Aversano et al. 1984	42	Formia, Italy	Settepassi 1970	23
Alghero, Italy	Doneddu and Manunza 1989	43	Gaeta, Italy	Cossignani and Ardevini 2011	24
Almeria, Spain	Ballesteros et al. 1986	5	Garraf, Spain	Giribet and Peñas 1997	10
Anzio, Italy	Settepassi 1970	23	Genoa, Italy	Sorbi and Terzer 1982	21
Argentario, Italy	Settepassi 1970	23	Hyerres, France	Locard 1886	14
Baix Camp, Spain	Tarruella Ruestes and Lòpez Soriano 2006	9	Imperia, Italy	Rebora 1986	19
Bonifacio, France	Requien 1848	17	Naples, Italy	Toscano and Cretella 1991	69
Bosa, Italy	Miari and Graziani 1984	44	La Spezia, Italy	Tapparone-Canefri 1869	20
Brindisi, Italy	Oriolo 1974	62	La Spezia, Italy	Lugli et al. 1984	68
Cagliari, Italy	Settepassi 1970	23	Levanzo, Italy	Giannuzzi-Savelli et al. 1996	37
Cagliari, Italy	Giannuzzi-Savelli et al. 1996	37	Liguria, Italy	Jeffreys 1856	61
Cala Liberotto, Italy	Doneddu, personal data	47	Livorno, Italy	Appellius 1869	22
Calvi, France	Payraudeau, 1826	16	Livorno, Italy	Bertozzi et al. 1984	67
Campania, Italy	Berardelli et al. 1982	63	Malaga, Spain	Sabelli and Spada 1978	7
Campania, Italy	Cuomo et al. 1983	64	Malta	Cachia et al. 1993	49
Campania, Italy	Cossignani and Ardevini 2011	24	Maratea, Italy	Perretti 1984	33
Capo Miseno, Italy	Albanesi 1968	56	Marettimo, Italy	Settepassi 1970	23
Capo S. Vito, Italy	Settepassi 1970	23	Marseille, France	Locard 1886	14
Capri, Italy	Federico and Tripodi 1967	28	Martigues, France	Vial 1988	15
Capri, Italy	Settepassi 1970	23	Mataro, Spain	Ghisotti and Melone 1968	6
Capri, Italy	D'Angelo and Gargiullo 1978	29	Messina, Italy	Micali et al. 1987	38
Catalonia, Spain	De Chia 1912	12	Messina, Italy	Settepassi 1970	23
Catania, Italy	Philippi 1836	35	Messinia, Greece	Fischer 2005	51
Catania, Italy	Scuderi 2000	39	Messinia, Greece	Koukouras 2010	52
Catania, Italy	Cossignani and Ardevini 2011	24	Morocco	Pallary 1920	1

Morocco	Pasteur-Humbert 1962	2	Sagone, France	Payraudeau 1826	16
Naples, Italy	Bellini 1929	27	Saint Florent, France	Payraudeau 1826	16
Naples, Italy	Ghisotti and Melone 1968	6	Salerno, Italy	Berardelli and Fasulo 1988	32
Naples, Italy	Settepassi 1970	23	San Tropez, France	Locard 1886	14
Napoli, Italy	Scacchi 1836	66	Sant Pol de Mar	Altimira 1977	11
Nice, France	Locard 1886	14	Sant Raphael	Locard 1886	14
Oran, Algeria	Pallary 1900	1	Santa Manza, France	Payraudeau 1826	16
Oristano, Italy	Silesu and Sosso 1987	45	Santa Teresa, Italy	Doneddu, personal data	47
Palermo, Italy	Philippi 1836	35	Scandola, France	Merella et al. 1994	18
Palermo, Italy	Mannucci et al. 1983	36	Scauri Latium, Italy	Facente et al. 1983	25
Palermo, Italy	Giannuzzi-Savelli et al. 1996	37	Scilla, Italy	Vazzana 2010	34
Palermo, Italy	Settepassi 1970	23	Sicily, Italy	Maravigna 1839	57
Palo Laziale, Italy	Settepassi 1970	23	Sicily, Italy	Negra and Lipparini 2005	59
Porto Cesareo, Italy	Trono 2006	48	Sicily, Italy	Costa 1829	65
Porto Empedocle, Italy	Settepassi 1970	23	Sicily, Italy	Aradas and Benoit 1870	58
Porto Torres, Italy	Settepassi 1970	23	Siracusa, Italy	Settepassi 1970	23
Possilipo, Italy	Albanesi 1970	30	southern Sardinia, Italy	Spano et al. 2002	46
Procida, Italy	Soppelsa et al. 2007	55	Spain	Hidalgo 1917	60
Procida, Italy	Ghisotti 1978	31	Stintino, Italyw	Doneddu, personal data	47
Provance, France	Settepassi 1970	23	Taranto, Italy	Settepassi 1970	23
Provance, France	Risso 1826	53	Tonnara, Italy	Settepassi 1970	23
Provance, France	Locard 1892	54	Torre Astura, Italy	Settepassi 1970	23
Provance, France	Locard 1892	54	Trapani, Italy	Lugli and Palazzi 1987	41
Punta Chullera, Spain	Luque 1986	4	Ustica, Italy	Giannuzzi-Savelli et al. 1996	37
Roussillon, France	Bucquoy et al. 1882	13	Valinco, France	Payraudeau 1826	16
Roussillon, France	Locard 1886	14	Čanj, Montenegro	new data	

DISCUSSION

Two empty shells of the Ranellidae species *Cabestana cutacea* (Linnaeus, 1767) were found beached on the coast of Montenegro, both at Čanj. In one of the two specimens, traces of the periostracum were still present. The shells were collected by students of the University of Novi Sad during a marine field trip course. The first specimen was collected in May 2010. (N 42° 08' 58.96" E 19° 00' 08.72") and the second two years later, in May 2012. (N 42° 09' 38.43" E 18° 59' 41.17") (Fig. 2). They are deposited in the collection of the Department of Biology and Ecology, University of Novi Sad (Serbia).

Čanj is a small area of exposed beaches about 1500 meters long, mainly composed of gravel and coarse sand, surrounded by rocky coast; the sea-bottom in front is sandy, with the presence of seagrasses *Posidonia oceanica* and *Cymodocea nodosa*.

Cabestana cutacea, whose size range from 32 to 105 mm (Settepassi 1970), is the less common of the Mediterranean Ranellidae (excluding *Cabestana dolaria* (Linné 1767), which is probably only an Atlantic species, whose few Mediterranean reports are questionable), and seems to have become more uncommon than in the past, but the reasons for its decline are unclear. It is not likely threatened by excessive

collection because of its habitat: it is a species which inhabits rather deep water, 25-160 meters, but exceptionally can also be found in shallow waters (Sabelli and Spada 1978); where most of the known specimens have been found incidentally in fishing nets, or beached after storms. Saunders (1980) attributes the decline of this species to climate change, but this explanation seems unconvincing.

Fishermen, while cleaning their nets, often throw such shells back into the sea, and these specimens can be later found in localities far from where they actually lived. Both specimens from Čanj were found beached, one mixed with gravel and the other in a rock crevice, with no traces of soft parts; so we cannot exclude the possibility that they were inadvertently translocated by local fishing nets. However, along the coast around Čanj there are no big ports frequented by fishing vessels, and few local fishermen use small fishing boats in the surrounding area. For these reasons, the specimens of *C. cutacea* here described can be considered autochthonous with sufficient probability.

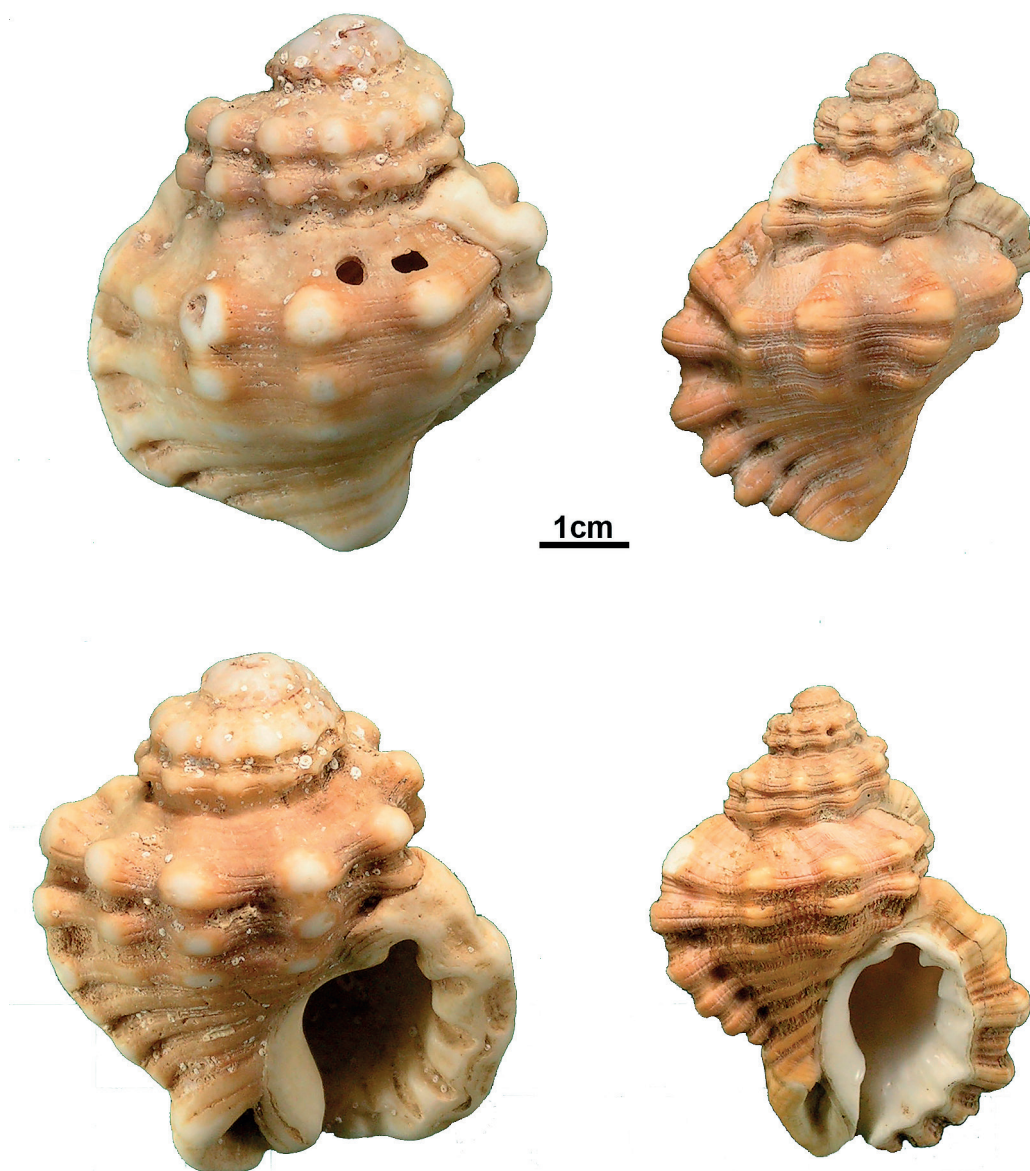


Figure 2. *Cabestana cutacea* (Linnaeus, 1767) collected in Čanj (Montenegro, South East Adriatic Sea).

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