

CHECKLIST OF GREEK FRESHWATER AMPHIPODA (CRUSTACEA, PERACARIDA) WITH ZOOGEOGRAPHICAL NOTES

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Freshwater Amphipoda, a peracaridan crustacean group with epigeal and subterranean representatives, constitutes an important part of freshwater fauna, both in terms of species number and biomass. As such, data on its distribution could be valuable for the bionomy of the inland aquatic ecosystems. The aim of the present study is to give an annotated checklist of the freshwater amphipods of Greece. The detailed review of the relevant literature, scattered in many publications, followed the examination of material attained from museum collections, and own samples from different zoogeographical regions of Greece. So far, 33 species from nine genera and six families (Bogidiellidae, Gammaridae, Hadziidae, Ingolfiellidae, Niphargidae and Salentinellidae) were found in Greek freshwaters. Three troglobitic species are new for science. Troglobitic fauna is more diverse at all taxonomic ranks. The corresponding fauna of different zoogeographical regions of Greece is analyzed, presented and discussed along with wider zoogeographical comparisons to the fauna of the adjacent regions.