**NEW RECORDS OF FIRE-BELLIED TOAD (*BOMBINA BOMBINA*
(LINNAEUS, 1761)) AND COMMON SPADEFOOT TOAD
(*PELOBATES FUSCUS* (LAURENTI, 1768)) IN SERBIA**

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Species' distribution data are substantial basic for future research in the areas of systematics, ecology, biogeography and especially conservation biology. Rapid worldwide declines of amphibians have emphasized a need for more precise data about their distribution at the regional and national levels, especially in countries with poor distributional data (e.g. Margules et al. 2002). Regarding both the geographical location as well as the elevation gradient, the entire territory of Serbia is inhabited by amphibians. General distribution pattern of all Serbian amphibians has been published only recently (Vukov *et al.* 2013), but without precise locations. As concerned to Anuras, overview of precise distribution exists for only few species, e. g. *Pelobates fuscus* and *Pelobates syriacus* (Džukić *et al.* 2005, 2008), while for all other species of frogs and toads in Serbia, comprehensive and detailed distribution data are not available.

In this paper, new records of *Pelobates fuscus* and *Bombina bombina* in Serbia are presented (Fig. 1).

Fig. 1. – Geographic location of the founding site of *Bombina bombina* and *Pelobates fuscus* – Bresničić, central Serbia.

Bombina bombina inhabits central and eastern Europe ranging from Denmark, southern Sweden and northern Germany eastwards to the Ural Mountains of Russia, southwards to the Danube floodplain, Turkey, and the

Fig. 2. – Adult specimen of *Bombina bombina* near Bresničić village.

northern slopes of the Caucasus Mountains (Agasyan *et al.* 2009a). *Pelobates fuscus* is found throughout plains and hilly regions of Europe, from eastern Netherlands, eastern Belgium and eastern France, through Germany, Denmark, Sweden, central and eastern Europe to western Siberia (Russia) and northwestern Kazakhstan (Agasyan *et al.* 2009b). In Serbia, both species are relatively wide-spread in Pannonian part, but are quite rare in Peripannonian and Mountain-valley parts of Serbia; only few localities were recorded south of Sava and Danube rivers (Džukić *et al.* 2008, Vukov *et al.* 2013).

On May 8th 2014, near the village Bresničić (Prokuplje, central Serbia: 43.247239 N, 21.453044 E (UTM EN38), 293 m a.s.l.), several adult specimens of *Bombina bombina* (Fig. 2) and three tadpoles of *Pelobates fuscus* (Fig. 3) were found in a salt pond (Fig. 4).

Fig. 3. –*Pelobates fuscus* tadpole near Bresničić village.

Syntopic species of amphibians and reptiles in the pond it's surrounding were: *Lissotriton vulgaris*, *Hyla arborea*, *Pelophylax ridibundus*, *Emys orbicularis*, *Testudo hermanni*, *Lacerta viridis* and *Natrix natrix*.

New records of fire-bellied toad and common spadefoot toad are filling distribution gap in the central Serbia (see: Vukov *et al.* 2013 – Figs. 1-2), and provide further support that both species are more frequently found in the Peripannonian and mountain-valley parts of Serbia. In addition, this locality is currently among the most southern records for both species in Serbia. Therefore, it is necessary to intensify research in other parts of Serbia where habitats are suitable for both species.

Fig. 4. – Founding site – salt pond near Bresničić village.

As concerned to conservation, both species are categorized as Least Concerned (LC) according to the IUCN Red List, with decreasing population trends in many countries (Agasyan *et al.* 2009a, 2009b). In Serbia, *Bombina bombina* and *Pelobates fuscus* are listed as Strictly Protected (Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia No. 36/09). Given that population trends are not known for both species, we suggest that more comprehensive studies should be conducted in order to assess this species' population statuses and adequate conservation measures.

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**НОВИ НАЛАЗИ ЦРВЕНОТРБИХ МУКАЧА (*BOMBINA BOMBINA*
(LINNAEUS, 1761)) И ОБИЧНИХ ЧЕШЊАРКИ (*PELOBATES FUSCUS*
(LAURENTI, 1768)) У СРБИЈИ**

ДАНКО ЈОВИЋ

Р Е З И М Е

Подаци о дистрибуцији врста битан су основ за будућа истраживања у областима систематике, екологије, биогеографије, а посебно конзервационе биологије. Све веће опадање бројности водоземаца у свету, наглашава потребу за прецизнијим подацима о њиховој распрострањености на регионалном и националном нивоу, посебно у земљама с лошим дистрибутивним подацима (нпр Margules *et al.* 2002).

У погледу географског распрострањења, нагиба терена или надморске висине, цела територија Србије је насељена водоземцима.

Генерална дистрибуција водоземаца у Србији објављена је тек недавно (Vukov *et al.* 2013), али без прецизних локација.

У овом раду, приказани су нови налази врста *Pelobates fuscus* и *Bombina bombina* у Србији.

Нови налази црвенотрбих мукача и обичних чешњарки, попуњавају празнину у дистрибуцији водоземаца у централној Србији (види: Vukov *et al.* 2013), и пружају додатну потврду, да се ове две врсте могу наћи у перипанонским просторима и долинама Србије. Осим тога, овај локалитет је тренутно међу најјужнијим тачкама у распрострањењу обе врсте у Србији. Дакле, потребно је интензивирати истраживања у другим дијеловима Србије, посебно где су станишта погодна за обе врсте.