

Turkish Journal of Zoology

Turkish Journal


of

Zoology

Ecology and biology of *Allactaga elater*, *Allactaga euphratica* and *Allactaga williamsi*
(Rodentia: Dipodidae) in Turkey

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Abstract: The young of *Allactaga williamsi* and *Allactaga euphratica* were born at an average weight of 2.51 and 2.74 g., respectively. Litter size ranged from 3 to 6 with an average of 4.8 in *A. williamsi*, and it changed from 4 to 8 with an average of 4.8 in *A. euphratica*, *A. williamsi* breeds during the period of March to August, *A. williamsi* and *A. euphratica* produced 2 and 2 or 3 litters per year, respectively. *Allactaga elater* has four types of burrows: winter, summer, reproduction and temporary. *A. williamsi* and *A. euphratica* have two types of burrows: reproduction and summer. *A. elater* was in behavior a more active animal, more eager to explore surrounding habitats than *A. euphratica* and *A. williamsi*. Every three species generally feed on plant material, but *A. williamsi* eats various insects and their larvae in the months April and May. The clear patterns of molting in *A. euphratica* were observed from July to September; in *A. williamsi*, molting occurred during the period of June to September. Findings revealed that *Allactaga* species are not agricultural pest.

Key Words: *Allactaga elater*, *Allactaga euphratica*, *Allactaga williamsi*, Reproduction, Burrow, Feeding, Behavior.

Turk. J. Zool., **22**, (1998), 105-118.

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