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A Study on Taxonomic Status of *Microtus subterraneus* (de Selys Longchamps, 1836) and *Microtus majori* Thomas, 1906 (Mammalia: Rodentia) in Turkey

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Abstract: Specimens collected from Veliköprüsü in Thrace (European Turkey), Akçaalan (Abant, Bolu), Akkus, (Ordu), and Meryemana (Trabzon), which is the type locality of *M. majori*, were examined according to morphological, external, cranial, bacular, phallic and karyological characters. Specimens from Thrace were included in *Microtus subterraneus*. Populations of *M. subterraneus* in Thrace karyologically differ from those in Anatolia, the former having $2n = 52$ chromosomes, $NFa = 56$, $NF = 60$, and the latter $2n = 54$ chromosomes, $NFa = 56$, $NF = 60$. The karyotype of *M. majori* at its type locality contains $2n = 54$ chromosomes along with $NFa = 56$ and $NF = 60$. The tail length, phallus and karyological characters distinguish *M. subterraneus* from *M. majori*.

Key Words: *Microtus subterraneus*, *Microtus majori*, Karyology, Baculum, Phallus, Turkey.

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