

Initial Checklist of Extant Non-Marine Ostracods in Serbia

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In contrast to their wide distribution and occurrence in almost all aquatic biotopes, ostracods have not been studied to the same extent as other groups with similar characteristics. It was estimated that the diversity of crustaceans in the Balkan Peninsula is very high in general. However, relatively little research was done on the investigation of the overall diversity of living ostracods in this faunal area, including Serbia.

The first ever record of an ostracod in this territory was made almost a century ago, in 1940.

In order to assess the number of extant ostracod species in Serbia, a checklist was produced in an effort to summarize all past records from any investigations concerning ostracods.

The collected data from the literature indicates the presence of a minimum of 56 ostracod species, belonging to 29 genera and 5 families. Species from three podocopid superfamilies can be found, with Cytheroidea and Darwinuloidea being represented with one species each, while the remainder of the species belong to Cypridoidea.

A total of 37 recorded species belong to the family Cyprididae and 15 to Candonidae. The remaining four species belong to Notodromadidae, Darwinulidae and Lymnocytheridae. Genera with the largest numbers of recorded species are: *Potamocypris* Brady, 1870 (7), *Heterocypris* Claus, 1892 (5), *Herpetocypris* Brady & Norman, 1889 (4), *Ilyocypris* Brady & Norman, 1889 (4) and *Pseudocandona* Kaufmann, 1900 (4).

Six species were added to the faunal list in 2024. Those species are: *Neglecandona neglecta* (Sars, 1887) Krstić 2006, *Heterocypris reptans* (Kaufmann, 1900), *Potamocypris fulva* (Brady 1868), *Potamocypris pallida* Alm, 1914, *Potamocypris unicaudata* Schafer, 1943, and *Psychrodromus fontinalis* (Wolf, 1919).



Bradleycypris vittata

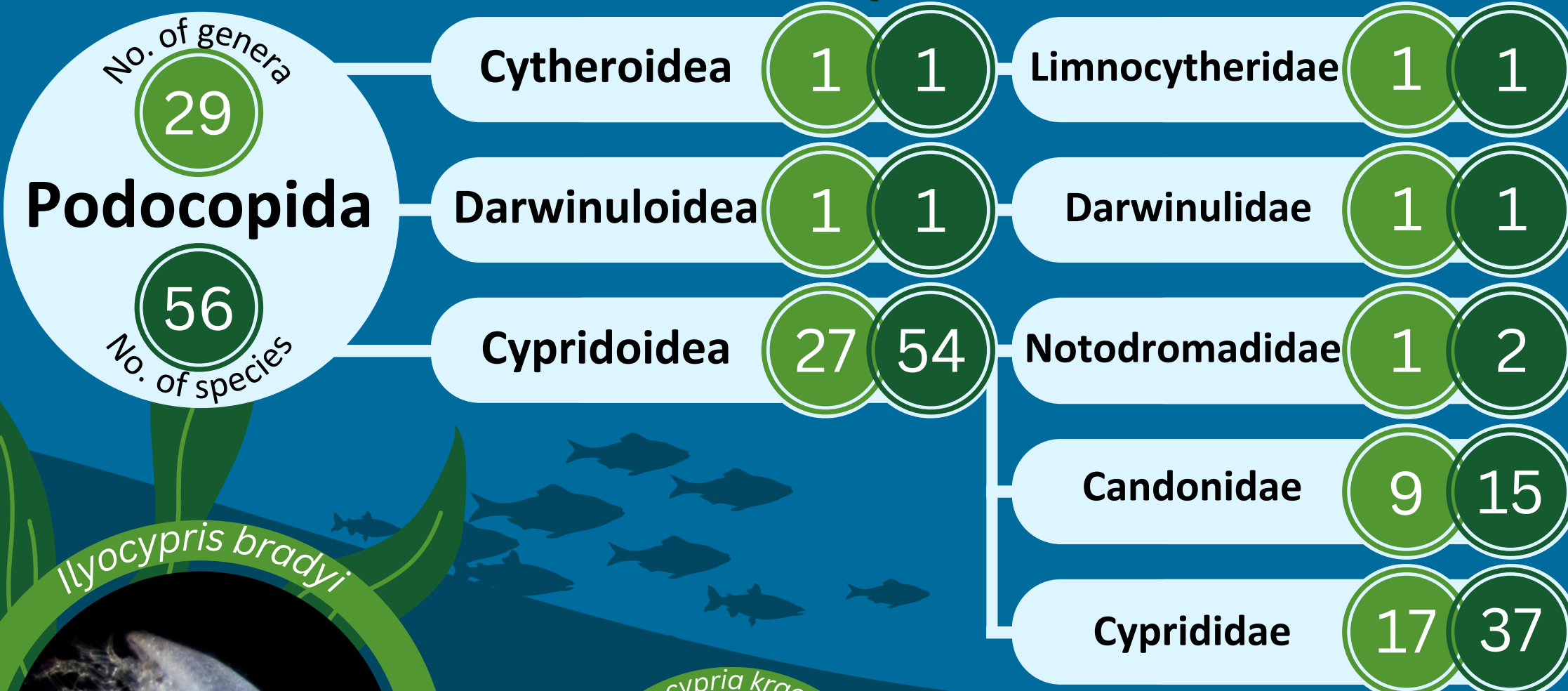


Cypridopsis vidua

order

superfamily

family



From the number of recorded genera and species, it can be concluded that Serbia is far less explored in this aspect than many other European countries.

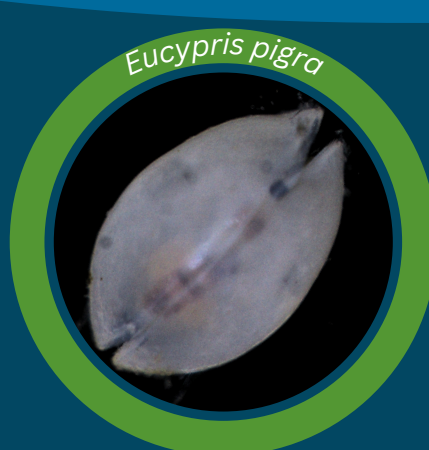
Continuous efforts are being made to document the diversity of ostracods in Serbia, as a thorough taxonomic study has the potential to notably increase the known diversity of these crustaceans and even recording the presence of rare and relict forms.



Ilyocypris bradyi



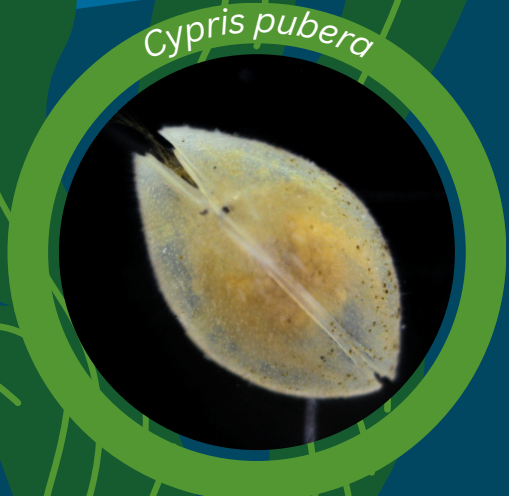
Physocypris kraepelini



Eucypris pigra



Darwinula stevensoni



Cypris pubera