FIRST RECORD OF THE RETICULATED DRAGONET, CALLIONYMUS RETICULATUS VALENCIENNES, 1837 (ACTINOPTERYGII: CALLIONYMIFORMES: CALLIONYMIDAE), FROM THE BALEARIC ISLANDS, WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN

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INTRODUCTION

Dragonets (family Callionymidae) are a group of benthic living fishes occurring in the upper 900 metres of all temperate, subtropical, and tropical oceans of the world, and a few species are found in estuarine and freshwater habitats (Fricke 1983a). They are characterised by a depressed body, a triangular head when seen from above, the large eyes, situated dorsally on the head, the presence of a preopercular spine which is bearing additional spinules and/or serrae, the gill opening reduced to a small pore, absent swim bladder, two dorsal fins (the first with thin, flexible spines, the second with soft rays), and jugular pelvic fins which are separated from each other, but each connected with the pectoral-fin base by a membrane. The Atlantic species of the family were revised by Fricke (unpublished **), who distinguished 18 valid species-group from the area, including seven species from the western Mediterranean. Nakabo and Hartel (1999) raised Poetorepus dagmarae (Fricke, 1985) and Poetorepus valdiviae (Trunov, 1981) to the species level and described “Poetorepus goodenbeani” Nakabo et
Hartel, 1999" (In the present paper assigned to the genus Synchiropus). Fricke (2002), in a checklist of callionymid fishes, listed a worldwide total of 182 valid species in 10 genera. Subsequently, several additional species were described, including Protogrammus alboranensis Fricke, Ordines, Farias et Garcia-Ruiz, 2016 from the Alboran Sea, south-western Mediterranean by Fricke et al. in Farias et al. (2016). “Callionymus sanctaehelenae Fricke, 1983” was synonymised with Callionymus bairdi Jordan, 1888 by Fricke (2002). Synchirpus sechellensis Regan, 1908 was reported as a Lessepsian migrant in the eastern Mediterranean by Gökoglu et al. (2014), and Diplogrammus randalli Fricke, 1983, another Lessepsian migrant in the eastern Mediterranean, by Seyhan et al. (2017).

During recent surveys of fishes of the northern Balearic Islands in 2014 and 2016, several populations of Callionymus reticulatus Valenciennes, 1837 were discovered, which represent a new record of the species from the island group, and the first record from the Mediterranean since the collection of the holotype from Malaga (Spain) before 1831. Several specimens were collected; they are described in the present paper. The species is compared with allied species, and its distribution is discussed.

**MATERIALS AND METHODS**

Materials of Callionymus reticulatus from the Balearic Islands are deposited in the Hebrew University, Jerusalem (HUJ). Counts and measurements followed Hubbs and Lagler (1947), fin-ray counts follow Fricke (1983b); the classification follows Eschmeyer et al. (2017), references according to Fricke (2017), collection acronyms follow Fricke and Eschmeyer (2017). The fish collection of the İzmir Katip Celebi University, Turkey is abbreviated IKC.

Materials of Callionymus reticulatus from the western Mediterranean (other than the disintegrated holotype) reported in the present paper as new records include the following: HUJ 20569 (4 females), Balearic Islands, Spain, west of Mallorca, south of Dragonera Island, 39°34′26.4″N, 2°59′08.58″E, 57 m depth, beam trawl, R/V Dragnosal0914, St. 34, 30 Sept. 2014. HUJ 20576 (2 females, 13.1–18.7 mm SL), Balearic Islands, Spain, north of Cabrera, 39°13′55.08″N, 2°44′22.56″E, 65 m depth, beam trawl R/V Miguel Oliver, R. Fricke, Cruise MEDITS_ES05_16, St. P1, 8 June 2016, 17:57–18:01 h CEST. HUJ 20614 (2 females, 16.4–19.7 mm SL), Balearic Islands, Spain, north of Mallorca, 39°50′49.80″N, 2°44′17.10″E–39°50′52.26″N, 2°44′22.56″E, 65 m depth, beam trawl R/V Miguel Oliver, R. Fricke, Cruise MEDITS_ES05_16, 17 June 2016, 09:16–09:18 h CEST.

Comparative materials of C. reticulatus and other species in the Mediterranean Sea and the north-eastern Atlantic include the following: Callionymus fasciatus Valenciennes in Cuvier et Valenciennes, 1837: MNHN A-1529 (holotype, male, 66.2 mm SL), Italy, Sicily; MSNG 37328 (1 male, 59.8 mm SL), Turkey, Bosphorus; NMW 35152-35153 (1), Croatia, Split; NMW 61011 (1), Croatia, Crkvenica; NMW 75983 (2), Croatia, Dalmatia; SMF 5731 (1 female, 66.4 mm SL), Croatia, Rovinj; ZMB 6099 (1 male, 78.6 mm SL), Italy, Sicily, Messina; ZMB 19969 (1 male, 70.6 mm SL), Croatia, Rovinj; ZMB 19974 (2 males, 77.2–78.2 mm SL), Croatia, Rovinj.

**Callionymus filamentosus Valenciennes in Cuvier et Valenciennes, 1837** [Lessepsian migrant]: AMNH 45042 (1 female, 59.6 mm SL), Beirut, Lebanon; AMNH 45449 (4 females, 38.9–48.2 mm SL), Beirut, Lebanon; BMNH 1929.8.31.3 (1), Egypt, Suez Canal, Lake Timsah; BMNH 1939.5.3.25-26 (2), Israel, Haifa; BMNH 1967.2.1.286-287 (2), Lebanon, Beirut; HUJ 6573 (1 male and 4 females, 20.0–101.7 mm SL), Israel, Mediterranean Sea; HUJ 6608 (2 males and 1 female, 33.0–72.7 mm SL), Egypt, northern Sinai, Katib el Galss; HUJ 8067 (2 males and 2 females, 83.0–101.2 mm SL), Israel, Haifa; HUJ 8076 (1 male and 4 females, 60.8–80.0 mm SL), Israel, Rubin; HUJ 8080 (1 male, 82.0 mm SL), Israel, Rubin; HUJ 8083 (1 male, 108.5 mm SL), Israel, Rubin; HUJ 8085 (3 females, 69.7–84.3 mm SL), Israel, Haifa; HUJ 8090 (1 male and 4 females, 61.3–78.2 mm SL), Israel, Haifa; HUJ 8093 (1 male, 93.8 mm SL), Israel, Haifa; HUJ 8094 (6 females, 60.6–80.4 mm SL), Gaza, Khan Yunis; HUJ 8096 (6 males and 3 females, 64.0–100.0 mm SL), Israel, Mediterranean Sea; HUJ 8097 (4 females, 7.8–57.3 mm SL), Israel, Mediterranean Sea; HUJ 10405 (2 males, 78.0–87.1 mm SL), Israel, Yafa; HUJ 10539 (4, 70.0–71.0 mm SL), Gaza; MSNG 41341 (1 female), Israel, Mediterranean Sea; SMNHTAU 4701 (1 male and 1 female, 94.1–106.0 mm SL), Egypt, northern Sinai; SMNHTAU 5389 (28, 47.8–97.6 mm SL), Israel, Mediterranean Sea; SMNHTAU 5406 (2 males, 82.0–85.0 mm SL), Israel, Ashkelon; SMNHTAU 5922 (2 males, 65.9–67.9 mm SL), Israel, Haifa; SMNHTAU 4700 (3, 86.0–108.6 mm SL), Egypt, northern Sinai; SMNS 8566 (10), Lebanon, Beirut; SMNS 9066 (3), Gaza; SMNS 9067 (1), Gaza; SMNS 23060 (1), Cyprus, Cape Greco; USNM 232251 (2 females, 51.1–58.8 mm SL), Lebanon, Beirut; USNM 232251 (1546.3–79.0 mm SL), Lebanon, Beirut; USNM 232257 (3 males, 68.3–72.5 mm SL), Lebanon, Beirut.

**Callionymus lyra Linnaeus, 1758**: AMNH 1187 (1); AMNH 8775 (1); BMNH 1896.5.20.24-26 (3), Spain, Galicia, Ría de Arosa; BMNH 1971.7.21.174-177 (4), Portugal, Sezimbra Bay; BMNH 1974.9.30.26 (1), UK, Shetland Islands; BMNH 1981.9.22.72-74 (3), Ireland, Galway Bay; BMNH uncat. (1), UK, River Thames; IRSN 390 (1), Western Sahara, Baie de Caballo; IRSN 7405 (1), Western Sahara, Rio de Oro; SMNS 441 (1), France, Dieppe; SMNS 8430 (5), UK, East Surrey; SMNS 8530 (3), UK, Kent; SMNS 8534 (13), Germany, Helgoland Island; SMNS 8535 (9), Germany, Helgoland Island; SMNS 8902 (1), Germany, Helgoland Island; SMNS 9641 (3), Netherlands, Texel; SMNS 9650 (4), Netherlands, Texel; SMNS 9700 (2), Netherlands, Texel; SMNS 11560 (1), France, Bretagne; SMNS 13594 (1),
First record of *Callionymus reticulatus* from Balearic Islands

Valenciennes in Cuvier et

LeSueur, 1814: MNHN A1525

Turkey, Muğla; SMNS 8481 (7), Spain, Mallorca; SMNS 8488 (2), Spain, Menorca; SMNS 9368 (2), Spain, Menorca; SMNS 9429 (2), Croatia, Cres Island; SMNS 11527 (1), Turkey, Muğla; SMNS 12401 (1), Spain, Formentera Island; SMNS 12415 (2), Spain, Formentera Island; SMNS 12461 (1), Spain, Formentera Island; SMNS 12543 (3), France, Pyrénées Orientales; SMNS 13595 (1), Croatia, Istria; SMNS 13596 (1), Turkey, Istanbul, Black Sea; SMNS 13598 (4), Italy, Elba Island; SMNS 13599 (2), Greece, Peloponnese; SMNS 13600 (1), Turkey, Balikesir; SMNS 19201 (2), Italy, Giglio Island; SMNS 20592 (4), Italy, Elba Island; SMNS 24497 (4), Italy, Elba Island; SMNS 24900 (1), Malta, Cirkewwa; ZMB 22217 (1), Bulgaria; ZMB 22897 (1), Italy, Napoli.

*Callionymus reticulatus* Valenciennes in Cuvier et

Valenciennes, 1837: MNHN A-1528 (holotype, nearly completely disintegrated when examined on 16 Oct. 1981 by RF), Málaga, Spain; BMNH 1850.11.11.1 (1), UK, mouth of River Thames; BMNH 1951.2.19.51-52 (2), UK, English Channel; BMNH 1951.2.19.54 (1), UK, English Channel; BMNH 1960.3.1.32 (1), Isle of Man; BMNH 1961.10.30.421 (1), UK, Norfolk; BMNH 1962.7.30.640 (1), Isle of Man; BMNH 1962.7.30.641 (1), Isle of Man; BMNH 1962.7.30.642 (1), Isle of Man; BMNH 1962.7.30.643 (1), Isle of Man; BMNH 1971.10.22.39-43 (5), Netherlands, 52°34′-53°32′N, 03°33′-05°25′E; IEOV uncat. (7), Spain, Galicia, Ría de Arosa; IRSN 13622 (1), Western Sahara, Cap Blanc; SMNS 20645 (1), Faial Island, Azores; SMNS 24091 (1), Denmark, west of Jutland; SMNS 24092 (1), Denmark, west of Jutland; SMNS 24093 (1), Denmark, west of Jutland; SMNS 24094 (31), Germany, Ostfriesland; SMNS 24095 (29), Germany, Ostfriesland; SMNS 24096 (1), Denmark, west of Jutland; SMNS 24099 (5), Germany, Ostfriesland; SMNS 24100 (70), Germany, Ostfriesland; SMNS 24101 (7), Germany, Ostfriesland; SMNS24102(12),Germany,Ostfriesland;SMNS24103(67),Germany,Ostfriesland;SMNS24106(41), Germany, Ostfriesland; SMNS 24107 (24), Germany, Ostfriesland; SMNS 24108 (28), Germany, Ostfriesland; SMNS 24109 (5), Germany, Ostfriesland; SMNS 24110 (19), Germany, Ostfriesland; SMNS 24111 (25), Germany, Ostfriesland; SMNS 26396 (1), Germany, off Husum, Schleswig-Holstein; SMNS 26397 (3), Germany, off Husum, Schleswig-Holstein; SMNS 26403 (9), Germany, off Husum, Schleswig-Holstein; SMNS 26404 (4), Germany, Schleswig-Holstein; SMNS 26405 (1), Germany, Schleswig-Holstein; SMNS 26406 (1), Germany, Schleswig-Holstein; SMNS 24468 (2), Denmark, Skagerrak; SMNS 24612 (2), Germany, Wadden Sea; TMN 774 (1), Norwa, Tosen; ZMB 2162 (2), Mediterranean Sea; ZMB 12402 (1), France, Nice.

*Callionymus pusillus* Rafinesque, 1810: BMNH 1845.6.22.214-215 (2), Adriatic Sea; BMNH 1866.12.3.1-2 (2), UK, Shetland Islands; BMNH 1868.9.9.4 (1), UK, Shetland Islands; BMNH 1887.4.23.16 (1), UK, Scotland; BMNH 1888.4.3.16 (1), UK, Scotland; BMNH 1888.4.3.17-19 (3), UK, Scotland; BMNH 1962.7.30.630 (1), Isle of Man; BMNH 1963.5.14.459-460 (2), France, Banyuls-sur-Mer; BMNH 1970.2.17.443-453 (11), Ireland, Mizen Head; BMNH 1972.1.26.80 (1), Rockall Trough; BMNH 1979.7.25.1 (1), UK, Scotland; BMNH 1983.3.8.246-249 (4), UK, Plymouth; HUJ 8081 (12), Israel, Ashkelon; HUJ 20611 (1), Balearic Islands, northeast of Mallorca; HUJ 20629 (3), Balearic Islands, northeast of Mallorca; HUJ 20634 (2), Balearic Islands, northeast of Mallorca; HUJ 20636 (1), Balearic Islands, northeast of Mallorca; IFAN 1954-12 (1), Algeria; IRSN 294 (2), Iceland; IRSN 8321 (2), France, Banyuls-sur-Mer; MNHN 1977-0150 (10), France, Sète; MSNG 32412 (1), Italy, Genova; SMNS 571 (2), Croatia, Split; SMNS 992 (4), Italy, Trieste; SMNS 8497 (2), Italy, Genova; SMNS 8511 (33), Italy, Genova; SMNS 8526 (1), UK, Scotland; SMNS 21188 (1), Italy, Genova; SMNS 24064 (1), Denmark, Jutland; SMNS 24097 (1), Denmark, Jutland; SMNS 24098 (23), Germany, Niedersachsen; SMNS 24468 (2), Denmark, Skagerrak; SMNS 26412 (2), Germany, Wadden Sea; TMN 774 (1), Norway, Tosen; ZMB 2162 (2), Mediterranean Sea; ZMB 12402 (1), France, Nice.

*Callionymus risso* LeSueur, 1814: BMNH 1891.8.31.18 (1), Italy, Calabria; BMNH 1963.7.25.70-72 (3), Romania; BMNH 1980.7.33-34 (2), Mediterranean Sea; CAS-SU 20920 (14), Italy, Napoli; HUJ 7205 (2), Turkey; HUJ 8082 (7), Israel; HUJ 8176 (1), Egypt, El-Arish; MNHN A1540-A1544 (5 syntypes), France, Nice; MNHN A1545 (2), Italy, Napoli;
NMW 35140 (5), Italy; Sicily; Palermo; NMW 58740 (2), Croatia; Adriatic Sea; NMW 79770 (4), Croatia; Isola; NMW 89051 (2), Croatia; Split; SMF 8328 (1), Turkey; Marmara Sea; SMNS 582 (1), France; Nice; SMNS 13597 (1), Turkey; Balikesir; SMNS 13601 (3), Italy; Elba Island; SMNS 13602 (1), Greece; Peloponnes; SMNS 13603 (1), Turkey; Muğla; SMNS 16085 (1), Croatia; Cres Island; SMNS 24338 (1), Croatia; Cres Island; TAU P.4703 (11), Egypt, off northern Sinai; ZMB 10997 (1), Italy; Ravenna; ZMB 13337 (3), Turkey; ZMB 21488 (3), Romania; ZMUC P.64152 (3), Tunisia; ZMUC P.64153 (1), Tunisia.

**Diplogrammus randalli** Fricke, 1983 [Lessesian migrant]: ICK PIS.1089 (1), Turkey, Muğla Province, Fethiye.

**Protogrammus alboranensis** Fricke, Ordines, Farias et Garcia-Ruiz, 2016: CFM_IEOMA 5557 (holotype, male, 50.2 mm SL), Spain, Alboran Sea, 35°56′36″N, 3°05′48″W; CFM_IEOMA 5558 (1 paratype, male, 48.1 mm SL, same data as the holotype); SMF 35715 (1 paratype, male, 36.5 mm SL), Spain, Alboran Sea, 35°56′19″N, 3°05′48″W; SMF 35716 (1 paratype, female, 24.5 mm SL, same data as SMF 35715).

**Protogrammus sousai** (Maul, 1972): MMF 22877 (holotype), Great Meteor Seamount, 315–320 m depth; MMF 22389 (1 paratype), Great Meteor Seamount, 310 m depth; MMF 22843a (1 paratype), Great Meteor Seamount; MMF 22843b (1 paratype), Great Meteor Seamount.

**Synchronopus phaeoton** ( Günther, 1861): ANSP 19945-19956 (12 syntypes of Callionymus festivus Bonaparte, 1833 and Callionymus phaeoton Günther, 1861), Mediterranean Sea; NMW 58817 (1 syntype of Callionymus phaeoton Günther, 1861), Mediterranean Sea; BMNH 1971.7.21.171-173 (3), Portugal; BMNH 1972.1.10.66-71 (6), Morocco; HUJ 8077 (3), Israel; HUJ 8079 (2), Israel; HJ 8092 (5), Israel; HUJ 8397 (1), Israel; HUJ 20633 (1), Balearic Islands, northeast of Mallorca; SMNS 15282 (1), France, Pyrenées Orientales.

**Synchronopus sechellensis** (Regan, 1908) [Lessesian migrant]: MFFAU 117 (1 male, 82 mm SL), Turkey, Gulf of Antalya.

**RESULTS**

Family CALLIONYMIDAE

*Callionymus* Linnaeus, 1758

*Callionymus reticulatus* Valenciennes in Cuvier et Valenciennes, 1837

Fig. 1, Table 1

**Description.** Dorsal-fin spines IV, rays ix, 1; anal-fin rays vii-ix, 1. Head slightly depressed, 3.5–4.1 in SL. Eye 2.2–3.1 in head length. Branchial opening pore-like, dorsal in position. Preopercular spine with a small, upcurved main tip and two points at its dorsal margin, formula:

\[ - \frac{2}{\text{tip} + \text{2 points}} \]

(Fig. 1). First dorsal fin without a filament, first spine shorter than first ray of second dorsal fin in females; caudal fin rounded, without filaments, caudal-fin length 3.7–5.2 in SL. Measurements of the voucher specimens from the Balearic Islands see Table 1.

Colour of fresh, female specimens: body above lateral line cream, back with six dark saddle-like areas, surrounded by white spots, lower sides of body white; upper half of pectoral-fin base with dark grey blotch, lower half with two white spots; eye dark grey. First dorsal mostly dark grey, membranes ventrally pale; second dorsal translucent, with oblique rows of dark blotches, membranes with a distal dark grey margin. Anal fin with a narrow distal dark band. Pectoral fins translucent; pelvic fins pale, with two series of dark grey blotches. Caudal fin pale, with three series of dark grey blotches.

**DISCUSSION**

This species was first described by Valenciennes in Cuvier and Valenciennes (1837a: 284) based on a single specimen from Malaga, Spain. The species was first confused by several authors with *Callionymus maculatus* Rafinesque, 1810 (Day 1881: 177–178, part: UK; Moreau 1881: 169–170, part: France; de Buen 1935: 140, Spain; Nobre 1935: 153, 505, Portugal; Albuquerque 1954–1956: 838, Portugal). Chang (1951: 297, pls. 1–3) re-established the species, distinguished it from *C. lacera* and reviewed the distribution; subsequently, the species was reported from various localities in the north-eastern Atlantic between Portugal and Norway (Wheeler 1961: 753, Isle of Man; mouth of Thames River, UK, North Sea; Boer 1966: 261, Netherlands; Ryland 1969: 129, Ireland; Wheeler 1969: 432, western Channel, Irish Sea, southern North Sea; Boer 1971: 506, Netherlands; Demir 1972: 997, Plymouth, UK; Wheeler 1973: 517, checklist; Wheeler et al. 1975: 197, Irish Sea; Frölider and Greve 1976: 1, Norway; Zander 1979: 414, Helgoland, Germany; Iglesias 1981: 201, 203, northern Spain; Santos et al. 1997: 128, Azores; Quéro et al. 2003: 277, Île d’Oléron, France; Neudecker and Damm 2004: 204, Germany, North Sea; Le Mao 2009: 79, Guernsey, English Channel; Quéro et al. 2009: 939, Île d’Yeu, France; da Cunha and Antunes 2012: 489, Estoril, Portugal). Fricke (1982: 65) treated the species as valid in an initial checklist of callionymid fishes; Fricke et al. (1984: 107) reported the disintegrated state of the holotype in a type catalogue. Fricke (unpublished) revised the species and recorded it from a distribution range from western Sahara to Norway, and Malaga in the western Mediterranean based on the holotype; the status of the species was summarised by Fricke in Whitehead et al. (1986: 1090), Fricke (1987: 1006; 2002: 38; 2016: 2819). In the western Mediterranean, the species was previously only known from the holotype from Malaga.
First record of *Callionymus reticulatus* from Balearic Islands

Fig. 1. *Callionymus reticulatus*, HUJ 20569, specimen 1, female, 25.2 mm SL, western Mediterranean Sea, Spain, Balearic Islands, west of Mallorca, south of Dragonera Island; A. Lateral view; scale indicates 5 mm. B. Left preopercular spine; scale indicates 1 mm

Table 1

*Callionymus reticulatus* Valenciennes, 1837; Measurements of specimens from Mallorca

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Specimen (museum number and sex)</th>
<th>HUJ 20569</th>
<th>20614 HUJ</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Female (museum number and sex)</td>
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<td>Female</td>
<td>Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>24.3</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1.4</td>
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<td>2.1</td>
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<td>Length of first ray of second dorsal fin</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Pelvic-fin length</td>
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</table>
Spain, which had been collected by Louis-Antoine-François Baillon (see Bauchot et al. 1990: 57), probably before 1831. The currently known distribution records of the species are summarized in Fig. 2.

In the course of the DRAGONSAL 2014 Cruise in the Balearic Islands, numerous specimens of *Callionymus reticulatus* were observed south and west of Mallorca but not retained (see Table 2, Fig. 3); just 4 small females collected at station 34 are available for this study. While the species appeared to be very common in September 2014, it was scarcely found at the stations with the previously highest abundance during the MEDITS_ES05 Cruise in June 2016. The reason of the disappearance from many stations remains unknown. Seasonal migrations for spawning or feeding could be one explanation for such differences. According to Fricke in Whitehead et al. (1986: 1090) the species reproduces in March–June in the North Sea. If spawning takes place at the same period in the Mediterranean and it involves some migration to other areas, this could be the explanation for such a scarcity of individuals.

The new record of *Callionymus reticulatus* from the Balearic Islands confirms that this species is extant in the Mediterranean Sea, and expands the known distribution range by 700 kilometres towards the northeast into the Mediterranean; this is the second Mediterranean region for which the presence of this otherwise Atlantic species could be confirmed. A total of 10 species of callionymid fishes is now known to occur in the Mediterranean Sea, including two Lessepsian immigrants of Red Sea origin which have invaded through the Suez Canal.

*Callionymus reticulatus* inhabits coarse sand bottom, with a grain size similar to the size of the spots on the back and sides of the specimens; the species was found near Mallorca at depths of 46–68 m, significantly deeper than in the north-eastern Atlantic; Atlantic depth records based on SMNS materials range from 11–57 m. A reason for this deeper occurrence may be due to a slightly higher water temperature in the Mediterranean compared to the same depths in the north-eastern Atlantic and the presence of red algae communities such as maërl and *Peyssonnelia* beds which dominate the coarse sand circalittoral bottoms of the Balearic Islands down to 80 m depth (Ballesteros 1994, Ordines and Massuti 2009, Barberá et al. 2012). In this sense, there seems to be a clear habitat partitioning between *C. reticulatus* and *C. maculatus* in the area sampled during the DRAGONSAL0914 survey. *Callionymus reticulatus* showed high abundances that decreased with depth until it disappeared deeper than 68 m, whereas *C. maculatus* began to appear at 78 m depth (Fig. 4), in coincidence with the disappearance of red algae beds and the beginning of bare sandy-mud bottoms. The red algae beds of the south west of Mallorca seem to play a key role to juvenile and small fish species, which show their highest abundances in these bottoms. Both, shelter availability, due to the higher structural complexity of these beds compared to bare sandy mud bottoms, and feeding opportunities, they show high abundances of small invertebrates as well, seem to be the main traits explaining juvenile and small fish preferences for these habitats (Ordines et al. 2011). The population of *C. reticulatus* in the Balearic Islands seems to be positively affected by these habitats as well.

![Fig. 2. Geographical distribution of *Callionymus reticulatus* in the north-eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean; Circles are new records from the Balearics, triangles are previous records](image)

**Table 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station No.</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Geographical coordinates</th>
<th>Depth [m]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>03 Sep 2014</td>
<td>South of Mallorca</td>
<td>39°25'46.92&quot;N 2°37'41.52&quot;E</td>
<td>59</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>06 Sep 2014</td>
<td>South of Mallorca</td>
<td>39°18'58.32&quot;N 2°49'19.20&quot;E</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>06 Sep 2014</td>
<td>South of Mallorca</td>
<td>39°18'00.00&quot;N 2°56'43.80&quot;E</td>
<td>48</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>07 Sep 2014</td>
<td>South of Mallorca</td>
<td>39°16'59.52&quot;N 2°58'13.08&quot;E</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
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<td>34</td>
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<td>39°22'01.20&quot;N 2°41'04.20&quot;E</td>
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<td>53</td>
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<td>South of Mallorca</td>
<td>39°22'01.92&quot;N 2°42'03.60&quot;E</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
First record of *Callionymus reticulatus* from Balearic Islands

**KEY TO SPECIES OF CALLIONYMIDAE FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA**

1a. Second dorsal rays all branched (occasionally except for the first); gill opening sublateral .................. 2
1b. Second dorsal rays not all branched (only the last is divided at the base); gill opening dorsal .......... 3

2a. Caudal fin with two median filaments; first dorsal fin without filaments .................. *Synchirops phaeton*
2b. Caudal fin without median filaments; first dorsal fin with 4 (male) or 1 (female) filaments...... *Synchirops sechellensis*

3a. Opercle distally with a free flap of skin (which may be present only in the lower half); sides of body with a ventrolateral fold of skin (which may be complete or divided into segments) ........................................ 4
3b. Opercle distally without a free flap of skin; sides of body without a ventrolateral fold of skin .......... 5

4a. Only lower half of opercle with a free flap of skin; sides of body with a ventrolateral fold of skin which is divided into segments; preopercular spine with a single dorsal point (additional to the main tip and an antrose spine at base); second dorsal fin with 9 rays; anal fin with 8 rays .......... *Protogrammus alboranensis*
4b. Complete opercle with a distal free flap of skin; sides of body with an undivided ventrolateral fold of skin; preopercular spine with 3–7 dorsal points (additional to the main tip and an antrose spine at base); second dorsal fin with 7–8 rays; anal fin with 6–7 rays ....................... *Diplogrammus randalli*

5a. Preopercular spine with 4–7 antrose serrae at its upper side; male: first spine of first dorsal fin detached from rest of fin .................. *Callionymus filamentosus*
5b. Preopercular spine with 1–3 moderately curved points at its upper side; male: first spine of first dorsal fin connected with second spine by a membrane .......... 6

6a. First dorsal with III spines .......... *Callionymus risso*
6b. First dorsal with IV spines .................... 7

7a. Second dorsal rays 6–7; male with vertical blue streaks along side of body .......... *Callionymus pusillus*
7b. Second dorsal rays 8–10; male without vertical blue streaks along side of body ....................... 8

8a. Second dorsal relatively low, without black blotches .. ............................................ *Callionymus lyra*
8b. Second dorsal higher than second ray of first dorsal, with black blotches in rows ...................... 9

9a. Second dorsal with horizontally arranged rows of dark blotches......................... *Callionymus maculatus*
9b. Second dorsal with obliquely or vertically arranged rows of dark blotches .............. 10

10a. Antrose tip at base of preopercular spine rudimentary or absent; second dorsal with 10 rays ................. *Callionymus reticulatus*
10b. Antrose tip at base of preopercular spine well developed; second dorsal with 9 rays ................. *Callionymus fasciatus*

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