

THE DISTRIBUTION AND OCCURRENCE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CLAUSILIIDA SPECIES IN LATVIA

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Family Clausiliidae includes 1500 species, of which more than 50 species are found in Europe. Disjunct distribution and stenobiontism are typical features of the Clausiliidae.

In Latvia 12 species of Clausiliidae has been found: *Balea biplicata*, *Bulgarica cana*, *Clausilia bidentata*, *Clausilia cruciata*, *Clausilia dubia*, *Clausilia pumila*, *Cochlodina laminata*, *Cochlodina orthostoma*, *Laciniaria plicata*, *Macrogastra borealis*, *Macrogastra ventricosa*, *Ruthenica filograna* (Rudzīte et al., 2010). For all species Latvia is situated in periphery of their range (Kerney et al. 1983). According to literature (Лихарев, 1962; Kantor, Sysoev, 2005) two species – *Clausilia bidentata* and *C. cruciata* do not overlap in the territory of Latvia. Data based on collections of Latvian Museum of Natural History and Institute of Systematic Biology as well as on various study materials show that these species occur locally outside their main range, and they can be found together in one locality. In contrast, whole territory of Latvia is included in the range of *Macrogastra borealis* (Лихарев, 1962; Kantor, Sysoev, 2005) while our data show that this species can be found only in three geobotanic regions: at seaside, in Vidzeme and in Southeast geobotanic region.

All other Clausiliidae species are found in whole territory of Latvia but they have different occurrence patterns. *Cochlodina laminata* and *Macrogastra ventricosa* are the most common species. *Bulgarica cana* and *Clausilia dubia* are relatively common. *Ruthenica filograna*, *Clausilia cruciata*, *C. pumila*, *Laciniaria plicata*. are relatively rare. *Clausilia bidentata* is rare, only in the seaside geobotanic region it is found more often and in greater number. Most rare species are *Cochlodina orthostoma* and *Macrogastra borealis*. All Latvian Clausiliidae species according to their ecological type are the forest species. Most of them are indicators of forest key habitats and they are specially protected species.

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