

The first record of the bluntnose six-gill shark [*Hexanchus griseus* (BONNATERRE, 1788)] in the Sea of Marmara

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The bluntnose six-gill shark, Hexanchus griseus (BONNATERRE, 1788), was recorded for the first time in the Sea of Marmara (off the coast of Şarköy - 40° 09' 50" N; 27° 18' 40" E). The main morphologic and morphometric data of one specimen of this species are given. The present recording extends the distribution of H. griseus to the Sea of Marmara.

Key words: Sea of Marmara, *Hexanchus griseus*, first record

INTRODUCTION

The bluntnose six-gill shark, *Hexanchus griseus* (BONNATERRE, 1788) is a wide-ranging species of the family Hexanchidae found in temperate or subtropical seas of the world (COMPAGNO, 1984). The occurrence of this species in the Mediterranean Sea has been well documented (TORTONESE, 1956; BOESEMAN, 1984; BAUCHOT, 1987; ŞOLJAN, 1975; JARDAS, 1996). AKŞIRAY (1987) reported the presence of this shark in the seas of Turkey excluding the Sea of Marmara and the Black Sea. There is no record of *H. griseus* in the comprehensive studies of the ichthyofauna of the Sea of Marmara (ERAZİ, 1942; KOCATAŞ *et al.*, 1993). MATER and MERİÇ (1996) list the fish in the seas of Turkey, and they reported that *H. griseus* is found only in the Aegean and Mediterranean Seas.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The aim of this paper is to present the first record of *H. griseus* in the Sea of Marmara and its morphologic and morphometric characteristics.

On February 20, 1997, a male of six-gill shark was caught by a commercial purse-seining boat at a depth of 50 m, off the coast of Şarköy (40° 09' 50" N; 27° 18' 40" E, southeastern Sea of Marmara) (Fig. 1). The specimen was accurately identified according to the taxonomic key provided by BOESEMAN (1984). The total length (TL) was measured to the nearest 1.0 mm, while morphometric measurements to the nearest 0.1 mm. Unfortunately, I was unable to weigh the shark due to the lack of a suitable balance. Teeth from lower and upper jaws of the specimen were removed. Tooth samples were placed in the personal collection of the author.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Selected measurements of the specimen are presented in Table 1. The trunk is slender; head is long and 18.5% of the total length, snout is relatively short and blunt. The eyes are small, eye length is 9.7% of the head length. The spiracles are moderate, 2.14 times in eye length. There are 6 pairs of gill-slits on the sides of the

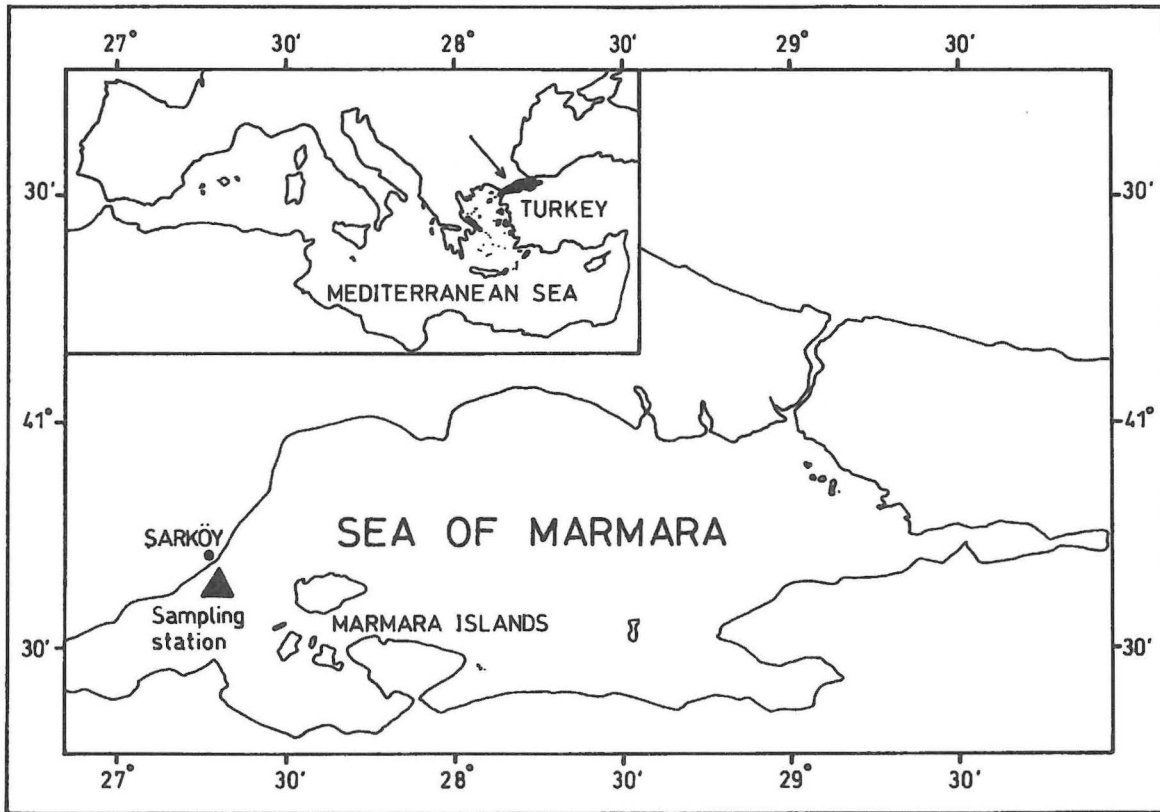


Fig. 1. Sampling station off the coast of Şarköy (40° 09' 50" N; 27° 18' 40" E)

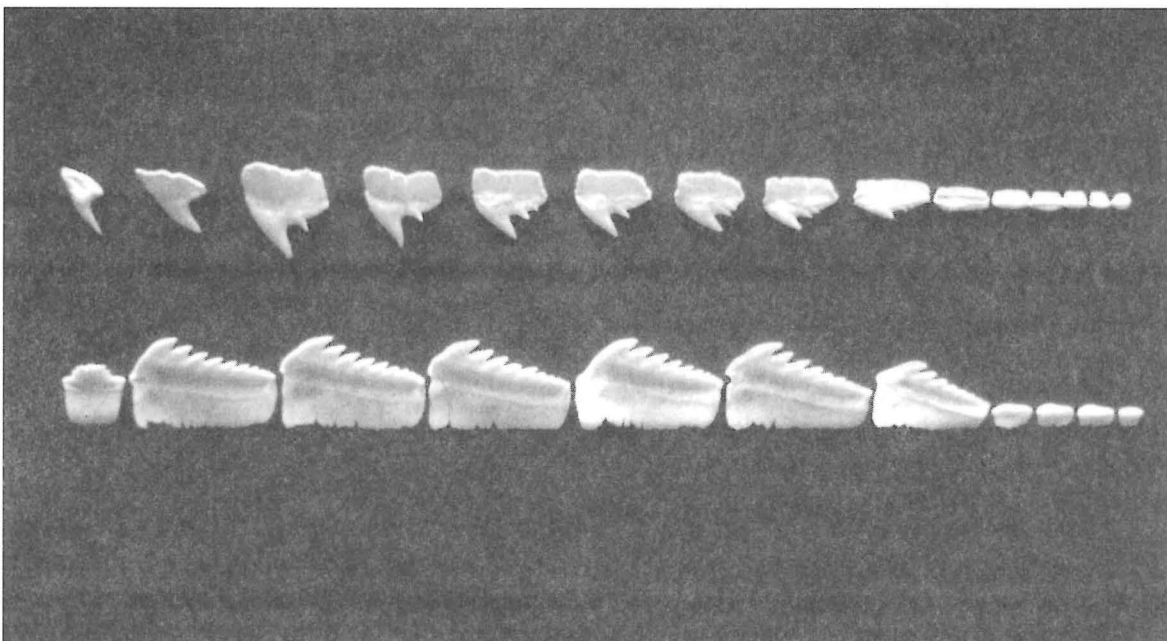


Fig. 2. Teeth on the left side of jaw of *Hexanchus griseus* caught in the Sea of Marmara (scale bar 10 mm)

Table 1. Selected measurements of *Hexanchus griseus* caught in the Sea of Marmara; body proportions are given as a percentage of the total length (TL).

Measurements	mm	% (TL)	Measurements	mm	% (TL)
Total length	2500	-	Posterior margin length	215	8.6
Head length	462.9	18.5	<u>Pelvic fin</u>		
Eye length	45	1.8	Anterior margin length	122	4.8
Eye height	42	1.6	Base length	215	8.6
Gill slit height			Inner margin length	132	5.2
1st	115.5	4.6	Posterior margin length	215	8.6
3rd	92.5	3.7	<u>Dorsal fin</u>		
5th	81.1	3.2	Anterior margin length	160	6.4
Interorbital space	177	7.08	Base length	155	6.2
Spiracle length	13	0.52	Inner margin length	52	2.08
Eye-spiracle length	120	4.8	Posterior margin length	118	4.7
Clasper outer length	95	3.8	Height	117	4.6
Clasper inner length	138	5.5	<u>Anal fin</u>		
Clasper base width	50	2	Anterior margin length	104	4.1
<u>Pectoral fin</u>			Base length	122	4.8
Anterior margin length	300	12	Inner margin length	37	1.4
Base length	195	7.8	Posterior margin length	95	3.8
Inner margin length	132	5.2	Height	73	2.9

head. A spineless dorsal fin is found rather far back on the body; its origin is above the apex of the inner angle of the pelvic fins. The caudal peduncle is short. The distance from the insertion of the dorsal fin to the origin of the upper

caudal lobe is about equal or slightly greater than the base length of the dorsal fin. Teeth on the jaws are different in shape (Fig. 2). The upper jaw with 4 rows of front teeth; each tooth has a long, principal cusp, and a few, small sec-

ondary cusps. The lower jaw has 6 rows of comb-like lateral teeth. Dental formulae of the specimen is 14 - 1 - 14 / 10 - 1 - 10.

The colour of the specimen is brownish dark grey above and lighter below. There are no marks on the fins.

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Prvi nalaz psa glavonje *Hexanchus griseus* (BONNATERRE, 1788) u Mramornom moru

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SAŽETAK

Pas glavonja *Hexanchus griseus* (BONNATERRE, 1788), prvi je put zabilježen za Mramorno more (40° 09' 50" N; 27° 18' 40" E). Daju se glavni morfološki i morfometrijski podaci za jedini primjerak ove vrste. Ovim nalazom proširuje se poznavanje rasprostranjenosti vrste *H. griseus* na Mramorno more.