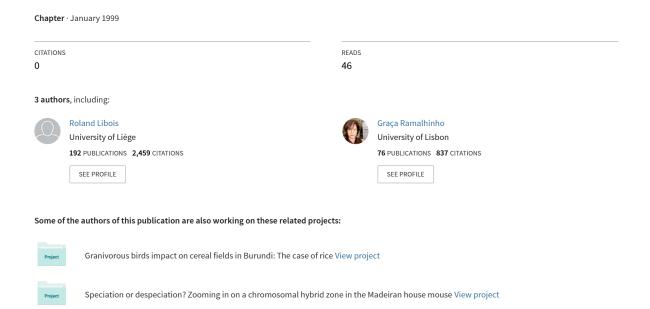
## Crocidura suaveolens



# THE ATLAS OF EUROPEAN MAMMALS

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# Crocidura suaveolens (Pallas, 1811)



Allozyme and karyotype analyses demonstrated that shrews from Corsica, eastern Europe, Asia Minor and Israel previously considered as *C. russula* are in fact *C. suaveolens*.

#### Distribution

World: Palaearctic south of the 54th parallel from the Atlantic coast to Japan (Tsushima island). Known from Israel and Saudi Arabia, Asia Minor and the Caucasus, Kara-Kum and Kyzyl-Kum deserts as far as Lake Balkhash (Kazakhstan), southern Kyrgyzstan, North and South Korea, Taiwan, lowlands of north-eastern China between Shanghai and Beijing.

Europe: north-west of the Iberian Peninsula, western France (including some Atlantic and Channel islands) and from southern France to Italy and the Balkans, and to central and eastern Europe north to Poland. On most of the eastern Mediterranean islands and on Menorca, Corsica, Elba and Capraia.

#### Geographic variation

Morphologically and biochemically polymorphic. Size variation on the continent is obviously independent from genetic relationships. Several subspecies, many of them from islands, have been described, mainly due to their large size, but their status is not clear. Electrophoretic data indicate, that *Crocidura suavolens cypria* Bate, 1904 from Cyprus is biochemically more distant from Turkish populations than is the case with *C. s. caneae* 

#### Lesser white-toothed shrew

	Lessel Wille	COO	theu shrew
AL	Hundegjati i vogel	LT	Mažasis baltadantis
BG	Малка белозъбка		kirstukas
CZ	Bělozubka šedá	LU	Gaardespëtzmaus
DE	Gartenspitzmaus	LV	Mazais baltzobcirsh
DK	Havespidsmus	MK	Градинарска ровка
EE	Väikekarilik; Kodumutt	MT_	-
ES	Musaraña de campo	NL	Tuinspitsmuis
FI	Kotipäästäinen	NO	Hagespissmus
FO		PL	Zębiełek karliczek
FR	Crocidure des jardins	PT	Musaranho-pequen
GR	Κηπομυγαλίδα		dentes-brancos
HR	Poljska rovka	RO	Chiţcanul-de-grădi
HU	Keleti cickány	RU	Малая белозубка
IR		SE	Trädgårdsnäbbmus
IS		SI	Vrtna rovka
IT	Crocidura minore	SK	Bielozúbka krpatá
		TR	Bahçe sivriburunu
		VII	Demiro nonum

Miller, 1909 from Crete. *C. s. enezsizunensis* (Heim de Balsac & Beaufort, 1966) from the isle of Sein is probably extinct and replaced by *C. russula*.

#### Habitat

In north-eastern Europe and at higher altitudes synanthropic (houses, gardens and parks) especially in winter. In western and southern Europe occurs in a wide variety of habitats. Avoids dense forests, but is abundant in hedges, vineyards, olive groves, in coastal sand dunes and may also occur around boulders in mountainous areas. In the Mediterranean region in dry (old terraces with stone walls and in low maquis scrub) and wet places with dense vegetation. Found at altitudes between sea level and 1600 m but is quite rare above 1000 m.

#### Population status

Not very common in the western part of its range and much less abundant than *C. russula* when sympatric. Seems to have been replaced by *C. russula* owing to competitive exclusion mainly on small islands, but also in many continental places. May suffer from the use of insecticides and other toxic chemicals in agricultural areas.

### International legal & conservation status

Bern Convention, Appendix III, but *C. s. caneae* is on Appendix II as *C. s. ariadne*.



#### Literature

Cosson *et al.* (1996) Ingelög *et al.* (1993) Vlasák & Niethammer (1990) – review

R. Libois, M. G. Ramalhinho & R. Fons