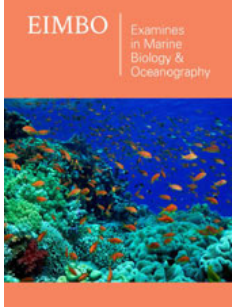


First Record of the Minute and Rare Marine Red Alga *Colaconema Bonnemaisioniae* Batters for Türkiye

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Opinion

The genus *Colaconema* was established by Batters [1], with three species described at that time: *C. bonnemaisioniae* Batters, *C. chylocladiae* Batters and *C. reticulatum* Batters [current name *Colacodictyon reticulatum* (Batters) Feldmann]. *Colaconema bonnemaisioniae* is the lectotype species of the genus. *Colaconema* closely resembles *Audouinella* Bory [2]. Ten species of the genus *Colaconema* was known from the Mediterranean Sea: *C. bonnemaisioniae*, *C. Codicola* (Børgesen) Stegenga, J.J. Bolton & R.J. Anderson, *C. corymbiferum* (Thuret) Alongi, Cormaci & G. Furnari, *C. daviesii* (Dillwyn) Stegenga, *C. hallandicum* (Kylin) Afonso-Carrillo, Sanson, Sangil & Diaz-Villa, *C. infestans* (M. Howe & Hoyt) Woelkerling, *C. leptonema* (Rosenvinge) Alongi, Cormaci & G. Furnari, *C. nemalii* (De Notaris ex Dufour) Stegenga, *C. savianum* (Meneghini) R. Nielsen and *C. subtilissimum* (Kützing) Alongi, Cormaci & G. Furnari [2]. *C. bonnemaisioniae* is differs from other Mediterranean species by endophytic thallus. It was recorded as endophytic in cell-wall of red alga *Bonnemaisionia asparagoides* [1].

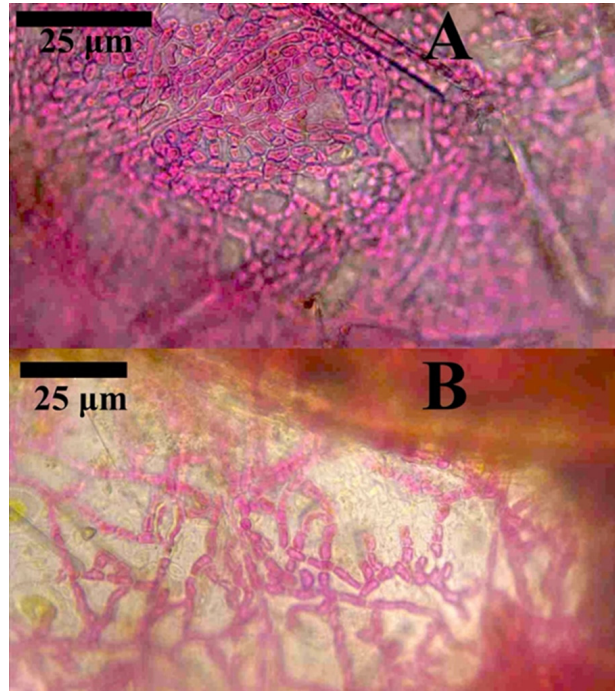


Figure 1: The red alga *Colaconema bonnemaisioniae* (A-B: endophytic on *Pedobesia simplex*) from the Aegean coast of Türkiye.

Colaconema bonnemaisoniae (Rhodophyta, Florideophyceae, Colaconematales, Colaconemataceae) found from the coast of Gökova Bay (36,7977° N; 28,0153° E) of the Aegean Sea in November 2023 at 5m depth. The algal material was collected by SCUBA diving, and specimen was preserved in 4-5% formalin in seawater. The identification of the sample was made on the basis of the descriptions by Cormaci et al. [2]. Thalli filamentous, minute and endophytic in the green alga *Pedobesia simplex* (Figure 1A-B). Thalli endophytic, pink in color, prostrate, filaments richly and irregularly branched, growing between the cell walls of the host plant. *C. bonnemaisoniae* is known from Atlantic Ocean (Britain, France, Ireland, Sweden, Scandinavia, Spain, Portugal), North

America, Mexico, China, Australia, New Zealand, Africa and the Mediterranean Sea (Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Spain France) [3].

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