

**New Records for the Nematode Fauna of Turkey (Nematoda: Chromadoridae)**Derya ÜRKMEZ<sup>1</sup>, Murat SEZGİN<sup>2</sup><sup>1</sup>Department of Hydrobiology, Faculty of Fisheries, Sinop University, Turkey<sup>2</sup>Scientific and Technological Research and Application Center, Sinop University, Turkey  
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**Aim of the study:** Free-living marine nematodes were investigated for the first time in the scope of a meiobenthos project. This study is part of a comprehensive research on meiobenthos ecology of Sinop Bay (Southern Black Sea, Turkey) reporting new nematode taxa for the marine fauna of Turkey.

**Material and Methods:** Sediment samples were collected monthly between August 2009 and July 2010 at eight stations located on four transects (3 m and 10 m depth). Three replicates of samples were obtained at each station using a metal push corer (diam. 4 cm) and they were fixed onboard with 75% ethanol. Material was washed through a set of sieves (1 mm, 500 µm, 63 µm) in the laboratory and stained with rose Bengal solution. Nematodes were counted under a stereomicroscope and their permanent slides were prepared using slow evaporation method. A research microscope (Nikon Eclipse Ni-U) equipped with Nomarski optics was used for the identifications.

**Results:** With the present study, three chromadorids are reported for the first time from Turkey: *Hypodontolaimus* sp., *Prochromadorella* sp. and *Spilophorella campbelli* Allgén, 1928. The first two genera are also first records for the Turkish nematode fauna. The taxonomical and ecological features of the three species are investigated. DIC (Differential interference contrast) photographs and morphometric measurements are provided and the spatio-temporal distributions of the species are presented.

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**Keywords:** Free-living marine nematodes, Meiobenthos, Chromadoridae, Black Sea, Turkey.