

{rokbox title=|*Tambja mediterranea* sp. nov. :: Imagen: Costantino Mifsud (Malta)|
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M. Domínguez, M. Pola, M. Ramón, 2015. [A new species of *Tambja* \(Mollusca, Gastropoda, Nudibranchia\) from the Mediterranean Sea: description of the first species of the genus from the Balearic Islands and Malta](#)

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Abstract: A new species of polycerid nudibranchs of the genus *Tambja* is described from Mallorca Island (Spain) and Malta. So far, only two species of

Tambja

had been recorded in the Mediterranean Sea with a distribution limited to southern Spain. With *Tambja mediterranea* sp. nov.

, the distribution of the genus in the Mediterranean Sea is extended, and the new species represents the first occurrence of

Tambja

at the Balearic Islands and Malta. Externally, the new species is mainly characterized by having ground orange-red colour, dorsum covered with rounded whitish tubercles, rhinophores red with whitish tips and three gill branches with orange-reddish rachis and whitish branches. In the present paper, external and internal features of

T. mediterranea

are described and compared with other species of the genus, especially with its most similar species,

T. limaciformis

. Additionally, phylogenetic analyses (Bayesian and maximum likelihood) based on mitochondrial sequences (COI) show that

T. mediterranea sp. nov.

is sister to

T. divae

and that both species cluster together with

T. limaciformis

and

T. amakusana

with the maximum support.

Keywords: Polyceridae, Nembrothinae, Mediterranean Sea, New species, Balearic Island, Malta