

Küçükyoğat'ta Bulunan Gazella Capricornis Rodler ve Weithofer'e Ait Bir Boynuz

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Özet

Bu boynuz parçasını 1951 yılında Küçükyoğat'ın güneyinde bulunan fosilli sahada yaptığım bir kazı esnasında buldum.² Gazella capricornis Rodler ve Weithofer'e³ (Gazella rodleri Pilgrim ve Hopwood⁴) ait olan bu boynuz parçası, daha evvel Maragha⁵ ve Besarabya'da⁶ bulunmuş olan bu türün (species) Ponsien çağda Anadolu'da da yaşamış olduğunu göstermektedir.

1 —Ankara Üniversitesi Paleoantropoloji kürsü Profesörü.

2 — İlk defa 1941 yılında Tschachtli tarafından ziyaret edilmiş olan bu fosilli sahanın mevkii ve burada yapılmış olan araştırmaların tarihçesi için bak Şenyürek, M. S.: A note on a new species of Gazella from the Pontian of Küçükyoğat. Ankara Üniversitesi Dil ve Tarih Coğrafya Fakültesi Dergisi, Cilt XI,Sayı1, 1953, S. 1-2.

3 — Rodler, A. ve Weithofer, K. A. : Die Wiederkauer der Fauna von Maragha. Denkschriften der Kaiserlichen Akademie der Wissenschaften. Mathematisch Naturwissenschaftliche Classe, Cilt 57, Viyana, 1890, S. 767.

4 Pilgrim, G. E. ve Hopwood, A. T.: Catalogue of the Pontian Bovidae of Europe in the Department of Geology. British Museum (Natural History), Londra, 1928, S. 16.

5 Rodler ve Weithofer, 1890, S. 767

6 Pligrimve Hopwood, 1928, S. 17.

A Horn Core of *Gazella Capricornis* Rodler and Weithofer Found at Küçükoyzgat

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In a previous study on the Pontian fauna from Küçükoyzgat I had stated that, in addition to the already determined species, there were still some indetermined specimens of Pontian gazelles in the Collection.(3) As since that time I have determined the species of a horn-core of a gazelle, I have considered it worthwhile to publish it in a short note, since the determination of other specimens of gazelles, other forms and the preparation of the full report will take considerable time.

The horn-core described in this report is from the whitish calcareous marls of lacustrine origin south of Küçükoyzgat, the fauna of which I have labelled as <<Küçükoyzgat fauna>> to distinguish it from the <<Karacahasan fauna>> found in heterogeneous calcareous clays of light-brown color, near the village of Karacahasan(4) This Pontian horn-core was found during the excavation I conducted in this area in 1951.(5)

1) Professor of Anthropology and Chairman of the Division of Palaeoanthropology, University of Ankara.

2) Senyilrek, 1953, p. 2.

3) In my previous paper (Şenyürek, 1953, p. 2) I had stated:

"In addition there are still indetermined remains of Rhinocerotidae, a couple of broken teeth of Carnivora, a number of still indetermined Gazellas and another form of Oioceros" . These forms also Will be published in separate notes as soon as they are determined.

4) For the location and history of researches at this fossiliferous area, first visited by Tschachtli in 1941 (Tschachtli, 1942) see Şenyürek, 1953, pp. 1-2,

5) On this occasion I wish to express my thanks to the office of the Dean, the Professors' Council and the Eastern Anatolian Research Station of the Faculty of Language, History and Geography of the University of Ankara and the Turkish Historical Society for the grants to work at this place. For these see Şenyürek, 1953, p. 1.

Family Bovidae Gray, 1821⁶

Genus *Gazella* De Blainville, 1816⁷

Gazella Capricornis Rodler and Weithofer⁸ (*Gazella Rodleri*

Pilgrim and Hopwood⁹

This species is represented by a fragment of a left horn-core (Figs. 1, 2 and 3). In this specimen the basal half of the horn-core is preserved, together with a small part of the orbit and a small portion of os frontale. This horn-core, which has an elliptical cross-section at the base, is laterally compressed as in the specimens from the Pontian of Maragha.¹⁰ The external surface of this horn-core is flat at the base, while the internal surface is slightly convex. The same features are also seen in other parts of the horn-core up to the point where it is broken (Fig. 3). When viewed in norma lateralis, the horn-core curves noticeably backward (Fig. 2), the curvature starting about 2.5 centimeters above the base. As described by De Mecquenem, in the specimen from Maragha the curvature also starts near the base.¹¹ The surface of the horn-core exhibits a few longitudinal furrows, of which some are relatively wide and some narrow. In the number and depths of the furrows, this horn-core from Küçükyozgat does not differ much from the specimen from Maragha depicted by Rodler and Weithofer¹² However, the most characteristic feature of this horn-core is that as it goes up it is somewhat twisted, so that while the most projecting point of the anterior surface is in the middle at the base, it moves to the external side at the top, where the horn-core is broken, as in the specimen from Maragha, as described by Rodler and Weithofer.¹³ This twist, characteristic of *Gazella capricornis* Rodler and Weithofer (*Gazella rodleri* Pilgrim and Hopwood) is also noted by other writers.¹⁴

6) Simpson, 1950, p. 157.

7) Ibid., p. 161.

8) Rodler and Weithofer, 1890, p. 767.

9) Pilgrim and Hopwood, 1928, p. 16 10) Rodler and Weithofer, 1890, p. 767, De Mecquenem, 1925, p. 2.

11) Ibid., p. 2.

12) Rodler and Weithofer, 1890, pl. V, fig. 1

13) Ibid., p. 767.

14) De Mecquenem, 1925, p. 2, Pilgrim and Hopwood, 1928 p. 17 Pilgrim, 1937, p. 810.

The measurements of this horn-core are as follows:

Antero-posterior Diameter (at the base)	31.00 mm.
Transverse Diameter (at the base)	24.50 mm.
Robustness Value ¹⁵	759.50
Length-breadth Index ¹⁶	79.03

It is most unfortunate that Rodler and Weithofer,¹⁷ do not give the measurements of the horn-cores from Maragha, but as far as can be judged from their picture¹⁸ the Anatolian specimen comes quite close to the specimen from Maragha in size.

The horn-core of *Gazella capricornis* Rodler and Weithofer (*Gazella rodleri* Pilgrim and Hopwood) from Küçükoyzgat exceeds those of the other Pontian gazelles, listed in a former study of mine,¹⁹ in robustness value. That is, the horn-cores of *Gazella capricornis* Rodler and Weithofer (*Gazella rodleri* Pilgrim and Hopwood) are characteristically robust.

Just below the horn-core, on the anterior surface, is seen a large and triangular supraorbital foramen, the configuration of which closely resembles that of the specimen from Maragha depicted by Rodler and Weithofer.²⁰

From the description given above it is clear that this horn-core from Küçükoyzgat belongs to *Gazella capricornis* Rodler and Weithofer (*Gazella rodleri* Pilgrim and Hopwood). This find at Kugukoyzgat shows that this Pontian species, which had formerly been found at Maragha²¹ and Bessarabia²² also lived in Anatolia in the Pontian Age.

15) Robustness value Antero posterior Diameter x Transverse Diameter. Transverse Diameter x 100 .

16) Length breadth Index= (Transverse Diameter x 100) / (Antero posterior Diameter)

17) Rodler and Weithofer, 1890.

18) Ibid., pl. V, fig. 1.

19) Compare with Sonyiirek, 1952, tables 18 and 17. In those two tables in my former study are listed, in addition to my own material from the Pontian Of Anatolia, the measurements of the horn-cores of fossil European and Asiatic gazelles Of Pontian Age and later date, given by various authors. However, while exceeding the Pontian gazelles listed, the horn-core of *Gazella capricornis* Rodler and Weithofer (*G. rodleri* Pilgrim and Hopwood) is still much less robust than those of *Gazella sinpnsz's* Teilhard and Piveteau and *Gazella prjewalskyi* from the Pleistocene of the Far East (see Seny'urek, 1952, Tables 16 and 17).

20) Bodler and Weithofer, 1890, pl. V, fig. 1.

21) Ibid., p. 767.

22) Cited by Pilgrim and Hopwood, after Khomenko (see Pilgrim and Hopwood, 1928, p. 17).

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EXPLANATION OF THE FIGURES

(Scales are in centimeters)

- Fig. 1. The anterior view of the horn-core of *Gazella capricornis* Rodler and Weithofer (*Gazella rodleri* Pilgrim and Hopwood) from Küçükyozgat.
- Fig. 2. The lateral view of the horn-core of *Gazella capricornis* Rodler and Weithofer (*Gazella rodleri* Pilgrim and Hopwood) from Küçükyozgat.
- Fig. 3. The horn-core of *Gazella capricornis* Rodler and Weithofer (*Gazella rodleri* Pilgrim and Hopwood) seen from above, showing the characteristic twist. For this pose, the horn-core has been placed in plasticine.



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