



MoFA excursion to the sources of the Water Supply Association of the Triestingtal and Southern Railway Municipalities

When: May 17th, 2019

Organization: Univ.-Prof. Dr. Otto Moog

Meeting point: Railway station Pottenstein at 9:40 (for those who arrive by train, e.g. from Wien Meidling, see schedule at the bottom)

Transport from Pottenstein: by foot and with private cars

Registration: Since the number of participants is limited, we ask for timely registration at team@molluskenforschung.at

Program:

The Water Supply Association of the Triestingtal and Southern Railway Municipalities (WLV) draws drinking water for 150,000 inhabitants of the Vienna Basin from various sources, such as artesian wells, fracture springs, fissure springs, surface water or deep wells.

Mr. Ing. Wolfgang Hiltl, Deputy Director of the WLV, accompanies us as an expert guide and gives us the opportunity to gain an insight into the nature of the drinking water supply and to visit some springs. We have the permission to search certain source plants for snails. At the end of the scientific program, we will be invited by the WLV to a snack in the Forester's Lodge Harras.

On the way to Antoniusbründl near Pottenstein we stop briefly at a rock formation with a small cave, an air-raid shelter. *Limax maximus*, *Helicodonta obvoluta*, div. *Oxychilus* and Clausiliidae are regular guests in the cave (if you want to take a look, please do not forget the flashlight!).

The second stop is the Antoniusbründl in Pottenstein, a natural spring on the valley floor near the Triesting river. The spring is enclosed and used for drinking water supply. We get access to the spring and have a tour through the facility.



We can collect snails in the spring creek, a fascinatingly well-preserved habitat with abundant *Berula erecta* populations. We will certainly find this species that formerly bore the beautiful name *Bythinella cylindrica*.

We return to the cars (max 20 minutes) and drive about 30 minutes to the headwaters at Harras.

The water of the spring creeks is so pure that even the surface water can be used after a short treatment for drinking water preparation. We visit 1) the "Filtration" with the stations coarse screen, sedimentation basin and pumice / quartz gravel filter; 2) a fissure spring, where we are allowed to collect snails (picture on the right), and 3) an artesian well (no collection possibility).

For viewing the fissure spring, artesian wells, sedimentation tanks and filtration, the time span is 12:00 to 13:30.



After that we drive to the nearby forestry Harras, where at about 13:40 the forester in the Forester's Lodge gives a very interesting lecture about protection and care of the 800-acre protective area around the source.



To conclude, we are invited by the

WLV for a hearty snack.

At 15:00 we start the way home. The ride back to the train station takes about 35 minutes.

Timetable from Vienna Meidling 17.05.2019:

Wien Meidling Bahnhof	ab 08:37	Steig 1	R 2317
Leobersdorf Bahnhof	an 09:05	Steig 2	
Leobersdorf Bahnhof	ab 09:14	Steig 1	R 6673
Pottenstein/Triesting Bahnhof	an 09:37	Steig 2	