

NOTA / NOTE

Metacanthus maghrebinus Péricart, 1977 (Hemiptera: Berytidae), new species for Portugal

Francisco Gil¹, Thijs Valkenburg² & José Manuel Grosso-Silva³

¹ Setor de Conservação da Natureza e Educação Ambiental, Departamento de Obras Municipais e Ambiente, Município de Lousada, Pr. Dr. Francisco Sá Carneiro, 4620-695 Lousada (PORTUGAL). e-mail: franvbgil@gmail.com

² Associação Vita Nativa, Conservação do Ambiente. Sítio Pinheiros de Marim, 247A, 8700-225 Olhão (PORTUGAL). e-mail: thijsvalkenburg@vitanativa.org

³ Museu de História Natural e da Ciência da Universidade do Porto (MHNC-UP) / PRISC, Praça Gomes Teixeira, 4099-002 Porto (PORTUGAL). e-mail: jmgrossosilva@mhnc.up.pt

Abstract: *Metacanthus maghrebinus* Péricart, 1977 (Hemiptera: Berytidae) is recorded from mainland Portugal for the first time, significantly expanding the species' known Iberian distribution.

Key words: Hemiptera, Berytidae, *Metacanthus maghrebinus*, first record, Portugal.

Resumen: *Metacanthus maghrebinus* Péricart, 1977 (Hemiptera: Berytidae), nueva especie para Portugal. Se cita *Metacanthus maghrebinus* Péricart, 1977 (Hemiptera: Berytidae) de Portugal continental por primera vez, ampliando significativamente la distribución ibérica conocida de la especie.

Palabras clave: Hemiptera, Berytidae, *Metacanthus maghrebinus*, primer registro, Portugal.

Recibido: 7 de diciembre de 2022

Publicado on-line: 18 de diciembre de 2022

Aceptado: 12 de diciembre de 2022

Introduction

Metacanthus maghrebinus Péricart, 1977 (Hemiptera: Berytidae) is a stilt-bug described from Algeria and Morocco (holotype and paratype, respectively) by PÉRICART (1977). The known distribution range of the species in Africa remains limited to those two countries, while in Europe the species was recorded from Spain and France, in the latter case with doubts (PÉRICART, 1984, 2001).

In the Iberian Peninsula, *M. maghrebinus* has only been recorded from the Spanish provinces of Barcelona and Madrid (PÉRICART, 1984) and, more recently, Ávila (COSTAS et al., 2005).

In this note, we present the first records of *M. maghrebinus* from Portugal, from two districts located in the northern part of the country.

Material examined

Porto district:

- Lousada municipality:
 - Bosque do Parque de Casais (41.273332, -8.306666; MGRS 29TNF5869; 182 m a.s.l.): 29/07/2022 (1 ♀, F. Gil leg., MHNCUP/ART/41066).

Guarda district:

- Manteigas municipality:
 - Carvalheira (40.408015, 7.550144; MGRS 29TPE2374; 1098 m a.s.l.) (Parque Natural da Serra da Estrela), 17/08/2000 [1 specimen with undetermined sex (abdominal tip damaged), Grosso-Silva leg. & col.].
- Seia municipality:
 - Cagoiças, on the left bank of ribeira da Nave (40.327937, -7.676974; MGRS 29TPE1264; 894 m a.s.l.) (Parque Natural da Serra da Estrela), 12/10/2022 (1 ♀ photographed by T. Valkenburg, <https://www.biodiversity4all.org/observations/138777418>).
 - Cagoiças, on the left bank of ribeira da Nave (40.327766, -7.677237; MGRS 29TPE1264; 893 m a.s.l.) (Parque Natural da Serra da Estrela), 16/10/2022 (1 ♂, T. Valkenburg leg., MHNCUP/ART/41067; <https://www.biodiversity4all.org/observations/139310179>).

Discussion

The records presented in this study greatly expand the known distribution range of *M. maghrebinus* in the Iberian Peninsula, as shown in Map 1. The presence of the species in Portugal was already hypothesized by PÉRICART (1984), who considered that SEABRA's (1930) inclusion of *Metacanthus meridionalis* (A. Costa, 1843) in the synopsis of Portuguese berytids could actually refer to *M. maghrebinus*. It is worth mentioning that *M. meridionalis* remains unconfirmed for the country, its only record being that by SEABRA (1926, from São Martinho de Anta, northeastern Portugal).

The ecology of *M. maghrebinus* is completely unknown, the only available information being the fact that in Ávila it was collected on moss over rocky substrate (COSTAS *et al.*, 2005, 2009), which was also the case in Seia, where both specimens were collected using a beating tray on a rock wall densely covered with moss and ferns.

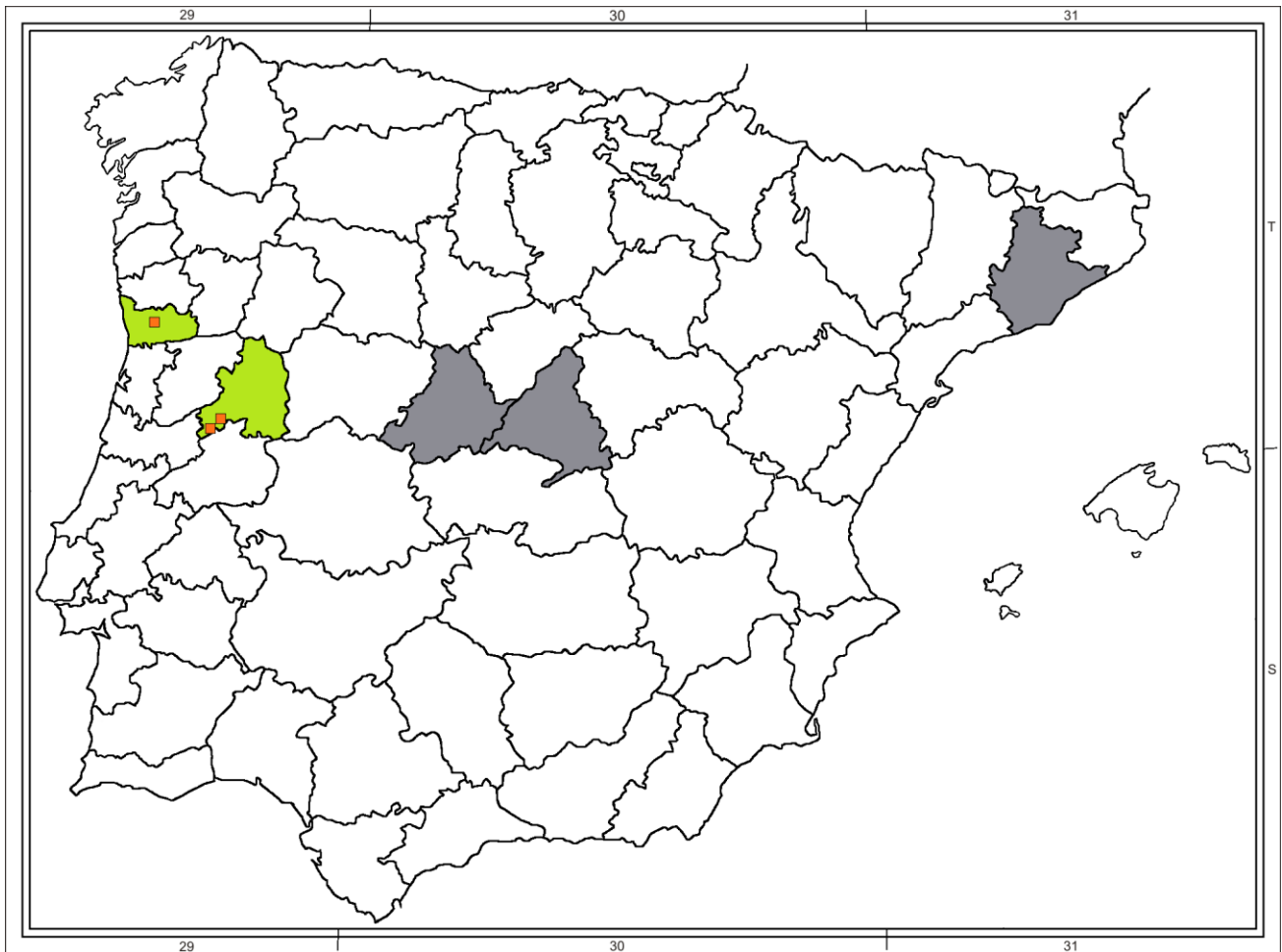
References

- COSTAS, M.; VÁZQUEZ, M.Á.; LÓPEZ, T. & FUENTES, F.J. 2005. Los berítidos (Heteroptera: Berytidae) del macizo central de la Sierra de Gredos (Ávila). *Heteropterus Revista de Entomología*, **5**: 53-63.
- COSTAS, M.; VÁZQUEZ, M.Á.; RIBES, J.; LÓPEZ, T. & BONET, M. 2009. Los berítidos de la Península ibérica (Hemiptera, Heteroptera), Berytidae Fieber, 1851. *Boletín de la Real Sociedad española de Historia Natural (Biología)*, **103**(1-4): 73-85.
- PÉRICART, J. 1977. Un Hémiptère Piesmatidae nouveau de Corée et un Hémiptère Berytinidae nouveau d'Afrique du Nord. *Bulletin de la Société Entomologique de France*, **82**: 33-38.
- PÉRICART, J. 1984. *Hémiptères Berytidae euro-méditerranéens*. Faune de France: France et régions limitrophes, 70. Fédération Française des Sociétés de Sciences Naturelles, Paris. 171 pp.
- PÉRICART, J. 2001. Family BERYTIDAE Fieber, 1851 - Stilt-bugs, pp. 230-242. In: AUKEMA, B. & RIEGER, C. (eds.). *Catalogue of the Heteroptera of the Palaearctic Region. Volume 4. Pentatomomorpha I*. The Netherlands Entomological Society, Amsterdam. 346 pp.
- SEABRA, A.F. 1926. Hémiptères Hétéroptères de la province de "Trás-os-Montes,.. *Memórias e Estudos do Museu Zoológico da Universidade de Coimbra*, **8**: 7-39.

SEABRA, A.F. 1930. Sinópse dos Hemípteros Heterópteros de Portugal (cont.). *Memórias e Estudos do Museu Zoológico da Universidade de Coimbra*, 1(7): 373-388.

Acknowledgments

The specimen from Bosque do Parque de Casais was collected in the course of an inventory of the entomological fauna of the Lousada municipality, funded by Câmara Municipal de Lousada.



Map 1.- Iberian distribution of *Metacanthus maghrebinus* Péricart, 1977, with the previously known Spanish provinces in grey, the new Portuguese districts in green, and the new Portuguese MGRS 100 km² squares in orange.