

## NOTA / NOTE

*Dianous coerulescens* (Gyllenhal, 1810), a new species for Portugal (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Steninae)

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**Abstract:** *Dianous coerulescens* (Gyllenhal, 1810) (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Steninae) is recorded for the first time from Portugal, including taxonomic and ecological notes on the subfamily.

**Key words:** Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Steninae, *Dianous coerulescens*, Portugal, faunistics, first record.

**Resumo:** *Dianous coerulescens* (Gyllenhal, 1810), nova espécie para Portugal (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Steninae). Menciona-se *Dianous coerulescens* (Gyllenhal, 1810) (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Steninae) pela primeira vez para Portugal, incluindo-se notas taxonómicas e ecológicas sobre a subfamília.

**Palavras chave:** Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Steninae, *Dianous coerulescens*, Portugal, faunística, primeiro registo.

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## Introduction

The subfamily Steninae MacLeay, 1825 is one of the 32 recognized subfamilies of the family Staphylinidae Latreille, 1802, that belongs to the Staphylinine group (sensu Lawrence & Newton, 1982). It is a large group with more than 3,150 described species (Puthz, 1981). The subfamily Steninae is divided into the genera *Stenus* Latreille, 1797, *Dianous* Leach, 1829, and a third one, not yet described from Australia, comprising two undescribed species (Clarke & Grebennikov, 2009).

The genus *Dianous* Leach, 1829 with 262 species worldwide (Puthz, 2016) is the object of this paper. During the revision (in preparation) of the Portuguese Steninae, we came across a specimen, stored with other ones for further determinations, belonging to the species *Dianous coerulescens* (Gyllenhal, 1810) that it was decided to publish before that revision, as it means the first record for Portugal. This is the only western Palaearctic member of the genus, that occurs throughout Europe extending north in Scandinavia and south in Iran, the eastern distribution extends to Kazakhstan and western Siberia, and presents six subspecies. The nominotypical subspecies is distributed throughout its distributional range and is sympatric with the other subspecies: *Dianous coerulescens hispanus* Puthz, 2002, from Spain; *Dianous coerulescens italus* Puthz, 2002, from Italy; *Dianous coerulescens elegans* Iablokoff-Khnzorian, 1957, from Armenia and Turkey; *Dianous coerulescens anatolicus* Korge, 1971, from Armenia; and *Dianous coerulescens korgei* Puthz, 2002, restricted to Turkey (Puthz, 2002). The Portuguese distribution is completely unknown, other than the one locality discovered by the author years ago.

The typical habitat is among moss and vegetation in the splash zone of waterfalls and cold torrents and they also occur around cliff seepages and fast fresh running waters. The adults are diurnal predators, moving rapidly among vegetation and stones in search of prey, and the shiny blue metallic coloration and red elytra spots are very distinctive. They are able to walk on the water surface due to fine hydrophobic hairs beneath the tarsi, and can propel themselves rapidly forward, using pygidial

glands containing a multifunctional secretion of piperidine and pyridine-derived alkaloids as well several terpenes (Lang *et al.*, 2012). They generally occur from mid-May and into the summer months of June and July. The larvae develop in similar habitats to the adults and pupate in a silken cocoon among vegetation. The species is very local and sporadic but may be abundant where found.

## Results

### *Dianous coerulescens* (Gyllenhal, 1810)

**PORTUGAL:** Beira Alta, Viseu, Lamego, Sande, on the bank of a brook between moss and vegetation, June 2, 1962, 1 ex., R.N. Ferreira leg. and coll. (RNFC).

Body length: 6-8 mm long. Body shiny metallic blue to greenish-blue, with upper surface moderately to strongly and densely punctured. The head is transverse, with prominent convex eyes and long tapering temples. Antennae and palps dark, with the first long and weakly clubbed. Pronotum elongate, broadest in front of the middle and constricted in front of the base. Elytra square to slightly elongate, much broader than the pronotum and with prominent shoulders, weakly rounded and each with an orange spot behind the middle. Tergites 1-4 with paratergites, without basal ridges and finely punctured and tergites 5 and 6 with moderate paratergites. Last segment with a pair of long stout setae (absent in *Stenus*). The legs are long and slender, entirely dark although the tibiae may be lighter towards the apex. Hind tarsi long with the first and fifth segments longer than the others and the fourth weakly bilobed. Distinguished from all Portuguese *Stenus* by the paired abdominal setae, the metallic coloration and the long, tapering temples.

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