

NOTA / NOTE

Lachnaia gallaeca Baselga & Ruiz-García, 2007 new for Portugal
and confirmation of *Phratora vulgatissima* (Linnaeus, 1758)
(Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae)

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Abstract: The knowledge about the leaf beetles (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae) of mainland Portugal is improved with the first record of *Lachnaia gallaeca* Baselga & Ruiz-García, 2007 and the confirmation of the presence of *Phratora (Chaetoceroides) vulgatissima* (Linnaeus, 1758), a species that had only been recorded once from the country in the late 19th century and is here reported from two new districts.

Key words: Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae, *Lachnaia gallaeca*, first record, *Phratora vulgatissima*, rediscovered, new districts, mainland Portugal.

Resumen: *Lachnaia gallaeca* Baselga & Ruiz-García, 2007 nueva para Portugal y confirmación de *Phratora vulgatissima* (Linnaeus, 1758) (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae). Se mejora el conocimiento sobre los crisomélidos (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae) de Portugal continental con el primer registro de *Lachnaia gallaeca* Baselga & Ruiz-García, 2007 y la confirmación de la presencia de *Phratora (Chaetoceroides) vulgatissima* (Linnaeus, 1758), una especie que se había citado del país una sola vez a finales del siglo XIX y se registra aquí de dos nuevos distritos.

Palabras clave: Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae, *Lachnaia gallaeca*, primer registro, *Phratora vulgatissima*, redescubierta, nuevos distritos, Portugal continental.

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Introduction

In 2022, the municipality of Lousada (Câmara Municipal de Lousada), located in northern Portugal, began a project with the purpose of creating an inventory and the first assessment of the distribution of the invertebrate species that occur in the area.

Overall, due to its conservation-oriented management of natural areas, which includes habitat recovery and preservation as well as exotic plant species control, the municipality has a great potential for invertebrates, as for biodiversity in general. A good example is provided by the first results obtained for Lepidoptera: a light trapping survey in a single site produced, in nine sessions over a period of eight months, an inventory of 244 moth species, more than 9% of the moth species recorded from the whole mainland Portuguese territory (NUNES, 2022). In the context of that inventorying project a

species of stilt-bug, *Metacanthus maghrebinus* Péricart, 1977 (Hemiptera: Berytidae), was recently added to the Portuguese list from one of Lousada's natural areas (GIL et al., 2022).

In this study, we present the first nationally noteworthy results obtained for Coleoptera, namely one new species for the Portuguese fauna and the confirmation of the presence of another that has not been recorded for more than a century in the country, in this case with additional records from a site in the municipality of Santa Maria da Feira that further improve the knowledge about its distribution in the country.

Results

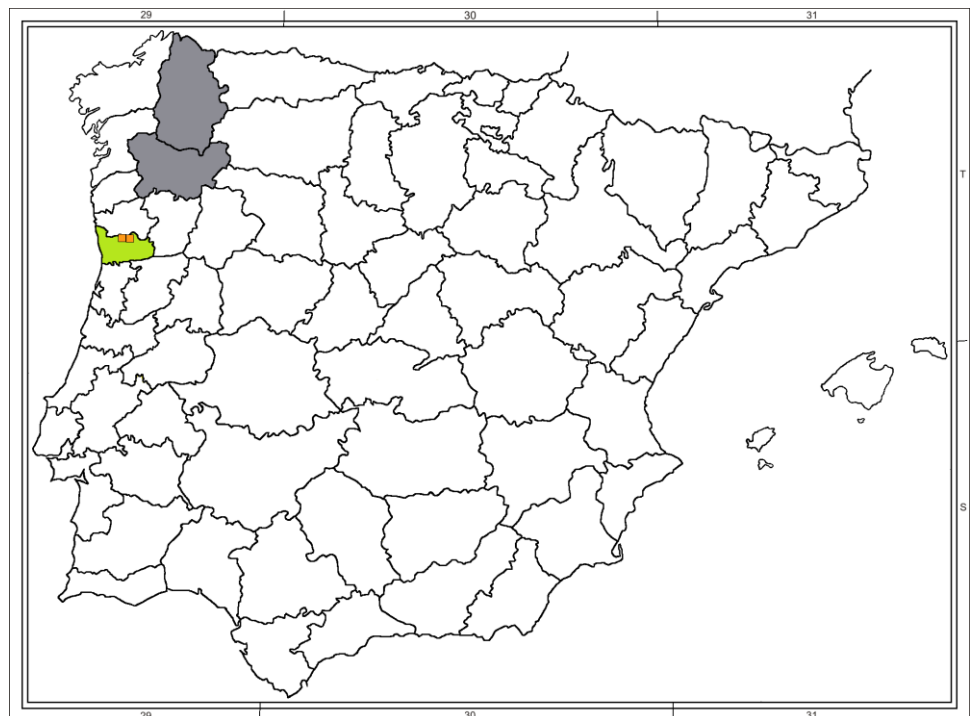
Lachnaia gallaeca Baselga & Ruiz-García, 2007, new to Portugal

Material examined:

Porto district: Lousada municipality:

- Cristelos (41.282045, -8.294094; MGRS 29TNF5970; 334 m a.s.l.), 13/05/2022, 1 ♂, Francisco Gil leg. (MHNCUP/ART/41082);
- Maragotos (41.341016, -8.279834; MGRS 29TNF6076; 434 m a.s.l.), 28/04/2022, 1 ♂, Francisco Gil leg. (MHNCUP/ART/41083);
- Near Bouça (41.334755, -8.336467; MGRS 29TNF5576; 433 m a.s.l.), 18/04/2022, 1 ♂, Francisco Gil leg. (MHNCUP/ART/41084), 27/06/2022, 3 ♂♂ and 2 ♀♀, Francisco Gil leg. (MHNCUP/ART/41085 to MHNCUP/ART/41089).

Lachnaia gallaeca was described from the provinces of Lugo and Ourense, in the north-western Spanish autonomous community of Galicia (BASELGA & RUIZ-GARCÍA, 2007), and its presence in northern Portugal was already considered likely in the original description. In this contribution, we confirm that prediction recording the species from Portugal for the first time and extending its recorded distribution southwards, a range which remains nevertheless limited to the north-western part of the Iberian Peninsula (Map 1).



Map 1. - Iberian distribution of *Lachnaia gallaeca* Baselga & Ruiz-García, 2007, with the previously known Spanish provinces in grey, the new Portuguese districts in green, and the new Portuguese MGRS 100 km² squares in orange.

Phratora (Chaetoceroides) vulgatissima* (Linnaeus, 1758), confirmed for Portugal*Material examined:****Aveiro district:** Santa Maria da Feira municipality:

- Parque das Ribeiras do Rio Uíma (40.991045, -8.512170; MGRS 29TNF4137; 124 m a.s.l.), 26/03/2022, 2 ♂♂, J.M. Grosso-Silva leg. (MHNCUP/ART/41080 and MHNCUP/ART/41081);
- Parque das Ribeiras do Rio Uíma (40.989433, -8.510493; MGRS 29TNF4137; 125 m a.s.l.), 17/02/2023, 1 ♂, André Marques leg. (MHNCUP/ART/41093);
- Parque das Ribeiras do Rio Uíma (40.991799, -8.511480; MGRS 29TNF4137; 122 m a.s.l.), 17/02/2023, 1 ♂, André Marques leg. (MHNCUP/ART/41094).

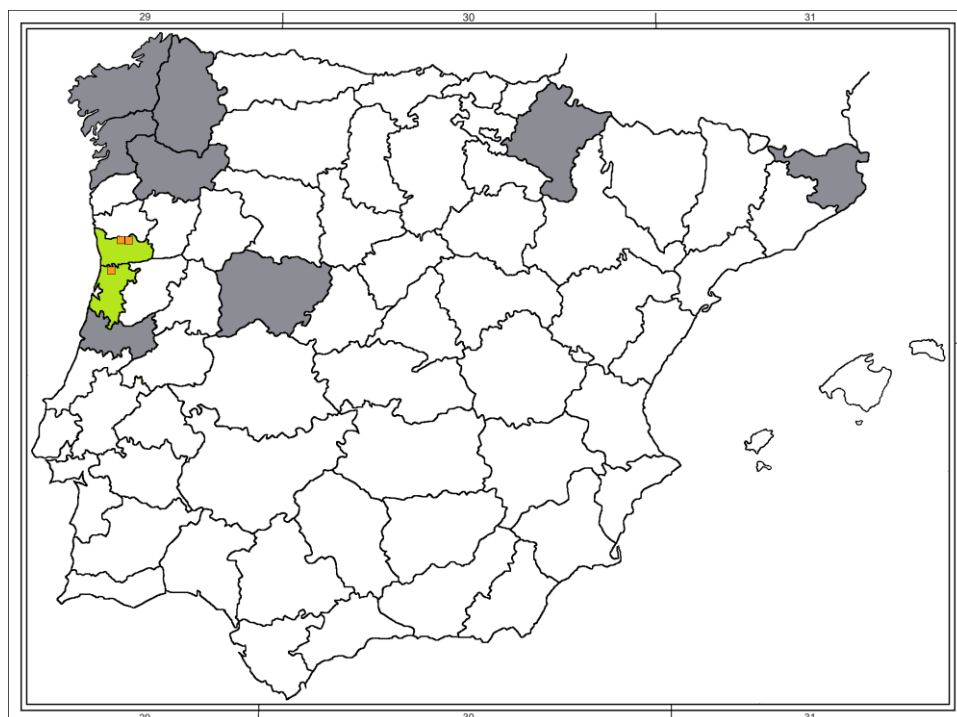
Porto district: Lousada municipality:

- Caniço (41.329625, -8.297802; MGRS 29TNF5875, 367 m a.s.l.), 28/04/2022, 1 ♀, Francisco Gil leg. (MHNCUP/ART/41090);
- Peneuque (41.292449, -8.223068; MGRS 29TNF6571, 192 m a.s.l.), 29/04/2022, 1 ♂ and 1 ♀, Francisco Gil leg. (respectively MHNCUP/ART/41091 and MHNCUP/ART/41092).

Phratora (Chaetoceroides) vulgatissima (Linnaeus, 1758), the blue willow beetle, is a leaf beetle associated to several species of *Salix* (Salicaceae) with a very wide distribution extending from the British Isles and the Iberian Peninsula to eastern Siberia (PETITPIERRE, 2020).

There are doubts about the extent of the distribution of *P. vulgatissima* in Iberia: according to PETITPIERRE (2020), it definitely occurs in Salamanca and the four Galician provinces, whereas the records from Navarra and Girona may derive from confusion with other species of *Phratora* Chevrolat, 1836. Considering the location of Galicia and Salamanca in the Iberian Peninsula and the fact that the species is widespread in France (WINKELMAN & DEBREUIL, 2008), it seems clear that its Iberian distribution range is in need of revision in northern Spain.

In Portugal, the species was only recorded once, from Coimbra, by OLIVEIRA (1891) (repeated in OLIVEIRA, 1893). The records presented here are the first from Portugal in over 130 years, confirming its presence in the country and adding two new districts (Aveiro and Porto) to its known distribution, as shown in Map 2.



Map 2. - Iberian distribution of *Phratora (Chaetoceroides) vulgatissima* (Linnaeus, 1758), with the previously known Spanish provinces in grey, the new Portuguese districts in green, and the new Portuguese MGRS 100 km² squares in orange.

Acknowledgements

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