

## NOTA / NOTE

*Rhamphina rectirostris* Herting, 1971, a new addition to the Portuguese fauna of Tachinidae (Diptera)Fernando Pires<sup>1</sup> & Jorge Mota Almeida<sup>2</sup><sup>1</sup>Rua Dorita Castelo Branco 12, 2635-461 Rio de Mouro (Lisboa, PORTUGAL). e-mail: zarkovtradutor@gmail.com<sup>2</sup>Rua da Noruega, 14 - lote 393, 8125-459 Vilamoura (Faro, PORTUGAL). e-mail: jorgemotalmeida@gmail.com

**Abstract:** The addition of a new species of Tachinidae (Diptera) to the Portuguese fauna, highlighting an intriguing case of geographical distribution, is reported. The new species, *Rhamphina rectirostris* Herting, 1971, has previously been cited in Spain, but is recorded here for the first time in Portugal. Observations on its feeding habits are also included.

**Key words:** Diptera, Tachinidae, *Ramphina rectirostris*, first record, Portugal.

**Resumen:** *Rhamphina rectirostris* Herting, 1971, una nueva incorporación a la fauna portuguesa de Tachinidae (Diptera). Se informa de la incorporación de una nueva especie de Tachinidae (Diptera) a la fauna portuguesa, destacando un interesante caso de distribución geográfica. La nueva especie, *Rhamphina rectirostris* Herting, 1971, ha sido citada previamente en España, pero se registra aquí por primera vez en Portugal. También se incluyen observaciones sobre sus hábitos alimentarios.

**Palabras clave:** Diptera, Tachinidae, *Ramphina rectirostris*, primera cita, Portugal.

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## Introduction

The Tachinidae family is the largest family of Brachycera in the Palearctic ecozone and one of the most complex families within Diptera, due to its intricate biology and humongous number of species with approximately 160,000 species described to date (Lencioni *et al.*, 2023).

It is reasonably well documented in Spain, with over 500 species (O'Hara *et al.*, 2020), while Portugal is home to nearly 300 species (Almeida *et al.*, 2017). Comprehensive and extensive collecting efforts are still needed, as it is expected that new species await citation. Portugal lacks robust institutional support, and there is a shortage of qualified entomologists to undertake this challenging task.

Hereby a new species of Tachinidae, *Rhamphina rectirostris* Herting, 1971 (Mesnil, 1975), is added for mainland Portugal, contributing to the existing records for Spain (O'Hara *et al.*, 2020).

## Material examined

### PORTUGAL:

**FARO:** Sítio dos Salicos, Lagoa, 07.April.2023. Photographed by Tiago Guerreiro and source available at <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/154160691>, det. Michael Knapp.

**LEIRIA:** Alvaiázere - Serra de Arques, 08.August.2021. Photographed by José Baptista and source available at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/429168277120192>, det. Rui Andrade.

**COIMBRA:** Dolina do Peixeiro, 21.July.2021, circa 8 specimens seen feeding on *Origanum vulgare* subsp. *virens* (Hoffmanns. & Link) Bonnier & Layens, photos Fernando Pires, det. Jorge Almeida.

## Discussion

*Rhamphina rectirostris* was found in three places: Dolina do Peixeiro (near Condeixa-a-Nova), Sítio dos Salicos (near Lagoa) and Serra de Arques (near Alvaiázere). This intriguing disparate distance between Dolina do Peixeiro and Sítio dos Salicos in a straight line on the map is around 330 km. It is likely that there are gaps in its distribution that have yet to be explored. In Spain, with the field experience of the second autor, it can be found in significant numbers in Vícar (Almería), near Llessuí in the Spanish Pyrenees, Granada in Sierra Nevada, and in Villar de Ciervo (Salamanca).

In Dolina do Peixeiro they were observed feeding on *Coriandrum sativum* L., *Daphne gnidium* L., and *Origanum vulgare* subsp. *virens* (Hoffmanns. & Link) Bonnier & Layens. As typical for Tachinidae, they used to bask in the sun, while some individuals could be found resting on rocks.

## Acknowledgments

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## References

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<sup>1</sup> The most updated mainland Portuguese Tachinidae checklist known up to December 2024.

<sup>2</sup> Description of the *Rhamphina rectirostris* Herting, 1971.

<sup>3</sup> The most updated world Tachinidae checklist known up to December 2024. It identifies Spain as the only country reported to have this species.