

Oxycarenum (Pseudoxycarenum) modestus (Fallén, 1829) (Hemiptera: Oxycarenidae), new species for Portugal

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Abstract: *Oxycarenum (Pseudoxycarenum) modestus* (Fallén, 1829) (Hemiptera: Oxycarenidae) is recorded from Portugal for the first time. Some unpublished records, new for three Spanish provinces, are also added. An overview of the global distribution of the species is presented, and its known Iberian distribution is summarised and mapped.

Key words: Hemiptera, Oxycarenidae, *Oxycarenum modestus*, first record, faunistics, Portugal, Iberian Peninsula.

Resumen: *Oxycarenum (Pseudoxycarenum) modestus* (Fallén, 1829) (Hemiptera: Oxycarenidae), nueva especie para Portugal. Se cita *Oxycarenum (Pseudoxycarenum) modestus* (Fallén, 1829) (Hemiptera: Oxycarenidae) por primera vez de Portugal. También se incluyen algunas citas inéditas que resultan nuevas para tres provincias españolas. Se presenta una visión general de la distribución mundial de la especie y se resume y mapea su distribución ibérica conocida.

Palabras clave: Hemiptera, Oxycarenidae, *Oxycarenum modestus*, primer registro, faunística, Portugal, Península Ibérica.

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Introduction

Oxycarenum (Pseudoxycarenum) modestus (Fallén, 1829) (Hemiptera: Oxycarenidae), described from Sweden by FALLÉN (1829) as *Lygaeus modestus* [= *Heterogaster basalis* Herrich-Schaeffer, 1836; = *Oxycarenum spitzzyi* Fieber, 1837; = *Heterogaster schillingii* Scholtz, 1847; = *Stenogaster fallenii* R.F. Sahlberg, 1848; = *Pachymerus quinquemaculatus* Mulsant & Rey, 1852 (PÉRICART, 2001)], is a species associated with alder trees (*Alnus* spp.) (PÉRICART, 1999).

The currently known distribution range of *O. modestus* includes most of Europe [Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Moldova, The Netherlands, (North?) Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Romania, the European part of Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, and the former Yugoslavia (= "Serbia, Montenegro" in PÉRICART, 2001)], plus China and Turkey in Asia (PÉRICART, 1999, 2001; AUKEMA, 2026).

The Iberian distribution (Map 1) includes the Spanish provinces of (only the earliest record for each province is presented): Barcelona (BOLÍVAR & CHICOTE, 1879), Lleida (PERRIER, 1937, not seen, cited here based on PÉRICART, 1999), Palencia (GÓMEZ-MENOR, 1956), and Ávila (COSTAS *et al.*, 1997). Unpublished records new for the Spanish provinces of Almería (see [here](#)), Lugo (see [here](#)) and Madrid (see [here](#)) are also available online at the platform iNaturalist.org.

In this note, we present the first Portuguese records of *O. modestus* based on a male specimen deposited in the collection of Museu de História Natural e da Ciência da Universidade do Porto, Portugal (MHNC-UP) and photographs of another specimen uploaded to iNaturalist. Furthermore, we revised the

identification of the iNaturalist records from three new Spanish provinces, as stated before, and mark these provinces as new in Map 1.

Material examined and iNaturalist Portuguese records

PORTUGAL

Aveiro district: Santa Maria da Feira municipality:

- Caldas de São Jorge (40.96845, -8.49763; MGRS: 29TNF4235; 142 m a.s.l.), 18/01/2026 [1 adult specimen photographed (Fig. 1) by the first author, see [here](#)].
- Caldas de São Jorge (40.968449 -8.497779; MGRS: 29TNF4235; 141 m a.s.l.), 26/02/2026 (1 ♂, André Marques leg., on boardwalk wood next to *Alnus lusitanica* Vít, Douda & Mandák, MHNCUP-ART-23505).

The records of *Oxycarenum modestus* presented in this study, besides being the first from Portugal, expand the known Iberian range of the species, as illustrated in Map 1. This is the fourth species of the genus *Oxycarenum* Fieber, 1837 found in mainland Portugal, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1. - Catalogue of the *Oxycarenum* Fieber, 1837 recorded from mainland Portugal with the oldest records traced for each species.

Species	Oldest record from mainland Portugal
<i>O. (Euoxycarenum) pallens</i> (Herrich-Schaeffer, 1850)	OLIVEIRA (1895)
<i>O. (Oxycarenum) hyalinipennis</i> (A. Costa, 1843)	WALKER (1872)
<i>O. (Oxycarenum) lavaterae</i> (Fabricius, 1787)	OLIVEIRA (1895)
<i>O. (Pseudoxycarenum) modestus</i> (Fallén, 1829)	This study

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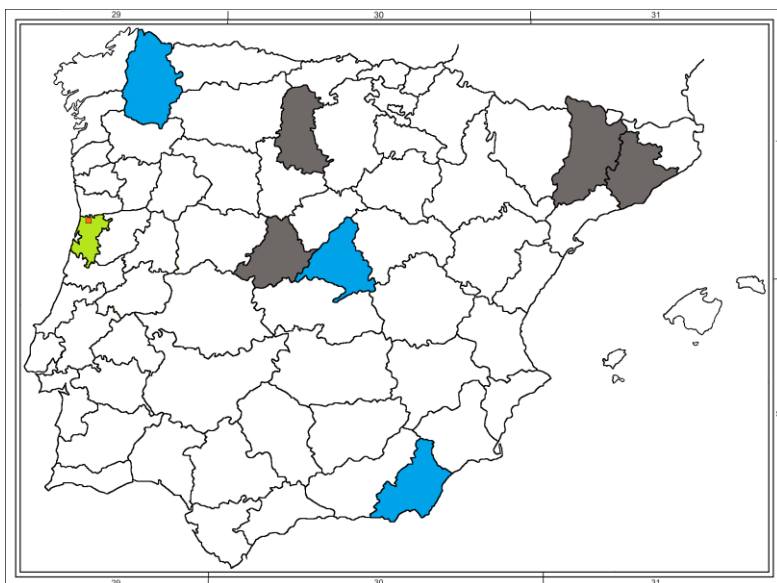
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Fig. 1.- Specimen of *Oxycarenus (Pseudoxycarenus) modestus* (Fallén, 1829) photographed in Caldas de São Jorge (Santa Maria da Feira, Portugal) on 18/01/2026. Photo: André Marques.



Map 1.- Iberian distribution of *Oxycarenus (Pseudoxycarenus) modestus* Fallén, 1829 (grey: previously known Spanish provinces; green: new Portuguese district; blue: new Spanish provinces; orange: new Portuguese MGRS 100 km² square).