

COLEOPTERA SCARABAEOIDEA NEW OR OTHERWISE NOTEWORTHY FOR THE PORTUGUESE FAUNA, WITH A NOMENCLATURAL NOTE

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Abstract: The list of Scarabaeoidea from Portugal is increased with 13 species: *Aphodius (Agrilinus) ibericus*, A. (*Calamosternus*) *hyxos*, A. (*Ch.*) *paykulli*, A. (*Esymus*) *pusillus*, A. (*Labarrus*) *lividus*, A. (*Melinopterus*) *abeillei*, A. (*Planolinus*) *uliginosus*, A. (*Sigorus*) *porcus*, *Psammodyus laevipennis*, *Euonthophagus gibbosus*, *Onthophagus (Palaeonthophagus) semicornis*, O. (*P.*) *trigibber* and *Triodontella lajonquierei*.

The available evidence on the putative presence of *Aphodius (Agrilinus) sordidus* in Portugal is reviewed.

Contributions are made toward a better knowledge of the distribution of 21 species: *Trox perrisii*, *Ceratomyphus hoffmannseggii*, *Aphodius (Acanthobodilus) immundus*, A. (*Agrilinus*) *constans*, A. (*Ammoecius*) *dentatus*, A. (*Calamosternus*) *mayeri*, A. (*Chilothorax*) *cervorum*, A. (*Chilothorax*) *conspurcatus*, A. (*Mecynodes*) *striatulus*, A. (*Planolinus*) *borealis*, A. (*Pseudacrossus*) *sharpi*, A. (*Subrinus*) *sturmi*, *Scarabaeus typhon*, *Onthophagus (s.str.) illyricus*, *Amphimallon nigrum*, A. *ochraceum*, A. *pygiale*, *Euserica mulsanti*, *Hymenochelus distinctus*, *Paratriodonta hispanica* and *Paleira femorata*.

The authorship of the name *Chasmatopterus* is revised.

Keywords: Coleoptera, Scarabaeoidea, Portugal, new records, new distribution data, nomenclature.

Introduction

What is presented here is a small part of the information gathered throughout the years with the objective of a monograph on the Portuguese Scarabaeoidea. It is the result of many years collecting and the study of materials kindly offered or lent by several colleagues, and kept in official collections. Continued absence from home for the last 10 years forced the postponement of that project.

A great deal of the information obtained on Portuguese Scarabaeoidea throughout the years was shared with the late Jacques Baraud. Some of that was either published in joint papers or incorporated by BARAUD in his two works of synthesis on the European Scarabaeoidea, of 1977 and 1992. That information will not be repeated here, unless there are some relevant additional data.

There are still a number of taxonomic and nomenclatural problems that must be resolved before a monographic work on the Portuguese Scarabaeoidea can be considered ready for publication. Some of those problems do not have a simple answer. *Trox perlatus* (Goeze, 1777), to mention just an example, presents two distinct forms in Portugal. This begs the immediate question, which one, if any, is *Trox perlatus hispanicus* Harold, 1872, and what taxonomic rank(s) should be given to those forms. The answer is not simple. The study of the Portuguese populations alone would be misleading because there are at least three other forms present elsewhere in the Iberian Peninsula, as well as all sorts of intermediates. Two of those forms are also known to me from France, one from the Pyrénées Atlantiques, the other from the Pyrénées Orientales.

In volume 14 of *Fauna Iberica* it is noticeable a lack of information on the distribution of several species in Portugal. I hope this note will help to fill a few gaps in the knowledge of the faunal make-up and distribution of Scarabaeoidea in Portugal.

I - Species New to the Portuguese Fauna

To the best of my knowledge, the 13 species below are here recorded from Portugal for the first time.

Aphodius (Agrilinus) ibericus Harold, 1874

ALGARVE: Vila Real de Santo António, sand dune, sheep droppings, 1 ♂, 6.iv.1985, T. Branco *legit*.

Aphodius (Calamosternus) hyxos Petrovitz, 1962

ALTO ALENTEJO: Santo Amaro (Sousel), 1 ♂, 2.x.1977, A. Zuzarte *legit*.

Aphodius (Chilothorax) paykulli Bedel, 1907

MINHO: Várzea (Celorico de Basto), cow and human excrements: 8 ♂♂, 13 ♀♀, 2.ii.1975, T. Branco *legit*; 2 ♂♂, 8 ♀♀, 16.ii.1975, T. Branco *legit*. Campo do Gerês (Terras de Bouro), cow dung, 2 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀, 24.ii.1974, T. Branco *legit*.

Aphodius (Esymus) pusillus (Herbst, 1789)

MINHO: Serra do Soajo, 1200 m, cow dung, 6 ♂♂, 4 ♀♀, 10.vi.1974, T. Branco *legit*.

Aphodius (Labarrus) lividus (Olivier, 1789)

Widespread south of the river Tagus, it does not appear to have been recorded yet from Portugal, which is surprising. I may have failed to track down published records.

RIBATEJO: Coruche, 1 ♀, 8.ix.1978, A. Zuzarte *legit*; Muge (Salvaterra de Magos): horse dung, 1 ♀, 17.ix.1980, T. Branco *legit*; 2 ♂♂, 7.iv.1983, J. Baraud & T. Branco *legit*; 1 ♂, 8.iv.1983, T. Branco *legit*; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, 11.ix.1984, T. Branco *legit*; 7 ♂♂, 4 ♀♀, 13.ix.1984, T. Branco *legit*; 3 ♂♂, 1 ♀, 28.v.1986, T. Branco *legit*.

ALTO ALENTEJO: Vale das Quintas (Estremoz): 4 specimens (sex not determined), 7.x.1973, A. Zuzarte *legit*; 1 specimen (sex not determined), 31.iii.1975, A. Zuzarte *legit*; Escusa (Marvão), 1 ♀, 14.vii.1999, A. Zuzarte *legit*; Porto da Espada (Marvão), 1 ♂, 23.vi.1999, A. Zuzarte *legit*; Vale de Rodão (Marvão), 1 ♂, 1 ♀, 23.vi-7.vii.1999, A. Zuzarte *legit*; Mourão, 2 ♂♂, 15.iv.1987, T. Branco *legit*; Cruz do Cume (Portalegre), 1 ♂, 23.vi-7.vii.1999, A. Zuzarte *legit*; Santo Amaro (Sousel): 1 ♂, 10.ix.1977, A. Zuzarte *legit*; 1 ♂, 19.ix.1983, A. Zuzarte *legit*; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, 2.vi.1985, A. Zuzarte *legit*; 1 ♂, 3 ♀♀, 11.x.1985, A. Zuzarte *legit*.

BAIXO ALENTEJO: Montalvo (Grândola), 2 ♀♀, 13.iv.1983, T. Branco *legit*.

ALGARVE: Vila Real de Santo António, 1 ♂, 1 ♀, 9.iv.1985, T. Branco *legit*.

***Aphodius (Melinopterus) abeillei* Sietti, 1903**

BEIRA LITORAL: Póvoa de Pegas (Condeixa-a-Nova), human faeces: 2 ♀♀, 2.iii.1984, T. Branco *legit*; 9 ♂♂, 7 ♀♀, 16.iii.-1986, T. Branco *legit*; 2 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀, 3.iii.1987, T. Branco *legit*. Venda-das-Figueiras (Penela), cow dung, 1 ♂, 18.iv.1976, T. Branco *legit*.

ESTREMADURA: Rio-de-Mouro (Sintra), 1 ♂, 12.iii.1961, L. Ambar *legit*.

RIBATEJO: Alvega (Abrantes), human faeces, 1 ♂, 8.xii.1986, T. Branco *legit*. Coutada de Cima (Alcanena), sheep droppings, 1 ♀, 30.ii.1984, T. Branco *legit*. Entroncamento, sheep droppings, 3 ♂♂, 5 ♀♀, 2.iii.1984, T. Branco *legit*. Tomar, horse dung, 1 ♀, 6.iv.1986, T. Branco *legit*.

***Aphodius (Planolinus) uliginosus* Hardy, 1847**

MINHO: Serra da Peneda, 800 m, cow dung, 1 ♂, 22.xii.1974, T. Branco *legit*.

***Aphodius (Sigorus) porcus* (Fabricius, 1792)**

DOURO LITORAL: Monte Córdova (Santo Tirso), 2 ♂♂, R. das Neves *legit*.

BEIRA LITORAL: Arestal (Vale de Cambra), 2 ♂♂, cow dung in a burrow of *Geotrupes ibericus* Baraud, 22.x.1972, T. Branco *legit*.

***Psammodius laevipennis* Costa, 1844**

ALGARVE: Vila Real de Santo António, sand dunes, 84 specimens (sex not determined), 5-8.iv.1985, T. Branco *legit*.

***Euonthophagus gibbosus* (Scriba, 1790)**

TRÁS-OS-MONTES: Vila Chã de Braciosa (Miranda do Douro), horse dung, 1 ♂, 3.vii.2001, T. Branco *legit*.

***Onthophagus (Palaeonthophagus) semicornis* (Panzer, 1798)**

ALTO ALENTEJO: Olhos de Água (Marvão), pitfall baited with cow dung, 1 ♀, 16.ii-1.iii.2000, A. Zuzarte *legit*.

***Onthophagus (Palaeonthophagus) trigibber* Reitter, 1893**

I have in my collection an old male labeled "Beja". There is only another specimen known from the Iberian Peninsula, also a male, in the Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales, Madrid, labeled "Huévar (Sevilla)" (BÁGUENA, 1967; MARTÍN-PIERA, 2000). Confirmation of its presence in Portugal would be welcome.

***Triodontella lajonquierei* (Baraud, 1961)**

I have in my collection two old specimens, a male and a female, labeled "Serra de Monchique".

II- The Case of *Aphodius (Agrilinus) sordidus* (Fabricius, 1775)

PAULINO DE OLIVEIRA (1894) claimed to have in his collection two individuals of *Aphodius sordidus* F. I have studied the material in his collection and can corroborate that two specimens, labeled from "Portugal" without further details, are indeed males of *A. sordidus* (Fabricius, 1775).

LADEIRO (1950) records "*A. (Bodilus) sordidus* F., 1775" from several localities, but that is mostly based on misidentifications. The list below gives the identity of the nine specimens in Paulino de Oliveira's collection reported by Ladeiro:

- "Portugal": *Aphodius (Agrilinus) sordidus* (Fabricius, 1775), 2 ♂♂, plus *Aphodius (Agrilinus) rufus* (Moll, 1782), 1 ♂, 1 ♀.

- "Serra do Caramulo": *Aphodius (Agrilinus) rufus* (Moll, 1782), 1 ♂, 1 ♀.

- "Serra do Gerês": *Aphodius (Agrilinus) rufus* (Moll, 1782), 1 ♀, plus *Aphodius (s. str.) foetidus* (Herbst, 1783), 1 ♂.

- "Algés": *Aphodius (Alocoderus) hydrochaeris* (Fabricius, 1798), 1 ♀.

ILLIGER (1803) recorded "*A. sordidus* Fab. 26" from Portugal «in mheren Abändrugen», in many varieties. That is probably a misidentification of *Aphodius (Agrilinus) rufus* (Moll, 1782).

On the basis of the known distribution of the species, the presence of *Aphodius (Agrilinus) sordidus* (Fabricius, 1775) in Portugal does not seem likely, but it can not be ruled out. The available evidence is scanty. The two individuals in Paulino de Oliveira's collection could have been mislabeled. If the species is present in Portugal, new records would be welcome.

III- New data on species already recorded elsewhere from Portugal

***Trox perrisii* Fairmaire, 1868**

Recently recorded for the first time from Portugal by GROSSO-SILVA & SERRANO (2000), from Herdade da Ribeira Abaixo (Grândola, BAIXO ALENTEJO), I also know a female from Coruche (RIBATEJO), collected by A. Zuzarte on 8.ix.1978.

***Ceratophyus hoffmannseggii* (Fairmaire, 1856)**

Common south of the river Tagus where it favours sandy soil, the species extends its range to the coastal areas in the north: BEIRA LITORAL: Praia de Mira (Mira), sandy beach, 1 ♂, 6.iv.-1982, F. Figueiredo *legit*.

DOURO LITORAL: Aguçadoura (Póvoa de Varzim), maritime sand dunes, horse and human excrements: 3 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀, 29.xii.1974, T. Branco *legit*; 1 ♂, 2.ii.1975, T. Branco *legit*; 4 ♂♂, 2.iii.1975, T. Branco *legit*; 3 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀, 2.iii.1975, T. Branco *legit*. Azurara (Vila do Conde), maritime sand dunes, cow dung, 1 ♂, 1.v.1981, T. Branco *legit*. Mindelo (Vila do Conde), maritime sand dunes, human faeces, 1 ♀, 8.xii.1971, F. Figueiredo *legit*.

MINHO: Foz do Neiva (Viana do Castelo), maritime sand dunes, cow and human excrements: 1 ♀, 4.xii.1971, T. Branco *legit*; 2 ♂♂, 30.i.1972, F. Figueiredo *legit*; 1 ♀, 12.iii.1972, T. Branco *legit*.

Furthermore, it has been recorded from Coimbra by PAULINO DE OLIVEIRA (1894) and LADEIRO (1950). I have seen a female labeled "Coimbra, 20.iii.1923" in the collection of C. & O. Vogt, Instituut voor Taxonomische Zoölogie, Amsterdam, and a male and a female labeled "Serra do Gerês, 27.vii.1928".

***Aphodius (Acanthobodilus) immundus* Creutzer, 1799**

Seemingly scarce in Portugal. SERRANO *et al.* (1999a) report its collection in larger numbers, by pitfall trapping, in the period 19-27 .ix.1997, in Herdade da Ribeira Abaixo (Grândola, BAIXO ALENTEJO): 48 ♂♂, 32 ♀♀, pitfall baited with horse dung; 16 ♂♂, 14 ♀♀, pitfall baited with cow dung. As far as I can tell, that is the first record from Portugal.

I only know the species from:

ALGARVE: Castro Marim, 2 specimens (sex not determined), 11.vi.1981, A. Serrano *legit*; Serro Seixo (Castro Marim): 2 specimens (sex not determined), 28.iv.1982, A. Serrano *legit*; 1 specimen (sex not determined), 14.vii.1982, A. Serrano *legit*.

ALTO ALENTEJO: Hortas de Baixo (Arronches), 1 ♂, U.V. light, 29.vi.1999, A. Zuzarte *legit*.

***Aphodius (Agrilinus) constans* Duftschmid, 1805**

According to BÁGUENA (1967) it has been recorded from Portugal. I was unable to trace back that record. I know it from:

DOURO LITORAL: Costa da Castanheira (Arouca), 1 ♂, 1 ♀, cow dung, 12.v.1979, T. Branco *legit*; Macieira da Lixa (Felgueiras), 1 ♀, cow dung, 2.ii.1975, T. Branco *legit*.

MINHO: Lindoso (Ponte da Barca), cow dung, 7 ♀♀, 27.iv.-1975, T. Branco *legit*. Serra da Cabreira, cow dung: 5 ♀♀,

1.iv.1973, T. Branco *legit*; 3 ♀♀, ex-larvae collected on 20.v.1973, adults emerged on 20-24.vi.1973, T. Branco *legit*; 2 ♀♀, 3.iii.1974, T. Branco *legit*; Serra do Gerês: 3 ♀♀, cow dung, 30.iv.1972, T. Branco *legit*; Serra do Soajo, 1 ♀, sheep droppings, 9.i.1977, T. Branco *legit*.

***Aphodius (Ammonoecius) dentatus* A. Schmidt, 1908**

Recorded by BARAUD (1992) from the coast of Algarve. I know the species from the following localities, all on the south coast of ALGARVE:

Boca do Rio (Lagos), beach, in the sand beneath dried-out excrements, 5 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀, 22.iv.1982, T. Branco *legit*. Armação de Pera (Silves), beach and sandy dunes, in human faeces, sheep dung or in the sand beneath dried-out excrements: 3 ♂, 12 ♀♀, 17.iv.1982, T. Branco *legit*; 4 ♂♂, 5 ♀♀, 19.iv.1982, T. Branco *legit*; 5 ♂♂, 9 ♀♀, 21.iv.1982, T. Branco *legit*; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, 26.xii.1982, T. Branco *legit*; 1 ♂, 28.xii.1982, T. Branco *legit*; 2 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀, 2.iv.1985, T. Branco *legit*. Cabanas de Tavira (Tavira), 61 ♂♂, 55 ♀♀, 7.iv.1985, T. Branco *legit*. Alagoas (Vila Real de Santo António), 9 ♂♂, 9 ♀♀, 1.iv.1985, T. Branco *legit*. Vila Nova de Cacela (Vila Real de Santo António), 7 ♂♂, 11 ♀♀, 8.iv.1985, T. Branco *legit*. Vila Real de Santo António: 2 ♂♂, 5.iv.1985, T. Branco *legit*; 13 ♂♂, 21 ♀♀, 9.iv.1985, T. Branco *legit*.

***Aphodius (Calamosternus) mayeri* Pilleri, 1953**

Recorded recently, I believe for the first time from Portugal, by SERRANO *et al.* (1999a) from Herdade da Ribeira Abaixo (Grândola, BAIXO ALENTEJO). It is widespread south of the river Tagus:

RIBATEJO: Raposa (Coruche), 1 ♂, 14.iv.1983, T. Branco *legit*. Muge (Salvaterra de Magos), mostly sheep dung but also horse and rabbit droppings: 8 ♂♂, 9 ♀♀, 17.iv.1976, T. Branco *legit*; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, 6.iv.1981, T. Branco *legit*; 1 ♀, 7.iv.1982, T. Branco *legit*; 20 ♂♂, 11 ♀♀, 10.iv.1982, T. Branco *legit*; 2 ♀♀, 10.iv.1982, T. Branco *legit*; 1 ♂, 4.iv.-1984, T. Branco *legit*; 1 ♂, 10.iv.1986, T. Branco *legit*; 1 ♀, 17.iv.1987, T. Branco *legit*. Vila Franca de Xira, horse dung, 2 ♂♂, 9.iv.1986, T. Branco *legit*.

ALTO ALENTEJO: Ervedal (Avis), sheep droppings, 1 ♀, 1.iii.1987, T. Branco *legit*. Borba, sheep droppings, 1 ♂, 1 ♀, 9.iv.1977, T. Branco & A. Zuzarte *legit*. Monforte, sheep droppings, 2 ♂♂, 1.iii.1987, T. Branco *legit*. Granja (Mourão), sheep droppings, 1 ♀, 12.iv.1987, T. Branco *legit*.

BAIXO ALENTEJO: Montalvo (Grândola), 1 ♂, 13.iv.1983, T. Branco *legit*. Amareleja (Moura), sheep droppings, 1 ♂, 14.iv.1987, T. Branco *legit*.

ALGARVE: Castro Marim, sheep droppings, 7 ♂♂, 6 ♀♀, 3.iv.1985, T. Branco *legit*.

***Aphodius (Chilothorax) cervorum* Fairmaire, 1871**

Until now the species was only known from S. Martinho de Anta (CORRÊA DE BARROS, 1907), and Serra do Gerês (VEIGA, 1986). Several specimens were recently collected by A. Zuzarte, in pitfall traps baited with cow dung, in his current survey of the Coleoptera of the Parque Natural da Serra de S. Mamede.

ALTO ALENTEJO: Vale de Rodão (Marvão), 1 ♀, 3-17.iii.1999, A. Zuzarte *legit*; 1 ♀, 16.ii-1.iii.2000, A. Zuzarte *legit*; Campo de Tiro (Portalegre), 1 ♂, 14-28.iv.1999, A. Zuzarte *legit*; Frei Álvaro (Portalegre), 1 ♂, 1 ♀, 16.ii-1.iii.2000, A. Zuzarte *legit*; Serra de S. Mamede (Portalegre), 1 ♀, 14-28.iv.1999, A. Zuzarte *legit*.

***Aphodius (Chilothorax) conspurcatus* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

Recorded by BARAUD (1977) from Portugal without further precision.

MINHO: Serra do Gerês, horse dung: 1 ♂, 1 ♀, 1.xii.1974, T. Branco *legit*; 5 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀, 7.iii.1982, T. Branco *legit*; 3 ♂♂, 5 ♀♀, 24.ii.1984, M. L. Correia *legit*. Serra do Soajo, 1200 m, cow dung: 2 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀, 3.xi.1974, T. Branco *legit*.

***Aphodius (Mecynodes) striatulus* Waltl, 1835**

Recorded by BARAUD (1992) from Portugal without further precision, apparently it is not common but can be locally abundant.

ALTO ALENTEJO: Lavre (Montemor-o-Novo), sheep droppings, 19 ♂♂, 16 ♀♀, 16.iv.1987, T. Branco *legit*.

BAIXO ALENTEJO: A do Pinto (Serpa), sheep droppings, 3 ♂♂, 1 ♀, 9.iv.1983, T. Branco *legit*.

***Aphodius (Planolinus) borealis* Gyllenhal, 1827**

Recorded by PAULINO DE OLIVEIRA (1894), as “*Aphodius putridus* Sturm”, from Coimbra and Serra do Gerês, by Seabra (1909), as “*Aphodius (Calamosternus) putridus* (Herbst)”, from the same localities, and by LADEIRO (1950), as “*Aphodius (Agrilinus) putridus* Hbst., 1789”, from Coimbra. The species is quite common in the mountains in northern MINHO: Serra Amarela, Serra da Cabreira, Serra do Gerês, Serra do Soajo, Serra da Peneda, mostly in cow dung but also in horse and human excrements, from May to October. Emergence of the adults was observed in mid-August and early September.

***Aphodius (Pseudacrossus) sharpi* Harold, 1874**

Recorded by BARAUD (1992) from Portugal without further precision. I have only collected it once:

BEIRA LITORAL: Póvoa de Pegas (Condeixa a Nova), 1 ♂, 2.x.1981, T. Branco *legit*.

***Aphodius (Subrinus) sturmi* Harold, 1870**

This is the species recorded by ILLIGER (1803), as “*Aphodius rufus* Fab.”, from southern Portugal. Common and widespread south of the river Tagus, it is surprising that it has not been recorded again from Portugal since Illiger’s.

ALGARVE: Castro Marim, 1 specimen (sex not determined), 11.vi.1981, A. Serrano *legit*. Serro Seixo (Castro Marim), 3 specimens (sex not determined), 17.viii.1982, A. Serrano *legit*. Meia Praia (Lagos), 1 ♂, 1.viii.1982, A. Zuzarte *legit*.

ALTO ALENTEJO: Hortas de Baixo (Arronches), light trap, 1 ♀, 16.vi.1999, A. Zuzarte *legit*. Vale das Quinta (Estremoz), cow dung, 2 ♀♀, 7.x.1973, A. Zuzarte *legit*. Vale de Rodão (Marvão), light trap, 1 ♀, 25.v.1999, A. Zuzarte *legit*. Santo Amaro (Sousel), at light: 1 ♂, 14.vi.1983, A. Zuzarte *legit*; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, 15.vi.1983, A. Zuzarte *legit*; 1 ♀, 19.ix.1983, A. Zuzarte *legit*; 1 ♀, 2.x.1997, A. Zuzarte *legit*; 1 ♀, 28.vii.-1998, A. Zuzarte *legit*.

ESTREMADURA: Serra da Arrábida, 3 specimens (sex not determined), 28.viii.1978, A. Serrano *legit*.

RIBATEJO: Coruche, light trap, 1 ♀, x.1981, A. Zuzarte *legit*. Agolada de Baixo (Coruche), at light, 1 ♀, 9.ix.1978, T. Branco *legit*. Herdade da Pipa (Coruche), cow dung, 12 ♂♂, 7 ♀♀, 27.vii.1976, T. Branco & A. Zuzarte *legit*. Muge (Salvaterra de Magos): 1 ♂, 1 ♀, ex larvae, 20.iii.1975 (date of adults’ emergence not recorded), T. Branco *legit*; 1 ♀, at light, 10.viii.1989, T. Branco *legit*; 1 ♀, light trap, 27.ix.1978, T. Branco *legit*.

***Scarabaeus typhon* (Fischer von Waldheim, 1823)**

Recorded by BÁGUENA (1967), as *Scarabaeus (s.str.) affinis* (Brullé, 1832), from Serra de Monchique. I have studied the specimen in question, a male, in Paulino de Oliveira’s collection, and I concur with Báguena’s assertion. Furthermore, I have seen specimens from:

BEIRA LITORAL: Fátima (Vila Nova de Ourém), 1 ♀, 8.ix.-1956, A. Mendoça *legit*.

BEIRA ALTA: Guimarães de Tavares (Mangualde), 1 ♂, 26.ix.1984, D. Almeida *legit*.

TRÁS-OS-MONTES: Serra da Padrela (Vila Pouca de Aguiar), 1 ♂, 28.iv.1984, T. Branco *legit*.

***Onthophagus (s. str.) illyricus* (Scopoli, 1763)**

Widespread but not abundant in the North. It is seemingly rare south of the river Tagus, from where I only know it from:

RIBATEJO: Coruche, 1 ♀, 28.iv.1967, A. Zuzarte *legit*. Muge

(Salvaterra de Magos), cow and horse dung and human faeces: 1 ♀, 24.vii.1981, T. Branco *legit*; 1 ♂, 13.ix.1984, T. Branco *legit*; 1 ♀, 14.ix.1984, T. Branco *legit*; 1 ♀, 30.viii.1986, T. Branco *legit*.

***Amphimallon nigrum* (Waltl, 1835)**

This may well be the species recorded from Algarve by ILLIGER (1803) as “*Melolontha nigra* Fab.” (= *Amphimallon atrum* (Herbst, 1791), a species certainly absent from Portugal). Recorded by BARAUD (1977) from Algueirão (ESTREMA-DURA) and by SERRANO *et al.* (1999b) from Castro Marim (ALGARVE), I also know it from a few other localities.

ALTO ALENTEJO: Herdade de Carias (Arraiolos), 3 ♂♂, 2.vi.1982, A. Zuzarte *legit*. S. Vicente (Elvas), 1 ♂, 14.vi.-1983, A. Zuzarte *legit*. Elvas, 20.vi.1984, A. Zuzarte *legit*. Herdade do Cego (Fronteira), 1 ♂, 26.vi.1984, A. Zuzarte *legit*. Viamonte (Monforte), 3 ♂♂, 10.vii.1984, A. Zuzarte *legit*.

The colour of the antennae and palpi varies from brownish yellow to dark brown. WALTTL (1835) described *Melolontha nigra* on individuals with reddish brown antennae from Andalusia. *Rhizotrogus flavicornis* Blanchard (1851), described on individuals with brownish yellow antennae from Spain, is considered its junior synonymy. BARAUD (1975) described *Rhizotrogus (Amphimallon) niger ebeninus* on individuals with dark brown antennae from Carmona (Sevilla) and La Balanzona (Córdoba). The specimen from Algueirão, a male collected by L. Ambar on 20.v.1961, has the antennae brownish yellow. All the other specimens I have seen from Portugal, including 5 males and 1 female from Castro Marim, 17.v.1983, collected by A. Serrano, have reddish brown to dark brown antennae. The features used by Baraud (1975, 1992) to distinguish *ebeninum*, colour, shape and size of the antennae, pronotal and elytral punctuation and integument micro-sculpture, are eminently variable. I doubt that the separation of *Amphimallon nigrum ebeninum* as a subspecies is justified.

***Amphimallon ochraceum* (Knoch, 1801)**

The record by SEABRA (1939) from Serra da Estrela is the only one I have knowledge of. I know the species from two other localities.

BEIRA ALTA: Serra de Montemuro, 1 ♂, 26.vi.1982, P. Mendonça *legit*; Carvalhosa (Castro Daire), 1 ♂, 14.vii.1985, P. Mendonça *legit*.

***Amphimallon pygiale* Mulsant, 1846**

The record by BÁGUENA (1967) from Portugal without further details is the only one I have knowledge of. I know it from: TRÁS-OS-MONTES: Chãos (Bragança), 1 ♂, 1.vii.2001, T. Branco *legit*.

***Euserica mulsanti* (Brenske, 1902)**

This species was first recorded from Portugal by BRENSKE (1894), as “*Serica Ariasi* Muls.”, from S. Bartolomeu de Messines and Caldas de Monchique, on specimens from the collection of van Volxem.

Later BRENSKE (1897) recorded the species, as “*Serica Ariasi*. Mulsant, Lamellicornes 1871, p. 599”, from Spain and again from Portugal, this time from S. Bartolomeu de Messines only. Brenske also published in the same work a diagnosis of the species.

Five years later BRENSKE (1902) recognized his misinterpretation of the taxon. In the chapter “Berichtigungen und Zusätze”, Corrections and Additions, he wrote «I. p. 364. Sep. p. 20. Die als *S. Ariasi* hier beschriebene Art ist nicht diese, sondern eine neue Art, welcher ich den Namen “*Mulsanti*” gebe. Vaterland ist Cuenca», (t)he species described here as *S. Ariasi* is not that species, but a new one, to which I give the name “*Mulsanti*”. Its country of origin is Cuenca.

Two specimens, a male and a female of van Volxem’s

collection, are kept in the Museum für Naturkunde der Humboldt-Universität, Berlin. LÓPEZ-COLÓN (1997) designated them as Lectotype and Paralectotype of “*Serica ariasi* Brenske, 1897”. It has to be noted that Brenske did not create the name *Serica ariasi*. Anyway, “*Serica ariasi* Brenske, 1897” would have been a junior homonym of *Serica ariasi* Mulsant & Rey, 1871 would Brenske have created it, which, I repeat he hasn’t.

Euserica mulsanti (Brenske, 1902) is seemingly rare in Portugal. More than a hundred years had to elapse, since BRENSKE (1897), for the species to be recorded again from Portugal by GROSSO-SILVA & SERRANO (2000) from Herdade da Ribeira Abaixo (Grândola, BAIXO ALENTEJO).

I have examined the two specimens from S. Bartolomeu de Messines in the Museum für Naturkunde, and three specimens from Herdade da Ribeira Abaixo. They are conspecific. I can add a further record:

TRÁS-OS-MONTES: Almendra (Vila Nova de Foz Côa), 1 ♂, 23.vii.1996, J. M. Grosso-Silva *legit*.

***Hymenochelus distinctus* (Uhagón, 1879)**

As pointed out recently by LÓPEZ-COLÓN (1998) this species is reputedly rare. Yet, it may well be more hazardous to collect than rare.

As shown by LÓPEZ-COLÓN (2001), BÁGUENA (1967) was in error when he wrote that the species was described from “Malpica, de Portugal”, Malpica, in Portugal. Báguena should have written “Malpica de Portugal”, without comma, a locality in the Spanish province of Badajoz, close to the Portuguese border. The species was first recorded from Portugal, from Évora, by CORRÊA DE BARROS (1932). BÁGUENA (1955) records it also from Elvas. BARAUD (1992) extends its distribution range to Ribatejo, Alto Alentejo and Baixo Alentejo. I can give the following details on Baraud’s records. RIBATEJO: Monte da Barca (Coruche), 2 ♀♀, 6.x.1973, dead under dried-out cow dung, A. Zuzarte *legit*; 2 ♂♂, 1 ♀, 24.ix.1975, dead under dried-out cow dung, A. Zuzarte & T. Branco *legit*; 2 specimens (sex not determined), 12.vii.1976, dead under dried-out cow dung, T. Branco *legit*. Coruche, 1 ♂, 20.iv.1982, light trap, A. Zuzarte *legit*.

ALTO ALENTEJO: Monforte, 1 ♂, 25.vi.1988, light trap, A. Zuzarte *legit*.

BAIXO ALENTEJO: A do Pinto (Serpa), 2 ♂♂, 1 ♀, ex larvae, 4.x.1981, T. Branco *legit*.

The larvae from A do Pinto were found under stones. They pupated soon after being collected. The adults emerged during the first fortnight of April 1982.

It is odd that two specimens of this flightless species were collected in light traps. I could observe on the specimens I reared, the remarkable climbing agility of these beetles. The two individuals in the light traps must have climbed whatever poles or ropes may have been supporting those traps.

The fact that they were attracted to the light traps indicates a nocturnal activity. It is possible that its climbing ability serves *Hymenochelus distinctus* well in reaching the spike of gramineous to feed on the grains, as its close relatives *Hymenoplia* Eschscholtz do, but that is merely speculative. Anyway, with its small size, straw colour and nocturnal habits, finding *Hymenochelus distinctus* must require a good deal of serendipity.

***Apotriodonta hispanica* (Baraud, 1962)**

Recorded by BARAUD (1992) from northern Portugal, the detailed record is:

BEIRA ALTA: Pinzio (Pinhel), 10 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀, 15.vi.1978, A. Zuzarte *legit*.

***Paleira femorata* (Illiger, 1803)**

Illiger described the species, from Portugal, on three specimens, but did not specify where they had been collected. Actually, I did not find in the literature any record from

Portugal where the collecting location is specified. I know the species from two localities on the south coast of ALGARVE. Praia da Rocha (Portimão), 10 ♂♂, 8 ♀♀, 18.iv.1981, M.L. Correia *legit*. Vila Real de Santo António, sand dunes, 1 ♀, 9.iv.1985, T. Branco *legit*.

IV- The authorship of the name *Chasmatopterus*

When, together with Jacques Baraud (BARAUD & BRANCO, 1991) we revised the genus *Chasmatopterus*, we got the authorship of the genus name wrong. I would like to avail of this opportunity to amend our error.

“Serville” (PAULINO DE OLIVEIRA, 1894), “Lepeletier & Serville, 1825” (BLANCHARD, 1850) and most often “Latreille, 1825” (DALLA TORRE, 1912; BARAUD, 1965; BÁGUENA, 1967; BARAUD, 1977; PAULIAN & BARAUD, 1982; BARAUD, 1985; BARAUD & BRANCO, 1991; BARAUD, 1992) have been credited with the authorship of the name *Chasmatopterus*.

Latreille (1825, page 371) cites the genus “Chasmatoptère”, together with “Glaphyre”, “Amphicome” and “Anisonyx”, as an example of one of his divisions of the “Scarabéides”. Latreille does not give any description, definition or indication (Article 12 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature, 4th Edition). *Chasmatopterus* is certainly not available from Latreille, 1825.

LEPELETIER & AUDINET-SERVILLE (1828) credited the name to Dejean, pointing out that Dejean did not provide a description: «Ce genre a été créé par M. le comte Dejean, mais il n'en a encore

publié les caractères», (t)his genus was created by M. le comte Dejean, but he does not have yet published its characteristics.

Despite the lack of a description, the name *Chasmatopterus* is available from DEJEAN (1821), who listed the three species described by ILLIGER (1803) from Portugal.

LEPELETIER & AUDINET-SERVILLE (1828) cite as an example “*Chasmatopterus villosulus*. Dej. Catal.”, but that does not qualify as a type-species fixation (Article 67.5 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature, 4th Edition). The earliest type-species fixation I could trace is by Baraud, 1965.

Therefore, it should be:

Chasmatopterus Dejean, 1821: 60. Type species: *Melolontha hirtula* Illiger, 1803, by subsequent designation by Baraud, 1965: 264.

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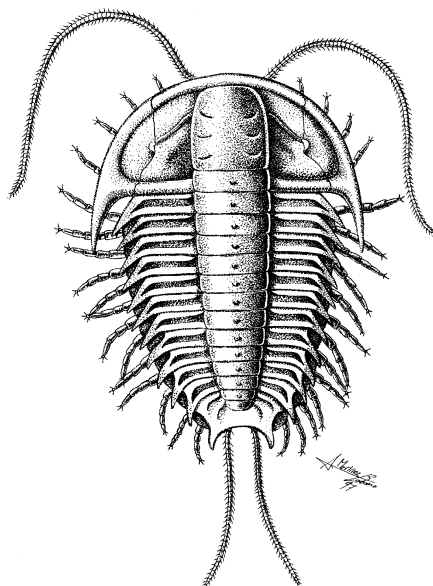
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