

ON THE TRUE IDENTITY OF THE PORTUGUESE SPECIMENS OF *MOGOPLISTES BRUNNEUS* SERVILLE, 1839 (ORTHOPTERA, MOGOPLISTIDAE)

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Abstract: The presence of the cricket *Paramogoplistes dentatus* Gorochov & Llorente, 2001 (Orthoptera, Mogoplistidae) in Portugal is recorded for the first time based on specimens previously identified as *Mogoplistes brunneus* Serville, 1839. As a result, the latter species is excluded from the Portuguese fauna.

Key words: Orthoptera, Mogoplistidae, *Paramogoplistes dentatus*, *Mogoplistes brunneus*, confirmed presence, exclusion, Portugal.

Sobre la verdadera identidad de los ejemplares portugueses de *Mogoplistes brunneus* Serville, 1839 (Orthoptera, Mogoplistidae)

Resumen: Se registra por primera vez la presencia del grillo *Paramogoplistes dentatus* Gorochov & Llorente, 2001 (Orthoptera, Mogoplistidae) en Portugal basándose en ejemplares anteriormente identificados como *Mogoplistes brunneus* Serville, 1839. Por tanto, esta última especie queda excluida de la fauna portuguesa.

Palabras clave: Orthoptera, Mogoplistidae, *Paramogoplistes dentatus*, *Mogoplistes brunneus*, presencia comprobada, exclusión, Portugal.

The three genera of the family Mogoplistidae that occur in Europe are all present in Iberia, being represented by the species *Mogoplistes brunneus* Serville, 1839, *Pseudomogoplistes squamiger* (Fischer, 1853), *Pseudomogoplistes vicentae* Gorochov, 1996, and *Paramogoplistes dentatus* Gorochov & Llorente, 2001 (Heller, 2007).

The presence of *Mogoplistes brunneus* in Portugal was first recorded by Grosso-Silva (2000) based on a set of 24 specimens collected in pitfall traps and two specimens collected under stones in a pine forest in Serra da Estrela Natural Park in 1999. Since then, some more specimens were collected in this Protected Area (listed below). Furthermore, in 2006, during the study of a set of Orthoptera samples collected at Douro Internacional Natural Park in 2001, in a cork oak wood (*Quercus suber* with *Cistus ladanifer*), five specimens were identified as *M. brunneus* by comparison with the Serra da Estrela material, whose records were published by Ferreira (2007).

In March 2008 during a visit to the Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales (Madrid, Spain) that aimed at the study of Portuguese crickets in the collection and the comparison of a set of Portuguese specimens from several species with the material in the collection it was realized how similar *Mogoplistes brunneus* and *Paramogoplistes dentatus* are. After a careful study and the appropriate literature research, it was possible to clearly distinguish both species and verify the identity of all Portuguese specimens. The entire set of Portuguese specimens available belongs in fact to *P. dentatus*, and not to *M. brunneus* as published by Grosso-Silva (2000) and Ferreira (2007). *Mogoplistes brunneus* is therefore excluded from the Portuguese cricket fauna.

The set of material examined was collected at: **Man-teigas:** Mata do Fragusto (29TPE3175), 02-05-2005 (1♀), 07-07-2005 (1♀), (CIBIO col.); road to Mata do Fragusto

(29TPE3176) 25-05-2004 (1♂) (CIBIO col.). **Seia:** Cabeça (29TPE0664), 13/23-04-1999 (1♂, pitfall), 16/28-06-1999 (2♂♂ and 1♀, pitfall), 20/29-07-1999 (1♂ and 6♀♀, pitfall), 16/26-08-1999, (4♂♂ and 3♀♀, pitfall), 14-09-1999 (1♂ and 2♀♀), 14-10-1999 (1♂, under a stone) (Grosso-Silva col.). **Miranda do Douro:** Fonte de Aldeia (29TQF 1789) 27-06-2001 (1♂ e 1♀), August-2001 (2♀♀), 22-08-2001 (1♂) (Sónia Ferreira col.). All the sites are located in Serra da Estrela Natural Park, except the last one, which is located in Douro Internacional Natural Park.

Additional specimens were caught in the surroundings of a train station in the river Tua valley, namely São Lourenço, located in the Carrazeda de Ansiães municipality (29TPF3572), 20-07-2006, however the identification cannot be reliable as the specimens are all nymphs, and should be subject of further study.

It is worth mentioning that the description of *Paramogoplistes dentatus* was based on one female and one male from Guadalajara and that the male was damaged, its genitalia being thus unknown (Gorochov & Llorente 2001). Despite the relatively high number of male specimens studied in this paper, none of them is in the adult stage and therefore it is not possible to describe the species' male genitalia.

The distinction between the genera *Mogoplistes* and *Paramogoplistes* is based in differences in the shape of the pronotum and the presence of tegmina in the first, which are not promptly observable as they are covered by the pronotum (Gorochov, 1984; Gorochov & Llorente, 2001). Nevertheless, both Iberian representatives are separable not only by the presence/absence of tegmina but also by the differences in the ovipositor, which has numerous teeth in *P. dentatus*, as clearly stated in its description (Gorochov & Llorente, 2001).

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MONOGRAFÍAS S.E.A.

Sociedad Entomológica Aragonesa

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David Lluçà Pomares

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