

NOTA / NOTE

Lochmaea suturalis (Thomson, 1866) (Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae), new species for Portugal.

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Abstract: The heather leaf beetle *Lochmaea suturalis* (Thomson, 1866) (Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae) is reported for the first time from Portugal, raising to three the number of species of the genus *Lochmaea* Weise, 1883 listed from the country. The known range of *Lochmaea scutellata* (Chevrolat, 1840) in continental Portugal is extended northwards.

Key words: Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae, *Lochmaea suturalis*, first record, Portugal.

Resumen: *Lochmaea suturalis* (Thomson, 1866) (Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae), nueva especie para Portugal. Se cita el crisomélido *Lochmaea suturalis* (Thomson, 1866) por primera vez de Portugal, elevando a tres el número de especies del género *Lochmaea* Weise, 1883 conocidas en el país. La distribución conocida de *Lochmaea scutellata* (Chevrolat, 1840) en Portugal continental se extiende hacia el norte.

Palabras clave: Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae, *Lochmaea suturalis*, primera cita, Portugal.

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Introduction

In 1996 BEENEN published an interesting and useful paper dealing with the genus *Lochmaea* Weise, 1883, in which he clarified the taxonomic identity of the Iberian endemic *Lochmaea scutellata* (Chevrolat, 1840), illustrating its male genitalia (and that of the other three species present in the Iberian Peninsula) and adding *Lochmaea joliveti* Cobos, 1955 (described from southern Spain) to its synonymy.

In continental Portugal, two species of *Lochmaea* have been recorded since the 19th century. These are *Lochmaea caprea* (Linnaeus, 1758) and *L. scutellata*, which were both recorded for the first time by OLIVEIRA (1891). It is worth mentioning that although *L. caprea* was recorded from six northern and central Portuguese localities [Coimbra, Mata de Leiria (Marinha Grande), Serra da Cabreira (Vieira do Minho), Serra da Estrela (Seia), Serra do Gerês (Terras de Bouro), and Sintra] by OLIVEIRA (1891, 1893) and SEABRA (1939), in the key for the Iberian species included in his study BEENEN (1996) only acknowledged the presence of *L. scutellata* in Portugal on account of this being the only species whose presence this author could verify.

Furthermore, in the final sentence of his conclusions, BEENEN (1996) remarked that "The distribution of Iberian *Lochmaea*-species is insufficiently known", a statement that remains very accurate for Portugal, considering that there is only one Portuguese record of the genus (TEUNISSEN, 2002) published since his study and that a third species, *Lochmaea suturalis* (Thomson, 1866), has remained undetected until now, being recorded here for the first time from the country.

Methods

The specimens studied were collected by direct search on the vegetation and on the walls of buildings and were identified with the key presented by BEENEN (1996). Unless otherwise stated, the specimens studied were collected by the author and are deposited in his personal collection.

The distribution of the two species studied is shown in Maps 1 and 2, where the literature records are represented by open symbols and the new records by full symbols.

Results

Lochmaea suturalis (Thomson, 1866)

Material examined: **Seia:** Penha do Gato (Serra da Estrela Natural Park) (29TPE1367), 06-04-1999 (1♂, Jacinto Diamantino leg.). **Trofa:** Seixal (S. Romão do Coronado) (29TNF3770), 22-02-2008 (1♂). **Vila do Conde:** Vairão (Agricultural campus) (29TNF2775), 15-02-2008 (1♂). **Vila Nova de Gaia:** Gaia Biological Park (29TNF3749), 15-03-2009 (1♂, coll. CIBIO-UP).

Comments: First record for continental Portugal, the resulting known Portuguese range is presented in Map 1. The collecting dates of the specimens studied indicate a late winter and early spring adult activity period.

Lochmaea scutellata (Chevrolat, 1840)

Material examined: **Boticas:** Granja (29TPG1909), 26-04-2008 (1♂).

Comments: Previously recorded from seven Portuguese localities positioned in six 10 km UTM squares (Map 2): Coimbra, Guarda, Leiria, Manteigas, Montargil (Ponte de Sôr), Vale de Azares (Celorico da Beira), and Vale de Estrela (Guarda) (OLIVEIRA, 1891, 1893; BEENEN, 1996; TEUNISSEN, 2002). The new record is a northern expansion of this species' known Portuguese range, as shown in Map 2. The collecting date of the specimen studied is in accordance with the spring adult records of BEENEN (1996) and TEUNISSEN (2002), from the 20th of May and 5th of April, respectively.



Map 1. - Distribution of *Lochmaea suturalis* (Thomson, 1866) in continental Portugal.



Map 2. - Distribution of *Lochmaea scutellata* (Chevrolat, 1840) in continental Portugal.

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