

***Ectopsocus petersi* Smithers, 1978 new to Portugal**

(Psocoptera: Ectopsocidae)

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Abstract

Ectopsocus petersi Smithers, 1978 was found for the first time in Portugal: the species was observed on 29.X.2017 in Cercal do Alentejo and on 3.XI.2017 in Odemira.

Keywords: barkflies, *Ectopsocus petersi*, Alentejo, Portugal

Samenvatting

Ectopsocus petersi Smithers, 1978 werd voor het eerst in Portugal aangetroffen: de soort werd waargenomen op 29.X.2017 in Cercal do Alentejo en op 3.XI.2017 in Odemira.

Résumé

Ectopsocus petersi Smithers, 1978 a été trouvé pour la première fois au Portugal: l'espèce a été observée le 29.X.2017 à Cercal do Alentejo et le 3.XI.2017 à Odemira.

Introduction

Barkflies or Psocoptera are poorly studied in Portugal. LIENHARD (1998) only mentioned 33 species from the Portuguese mainland and since then, only a few species of the genus *Liposcelis* Motschulsky, 1852 were added (KUCEROVÁ *et al.*, 2006; YOSHIZAWA & LIENHARD, 2010). Here, *Ectopsocus petersi* Smithers, 1978 is added to the fauna of Portugal.

Material and methods

Psocoptera were sampled by batting the vegetation. Specimens were preserved in ethanol and identified using LIENHARD (1998). Material of *E. petersi* was deposited to the entomological collection of the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (I.G.: 33.649).

Results

On 29.X.2017, two females and one male of *E. petersi* were found around the hotel Matinha in Cercal do Alentejo on cork oak (*Quercus suber*) (latitude: 37°48'12"N; longitude: 8°42'59"W). Other barkflies observed at the same location were: *Cerobasis guestfalica* (Kolbe, 1880), *Mesopsocus immunis* (Stephens, 1836), *Trichopsocus dali* (McLachlan, 1867) and *Valenzuela corsicus* (Kolbe, 1882).

On 3.XI.2017, two females of *E. petersi* were collected around the hotel Quinta Do Chocalinho in Odemira on cork oak (*Q. suber*) (latitude: 37°36'3"N; longitude: 8°37'17"W). No other species were found at this location.



Fig. 1. Habitus *Ectopsocus petersi* Smithers, 1978 (Photo: Koen Lock).

Ectopsocus petersi differs from the closely related *Ectopsocus briggsi* McLachlan, 1899 and *Ectopsocus meridionalis* Ribaga, 1904 in having more extensive and darker spots at the ends of the veins (Fig. 1).

Discussion

Earlier in 2017, *E. petersi* was added to the Spanish fauna by LOCK (2017), who gave more details about the distribution of this species and described the species in more detail.

There was an extremely long drought period in Portugal before the sampling period and there were a lot of forest fires. Due to this drought, barkflies were very hard to find. The few specimens that could be collected, were almost exclusively encountered in irrigated hotel gardens.

References

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