

NOTA / NOTE

Palomena formosa Vidal, 1940 (Hemiptera, Pentatomidae),
new species for Portugal.José Manuel Grosso-Silva¹, Rui Félix², Albano Soares², Francisco Barros³ &
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Abstract: *Palomena formosa* Vidal, 1940 (Hemiptera, Pentatomidae) is reported from mainland Portugal for the first time with an early 2019 record from the southernmost district of Faro.

Key words: Hemiptera, Pentatomidae, *Palomena formosa*, first record, Portugal.

Resumen: *Palomena formosa* Vidal, 1940 (Hemiptera, Pentatomidae), nueva especie para Portugal. Se cita *Palomena formosa* Vidal, 1940 (Hemiptera, Pentatomidae) por primera vez de Portugal continental con un temprano registro del 2019 del distrito más meridional de Faro.

Palabras clave: Hemiptera, Pentatomidae, *Palomena formosa*, primera cita, Portugal.

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Introduction

The shieldbug *Palomena formosa* Vidal, 1940 (Hemiptera, Pentatomidae), described from two Moroccan localities (Ifrane and Haute Réraya) by VIDAL (1940), was until recently only known from its original description (RIDER, 2006; VALCÁRCEL & PRIETO, 2008; RIBES & PAGOLA-CARTE, 2013).

The occurrence of the species in the Iberian Peninsula (and Europe) was first substantiated by VALCÁRCEL & PRIETO (2008), who recorded a male specimen collected in 1997 in Puente de la Sierra, in the Spanish province of Jaén. These authors also commented on a 2006 record from the southern Spanish autonomous region of Andalusia (lacking locality details) and several internet references to the presence of *Palomena formosa* Vidal, 1940 in Córdoba, another Andalusian province, which in turn lacked information about authorship and date. Shortly after the first detailed record from Jaén, RIBES et al. (2008) presented several additional Spanish records from the provinces of Albacete, Almería, Granada, and Málaga, and confirmed the species' presence in Córdoba. More recently, VALCÁRCEL et al. (2017) recorded the species from the province of Cádiz.

In the present contribution *Palomena formosa* Vidal, 1940 is reported from mainland Portugal for the first time, extending its known distribution range to the southwesternmost part of Iberia. The Fig. 1 shows two views of one of the couples studied.

Material examined

PORTUGAL: Faro district: Monchique municipality: Barranco dos Pisões (29SNB3832) (Site of Community Importance: PTCO0037 - Monchique), 16/03/2019, 6 specimens (3♂♂ and 3♀♀), Rui Félix leg., Tagis collection (2♂♂ and 2♀♀) and MHNC-UP collection (1♂ and 1♀, respectively MHNCUP/ART/37616 and MHNCUP/ART/37617). The specimens were collected under the project *Red List of Terrestrial and Freshwater Invertebrate Groups in mainland Portugal* (FCiências, POSEUR 15-2017-33).

Discussion

Up to the present, *Palomena prasina* (Linnaeus, 1761) was the only species of the genus *Palomena* Mulsant & Rey, 1866 known to occur in mainland Portugal (RIDER, 2006) with a range thought to span the whole territory (SEABRA, 1925, 1926, 1939).

Following the records of *Palomena formosa* from several southern Spanish provinces, VALCÁRCEL & PRIETO (2008) and RIBES *et al.* (2008) postulated that this species replaces *P. prasina* in the southern Iberian third. As such, the presence of *P. formosa* in southern Portugal, reported in the present study, was considered likely by RIBES & PAGOLA-CARTE (2013).

The southern limit of *P. prasina*, the area occupied by *P. Formosa*, and the degree of overlap of their distribution ranges in Portugal are open issues which we expect to address in the future, and we urge other colleagues to contribute with their records and observations.

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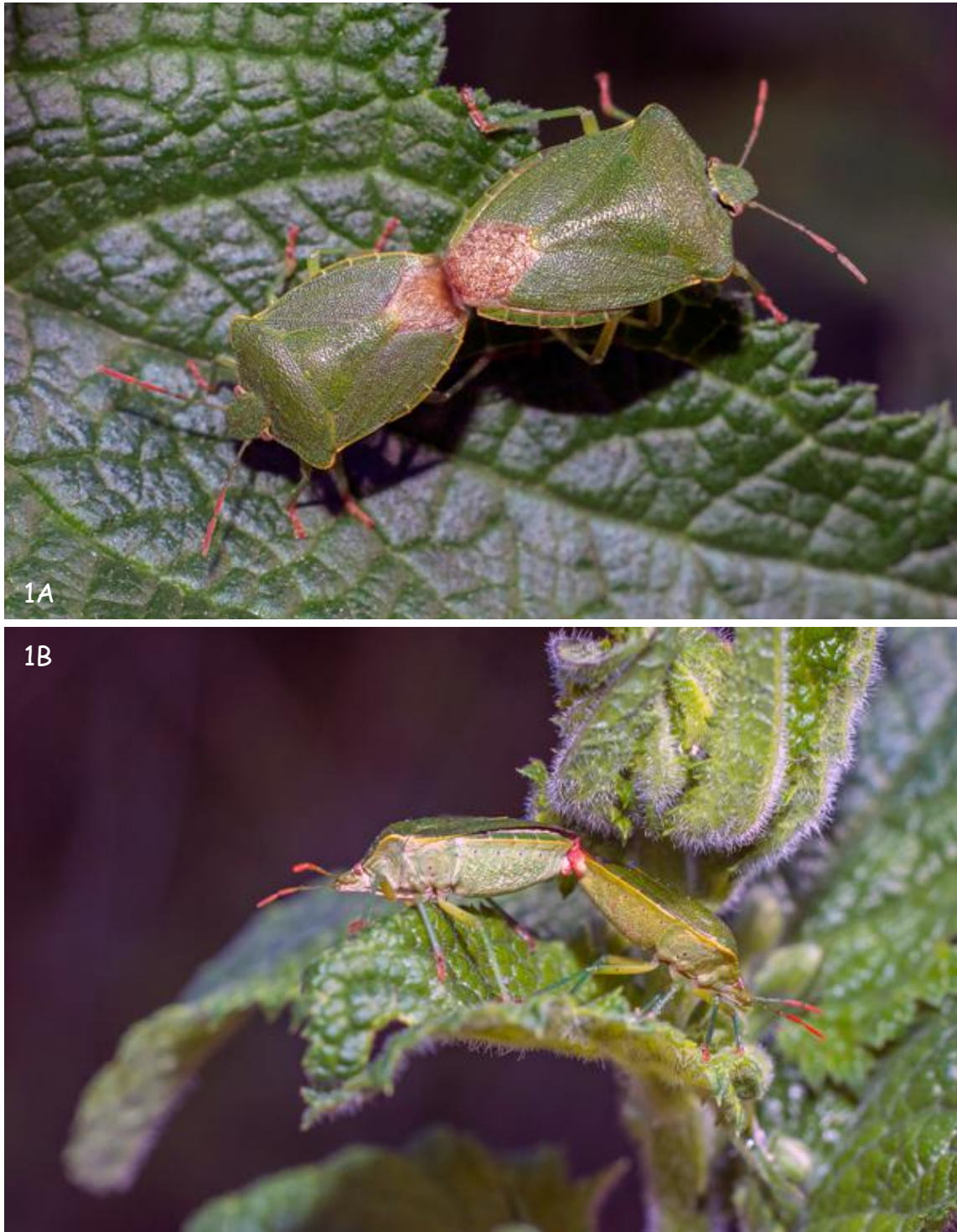


Fig. 1.- Dorsal (A) and lateral (B) views of one the couples of *Palomena formosa* Vidal, 1940 collected at Barranco dos Pisões (Portugal).