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New or interesting Peritelini of the West-Mediterranean fauna. XXIV. Two new *Simmeiropsis* Pierotti & Bellò, 2013 from Portugal (Coleoptera, Curculionidae, Entiminae)

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Abstract

Simmeiropsis algharbensis sp. n. and *S. lusitana* sp. n. are described and illustrated. The new species were discovered in the Algarve region in the south of Portugal. The records of these new species confirm the presence of the tribe Peritelini in Portugal and suggest that additional research is needed to explore the diversity and distribution of this group in the central and western parts of the Iberian Peninsula.

Key words: Coleoptera, Curculionidae, Entiminae, Peritelini, *Simmeiropsis*, new species, Portugal

Introduction

In spring 2013 the second and third author undertook an entomological excursion to southern Portugal during which two new species of Curculionidae belonging to the genus *Simmeiropsis* Pierotti & Bellò, 2013 (Pierotti, 2013b) were collected. The two new species differ rather obviously one from another: One is plump with adjoining scales and short, robust elytral bristles while the other one is elongate without scales on the disc of pronotum and sparse erect scales on the elytra with minute bristles.

The genus *Simmeiropsis* (olim *Simopsis* Pierotti & Bellò, 2006 nec *Simopsis* Blake, 1966) is quite heterogenous. Pierotti & Bellò (2006) already stated that the continental species of the genus can only be recognized with certain difficulty and also between them—only few unifying morphological characters are known. *Simmeiropsis* contains 18 species, divided into four species groups (Pierotti, 2013a). The two new species described below are similar to *Simmeiropsis schoenherri* (Boheman, 1843) from southern France (Savoy, Alpes-Maritimes, Var), Corsica and north-western Italy (Liguria) and *S. platysoma* (Seidlitz, 1865) from southern France (Alpes-Maritimes, Alpes-de-Haute-Provence, Var). All four species are characterised by their robust metatarsi with a short first article and gonocoxites with styli. Furthermore both new species are similar to *S. cremieri* (Boheman, 1843) from central Italy (Tuscany, Lazio, Abruzzi), southern France (Alpes-Maritimes, Alpes-de-Haute-Provence, Var) and Morocco, and to numerous species from Sardinia by their elytral interstriae with nude areolae, and by the elongate onychia.

The new descriptions are based on specimens from the Algarve and are of particular interest because they confirm the presence of Peritelini in Portugal. Only a historic record of Peritelini from Portugal was known from Van Volxem referred to by Iglesias Iglesias (1920) for the Italian species *Peritelus parvulus* Seidlitz, 1865 (= *Pseudomeira parvula*). The poor data clearly emphasize that more research is needed to investigate the fauna of Peritelini in the central and western parts of the Iberian Peninsula.

and *Rhamnus* sp. *Simmeiopsis lusitana* **sp. n.** was collected with a beating tray mainly from *Quercus ilex* and *Rhamnus* sp. in more humid conditions than *S. algharbensis* **sp. n.**; at both localities near rivulets (Fig. 18). Note that at the fonte Benémola locality both new species were collected together, although *S. lusitana* was more numerous.



FIGURE 18. Habitat of *Simmeiopsis lusitana* **sp. n.** at fonte Benémola, Algarve, Portugal.

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