

DRYOPIDAE (COLEOPTERA) FROM THE AZORES AND MADEIRA ¹

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1 fig.

Previous knowledge

An early record of a species of *Dryops* in Madeira is given by Wollaston (1857), who states that *Parnus prolifericornis* F. is found in «Madeira proper, occurring abundantly at the edges of the pools and streams at nearly all elevations» (p.28). Cf. also Wollaston 1865 (p.72). *P. prolifericornis* Woll. et auct. nec F. is a synonym of *Dryops luridus* Er. which has later been recorded from the island by e.g. Jansson 1940 (4 localities), Lundblad 1958, Steffan 1963 (numerous localities), and Eve 1967 (3 localities). *P. prolifericornis* F. = *D. auriculatus* Geoffr. has not been found in Madeira or the Azores.

Dryops luridus Er. seems to be a widespread species in Madeira.

A second species of *Dryops*, viz. *gracilis* Karsch, was mentioned from Madeira by H. Bollow (1938: «Madeira», «coll. Grouvelle»), cf. Steffan 1963. The material in the Grouvelle collection may be wrongly labelled. There is no recent finding. The record is doubtful.

The first record of a dryopid in the Azores is found in Drouët (1860), who stated that *Parnus prolifericornis* F. occurs in «Graciosa, Flores. Assez rare» (p. 469). Godman (1870, p. 64) mentions *P. prolifericornis* Rossi from «S. Miguel, Santa Maria. Also in Graciosa and Flores (Drouët)».

As mentioned above, *P. prolifericornis* of early authors (nec Fabricius) is *Dryops luridus* Er., which has been recorded from the Azores later by Uyttenboogaart (1947: São Miguel: Furnas).

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Méquignon (1942, p. 31), in his list of the Coleoptera of the Azores, mentions only one species of Dryopidae, viz. *Dryops gracilis* Karsch, referring to Bollow. Since it is recorded from several localities, the identification is probably a mistake. The widespread common species of *Dryops* in the Azores is *D. luridus* Er.

Material examined

There are 58 specimens of Dryopidae in the material collected by Dr. P. Brinck and Dr. E. Dahl in Madeira and the Azores in 1957. The material is dealt with below.

Dryops (Dryops) luridus Erichson, 1847

Azores — São Miguel: Relva, nascente dos Lagos, 15.III.1957, loc. 32 (6♂, 6♀); Caldeira das Sete Cidades, Lagoa Azul, 8.III.1957, Loc. 18 (15♂, 20♀); Charco da Madeira, 6 km. N of Ponta Delgada, 1.III.1957, loc. 4 (1♂, 1♀); Sete Cidades, Lagoa Verde, 2.III.1957, loc. 8 (♀).

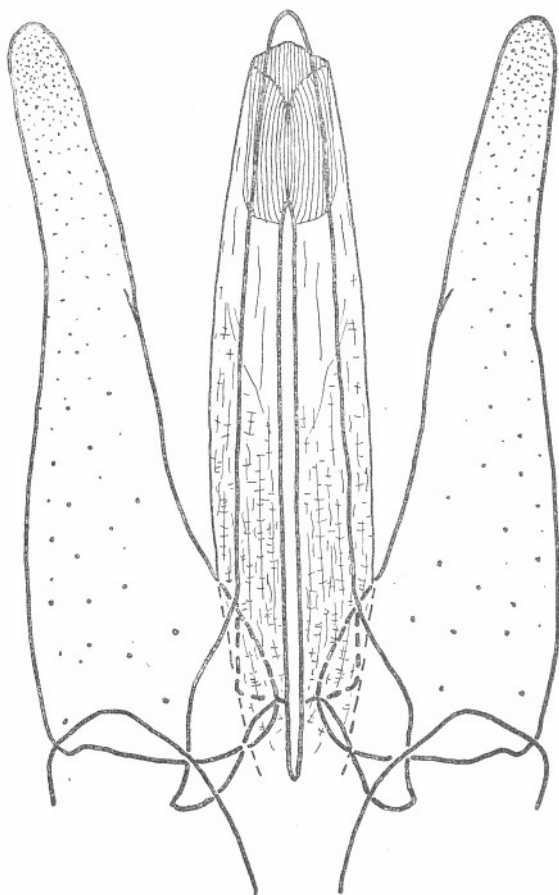
Madeira — Terreiro da Luta, alt. 850 m. stream, 20.IV.1957, loc. 112 (2♂, 1♀); Arieiro Mts., Ribeira das Cales, stream, alt. 1300 m. 21.IV.1957, loc. 113 (1♂, 1♀)

This species is undoubtedly the most common one in these Atlantic islands. It is a western species of central Europe with outposts in southern Scandinavia, Asia Minor and northern Africa. On the continent, it seems to be especially common in wet places near the sea.

Steffan (1961) states that there is no difference in colour and elytral sculpture between specimens of *Dryops luridus* from Madeira and others from middle and northern Europe. There is however a wider variety in the size of the various bodyparts in the above-mentioned island populations than in European material. In the genitalia, too, there is a difference between European specimens and Azorean-Madeiran specimens, particularly in the length of the ovipositor. Steffan (1961) gives the following measurements of the length of the ovipositor of *D. luridus* from middle and northern Europe: 1880—2060 μm (mean 1966 μm). In his material from Madeira the values were: 1488—1656 μm (1560 μm). In the present material from the Azores the amplitude is 1515—1694 μm (1586 μm).

All central and north European specimens of *D. luridus* have ten antennal segments (Bollow 1938, Steffan 1961). In his Madeiran collection

Steffan found that about 50% had only nine. Two of the present four Madeiran specimens and 13 of the 44 specimens from the Azores had only nine segments. When there are nine segments it appears that the



Aedeagus of *Dryops algericus* Luc. Azores.

terminal segment (No. 10) is missing, probably by coalescence, since the last segment then tends to be larger than normal.

***Dryops (Dryops) algericus* Lucas, 1849**

Azores — Terceira: Freshwater lagoon N of Praia da Vitória, 27.III. 1957, loc. 68 (2 ♂, 1 ♀).

New to the islands. A Mediterranean species which is insufficiently known. Steffan (1961), in his phylogenetic diagram of the subgenus *Dryops* s. str., illustrates the male genitalia of this species as the most primitive one. Besides Dr. Steffan's material and the Azorean specimens, I have studied two male specimens (det. Bollow) from Morocco and France: Camargue. They all agree perfectly. *D. algiricus* is regarded as the most primitive species of the subgenus because of its single ventral ridge and the absence of dentiform scales in the aedeagus.

The details of the male genitalia are illustrated in Fig. 1.

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