

Meanwhile both species in question were brought on record from the Iberian Peninsula: *S. vulgatum ibericum* Ocharan from N Spain (F.J. OCHARAN, 1985, *Bol. Cien. Nat. I.D.E.A.* 36: 75-85), and *S. decoloratum sinaiticum* Dumont from Andalucia, S Spain (M. FERRERAS-ROMERO, 1989, *Notul. odonatol.* 3: 44). Both authors agreed in their assumption that the Catalan animals might be identical with *S. vulgatum ibericum*. After an examination of the original material in the Brussels Museum of Natural History, this can now be confirmed.

The two specimens are marked with a separate label "race ? - pallida Selys", and each labelled "Catal. Cuni", hand-written by Selys, and "Odonates d'Europe Collection Selys". They are in a rather bad condition because they were caught as teneral; the male is missing the last five abdominal segments. In spite of this, by the proportions of hamuli and lobi in the male and the very prominent vulvar scale in the female, they can be clearly identified as a typical *vulgatum*.

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CONFIRMATION OF AN EARLY RECORD OF *SYMPETRUM VULGATUM IBERICUM* OCHARAN FROM SPAIN (ANISOPTERA: LIBELLULIDAE)

The presence of a decolorate *Sympetrum* in Europe was mentioned for the first time by F. RIS (1911, *Collns zool. Edm. de Selys Longchamps* 13: 525-700) on the basis of a couple from Catalunya, NE-Spain, deposited in the Selys Collection (leg. Cuni y Martorel in the late 19th century). The animals were described as having a pale colouration like *S. decoloratum* Selys, but the genital morphology hardly distinguishable from *S. vulgatum* (L.). RIS (1911, *op.cit.*) avoided any taxonomic fixation. For lack of illustrations the animals remained unidentified until now.