

***ONYCHOGOMPHUS COSTAE* (SEL.) AND  
*GOMPHUS GRASLINII* RAMB. IN NE SPAIN  
(ANISOPTERA: GOMPHIDAE)**

In July 1993 we made the following observations which, due to their faunistic interest, are worthwhile to be brought on record here.

*O. costae* was seen on 28 July on the Rio Alcanadre at Ontiñena (Provincia Huesca, Aragon). Along a 50 m stretch we estimated roughly 10-20 individuals including one tandem. A specimen was caught and photographed. The dragonflies most often sat on some riverside vegetation.

head facing the water. Sometimes we saw them sitting also on the gravel. Other dragonflies seen at the site were *Platynemesis latipes*, *Ischnura* sp., *Sympetrum fonscolombii* and *Onychogomphus forcipatus* (1 ♂ only). The Rio Alcanadre is about 20 m wide and had at the time of our visit very brown, though not stinky waters. Large parts of the bankside are covered with vegetation, only a short stretch is an open gravelly bank.

This observation is interesting because of the scarcity of Spanish records of this species. According to F.J. OCHARAN LARRONDO (1987, *Los odonatos de Asturias y de España*, PhD thesis, Univ. Oviedo), *O. costae* has so far been recorded from about 10 localities. Our site represents one of the most northerly localities so far known (cf. R.R. ASKEW, 1988, *The dragonflies of Europe*, Harley, Colchester). Most interestingly, D. GRAND & J.-P. BOUDOT (1993, *Notul. odonatol.* 4: 16-17) found the species at 2 sites in much the same area in 1991 and 1992. One of their localities was S of the Ebro, and the second one is situated N of it, in the Provincia Huesca. The three recent records seem quite remarkable, since the species had apparently not been seen since 1953 (cf. GRAND & BOUDOT, 1993, *ibid.*).

On 24 July we noticed a gomphid, sitting on the bankside vegetation of the Rio Irati at Liédena, Navarra. Although the dragonfly was not caught, it allowed long inspection from a distance of barely 50 cm. Our identification rests basically on the pattern of the black thoracic lines. Fasciae number 2 and 3 (counted from the head) were dorsally united for about one third of their length, the intervening yellow line was minute. As *Gomphus vulgarissimus* could clearly be ruled out by the shape and colour of the caudal parts of the abdomen, we concluded on *G. graslinii*. The only serious risk of confusion, *G. simillimus*, can be ruled out by its separate fasciae 2 and 3 (H. HEIDEMANN, 1988, *Libellula* 7: 89-101, J.-L. Dommanget, pers. comm.).

The Rio Irati at this site is about 25 m wide, and we surveilled a 60 m portion of it. Other species found were *Calopteryx xanthostoma* and *Platynemesis latipes*. There were 2 to 3 *Gomphus* males at the site on that day, but we could approach only one of them. We visited the same place twice more (on 25 July and 1 August) but without seeing any *Gomphus* at all, possibly be-

cause of bad weather conditions (cloudy sky or wind). At a comparable site, 6 km upstream on the Rio Salazar at Lumbier, we saw 2-3 *G. simillimus* (caught and photographed) on 24 July and 1 August, but not a single *G. graslinii*.

This is one of the very few observations of this species in Spain (cf. ASKEW, 1988, *ibid.*); only 7 Spanish bibliographic records are listed by OCHARAN LARRONDO (1987, *ibid.*). Yet, on looking at Askew's distribution map of *G. graslinii* one cannot help but wonder if in reality it is not much more widespread there.

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