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## A record of *Gomphus graslini* Rambur, 1842 (Odonata) from Spain

by

H. OVERBEEK

Zoölogisch Museum, Amsterdam

In July 1969 the author made a collecting trip to southern Spain with Messrs. J. O. DE BOOIS and A. TEN HOUTEN. During this trip we secured fifteen males of the dragonfly *Gomphus graslini* Rambur at the Rio Majaceite, a tributary stream of the Guadalete in the province of Cadiz. I was rather surprised to find this species so far to the south. *G. graslini* was only known from central and southern France, west of the Rhône, where it occurs most abundantly in the department Indre (R. MARTIN, 1931) and in the valleys of the Lot and the Dordogne (P. AGUESSE, 1968).

We caught the specimens on July 18th, some kilometers downstream the weir of the Pantano de los Hurones, about 12 km west of Ubrique. One of the few places where it was possible to reach the streambed, is near a bridge over a tributary brook. Upstream the river is enclosed between steep rocks. Downstream the banks are covered with a dense and impenetrable vegetation. There were many narrow shady tracts with fast running water, varied by wider and deeper parts — but not more than 20 m wide — with a muddy bottom and more turbid water. Here the flow was quiet. We found that the species preferred these deeper parts of the river. The males liked to perch on the vegetation, one to three feet above the water surface, rather than on stones. We found them on the sunny as well as on the shady side. From these places the males made short flights over the water surface. We could not find any female or exuviae. Among the other Odonata occurring there, we found *Irene boyeria* (Fonsc.) flying near the shady tracts, and on the rocky parts upstream *Oxygastra curtisi* (Dale), *Onychogomphus forcipatus unguiculatus* (v. d. Lind.) and *Zygonyx torrida* (Kirby). The latter was noticed also flying high over the vegetation and over the road.

The collected males agree completely with the description given by SELYS (1857). The species is characterized by the shape of the cercodes having a strong lateral dent (fig. 1 a, b), the black legs with two yellow lines on the femora and

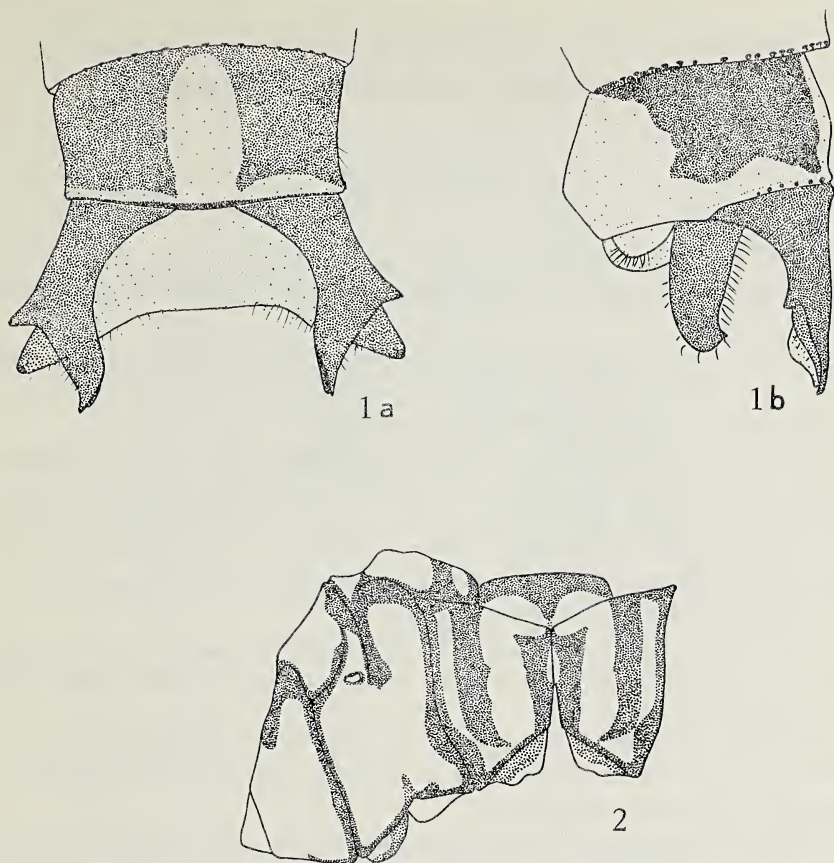


Fig. 1—2. *Gomphus graslini* Rambur, ♂ from Rio Majaceite (Cadiz, Spain); 1. apex of abdomen; a. dorsal view and b. lateral view; 2. colour design of synthorax.

the black markings of the thorax. The synthorax is yellow with six black stripes. The black antehumeral stripe is wider than the space separating it from the humeral line (fig. 2).

Comparing the Spanish series with French males in the collection of the „Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie” in Leiden I was not able to find any difference other than the somewhat reduced yellow markings on the femora of the Spanish males.

Measurements of the Spanish males: abd. + app. 31.2—34.0 mm; hind wing 27.8 — 29.6 mm; pterostigma fore wing 3.4 — 4.0 mm.

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