

**SOME INTERESTING DRAGONFLY RE-
CORDS FROM SPAIN (ANISOPTERA)**

On July 1, 1983, I watched 2 ♀ and at least 2 ♂ of *Brachythemis leucosticta* (Burm.) at the reservoir "Embalse de Puento Nuevo" and on the stream flowing out of it (Rio Guadiato), about

30 km NW of Cordoba, Spain. One ♀ was captured and set free again, and a ♂ was photographed on the bank of the reservoir near its wall. The latter specimen was permanently sitting on stony and sandy ground, its abdomen directed towards the sun. A few hours later, before sunset, another ♂ could be watched flying constantly over the waters of the stream, looking like a glimmering spot with the dark stripes of its flapping wings.

B. leucosticta, a wide-spread African libellulid, is believed to be very rare in Europe. From SW Europe there are only a few earlier records, viz. (1) July 1957, Valle de Santarem (Portugal), 1 specimen (A. REIS MOURA, 1960, *Mem. Estud. Mus. zool. Univ. Coimbra* 264: 1-4, pl. 1); — (2) 15-VIII-1961, Rio Fuengirola (Spain, near Malaga), 2 specimens (A. COMPTE SART, 1962, *Vie Milieu* 13:604-607); — (3) 29-VIII-1978 (1 ♂) and 3-X-1978 (1 ♂), Embalse de Sierra Boyera (Spain, NW of Cordoba), (M. FERRERAS ROMERO, 1981, *Bol. Asoc. esp. Entom.* 5: 13-23); — (4) 25-VIII-1979, Sardinia (Italy), 1 teneral ♀ (P. CRUCITTI, P.A. GALETTI & M. PAVESI, 1981, *Notul. odonatol.* 1:115-117); — (5) 18-VII-1982, Lake of Vela (Portugal), 4 ♂ (C. AGUIAR & S. AGUIAR, 1983, *Notul. odonatol.* 2: 8-9); and (6) several records of many ♂ and ♀ at two localities near Malaga (Spain) in 1981 and 1982, also exuviae (M.A. CONESA GARCIA & J.E. GARCIA RASO, 1982, *Mon. Trab. Zool. Malaga* 3/4: 21-24). — The early records probably refer to occasional immigrants, whereas that from Sardinia and the latest from the Malaga area have verified the reproduction on European ground for the first time.

Another African libellulid, *Trithemis annulata* (Palisot de Beauvois), was first listed for Spain (1978) by M.A. LIEFTINCK (1979, *OA* No. 2986, *Odonatologica* 10 [1981]: 69). Some more records from several localities in Spain and one from Portugal followed (FERRERAS, 1981, cf. above; — FERRERAS, 1981, *OA* No. 3525, *Odonatologica* 11 [1982]: 176; — M. FERRERAS ROMERO, 1983, *Notul. odonatol.* 2: 11-12; — AGUIAR & AGUIAR, 1983, cf. above).

In the summer of 1983 I found this species to be rather common and locally abundant in southern Spain. Records were made at several

localities, e.g. on the Guadiato River and the reservoirs "Embalse de Puente Nuevo" (1-VII-1983), "Embalse de Santomera" near Murcia (28-VI-1983) and "Embalse de Puentes" near Lorca (29-VI-1983).

The considerable increase of records of *B. leucosticta* and *T. annulata* in recent years suggests that these species have begun to extend their ranges to the Iberian Peninsula, as already assumed by AGUIAR & AGUIAR (1983) in the case of *T. annulata*. They may have been encouraged by a period of more favourable meteorological conditions. If so, the SW European records are only the result of a temporary trip to the north, and these species may be expected to be expelled from there when the climate becomes less favourable for them.

Other records that are worth mentioning are: *Gomphus similimus* (Sel.), on the stream flowing beside the N 342, about half-way between Antequera and Archidona, 30-VI-1983, 1 ♂; — *G. graslini* (Ramb.), Rio Guadiato (cf. above), I-VII-1983, 1 ♂; and — *Selysiothemis nigra* (Vander L.), Embalse de Santomera, 28-VI-1983, several ♂ and ♀.

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