**Trox martini** REITTER in Andalusia – first record for Europe (Coleoptera: Scarabaeoidea: Trogidae)

Harald Kalz & Frank-Thorsten Krell

**ABSTRACT**

Ten specimens of *Trox martini* REITTER were collected near Tarifa, Andalusia, Spain. This is the first record of this North African species for Europe and marks the westernmost border of its known range.

**Key words:** new record, Europe, Spain, Andalusia, *Trox martini*, Trogidae.

**RESUMEN**

*Trox martini* REITTER en Andalucía – primera cita para Europa (Coleoptera: Scarabaeoidea: Trogidae)

Se capturaron 10 ejemplares de *Trox martini* REITTER en las proximidades de Tarifa, Andalucía, España. Es la primera cita para Europa de esta especie del norte de África y marca el extremo más occidental de su área de distribución geográfica.

**Palabras clave:** nueva cita, Europa, España, Andalucía, *Trox martini*, Trogidae.

**INTRODUCTION**

*Trox martini* was introduced as “var. Martinii Desbr. in litt.” of *Trox granulipennis* FAIRMAIRE, 1852, by REITTER (1892: 153). Since he used this name with a description, he is to be considered as its author as is done by following authors. For a long time, the taxon had been considered as subspecific (SCHOLTZ 1982) or infrasubspecific: In his standard work on the North African Scarabaeoidea, BARAUD (1985: 40) treated it as an aberration of *T. granulipennis*. However, already in 1983, PITINO restored it as a valid species.

*T. martini* is described from Oumache, Algeria (34°42'N, 5°41'E), and is furthermore known from some localities in Libya, Tunisia and Algeria only (PITINO, 1983; BARAUD, 1985: 40) (Fig. 1). A European record has never been published.
MATERIAL

The specimens studied are deposited in the following private collections:
- coll. OLIVER HILLERT, Rosegger Str. 17, D-12059 Berlin, Germany.
- coll. HARALD KALZ, Dorfstr. 2, D-15926 Schlabendorf, Germany.
- coll. Dr. FRANK-THORSTEN KRELL, Zoologisches Forschunginstitut und Museum Alexander Koenig, Adenauerallee 160, D-53113 Bonn, Germany.

NEW RECORD

Andalusia, Tarifa (36°00'N, 5°36'W) near Algeciras; 1 km. away from Atlantic coast, elevation with isolated shrubs; at a completely mummified, dry and hard cattle carcass:

6♂ 4♀ 12.iii. 1998, leg. O. HILLERT (2♂, 2♀ in coll. KALZ, 3♂ , 2♀ in coll. HILLERT, 1♂ in coll. KRELL). All beetles were collected at the hairy tip of the tail. There were no Trogidae under the carcass itself.

We studied the aedeagi of all males. They resemble unambiguously the figures of the aedeagus of T. martini given by PITTINO (1983: 281).

DISCUSSION

Trox martini has never been found in Spain or other European countries (VEIGA & MARTIN PIERA, 1988: 44; MARTIN PIERA & LOPEZ COLON, in litt. 1998). SCHOLTZ (1982: 4) gave erroneously “Europe” as the distribution of this taxon. Therefore, our record from Tarifa is the first one for Europe and the westernmost one for the species. It is about 750 km. away from the nearest known North African collecting locality. Further investigations will show whether the distributional range of this very rare species (PITTINO 1993: 276) is discontinuous or whether it comprises northern Morocco as well.

Known distribution of Trox martini (Fig. 1):

Libya: Gharyan (Gharian, 32°10'N, 13°01'E) (PITTINO 1983: 276). - Tunisia: Mezzouna (Al Mazzunah, 34°35'N, 9°50'E), Gabès (Qabis, 33°53'N, 10°07'E), Gafsa

Trox martini REITTEL first record for Europe

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REFERENCES


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