

## NOTA / NOTE

New records of Heteroptera from the Canary Islands (Spain),  
IX

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**Abstract:** The first record of *Halobates micans* Eschscholtz, 1822 (Heteroptera: Gerridae) on the island of El Hierro is reported. This is the first record of the genus *Halobates* Eschscholtz, 1822 in the Canary archipelago. The known distribution of *H. micans* in Macaronesia is summarised. Furthermore, the first record of *Aradus canariensis* Kormilev, 1954 (Heteroptera: Aradidae) on the island of La Palma is reported and the known distribution of the species in the archipelago is summarised.

**Key words:** Heteroptera, Aradidae, Gerridae, *Aradus canariensis*, *Halobates micans*, first records, distribution, El Hierro, La Palma, Canary Islands, Spain.

**Resumen:** Nuevas citas de Heteroptera de las Islas Canarias (España), IX. Se presenta la primera cita de *Halobates micans* Eschscholtz, 1822 (Heteroptera: Gerridae) en la isla de El Hierro. Esta es la primera cita del género *Halobates* Eschscholtz, 1822 en el archipiélago canario. Se resume la distribución conocida de *H. micans* en Macaronesia. Además, se presenta la primera cita de *Aradus canariensis* Kormilev, 1954 (Heteroptera: Aradidae) en la isla de La Palma y se resume la distribución conocida de la especie en el archipiélago.

**Palabras clave:** Heteroptera, Aradidae, Gerridae, *Aradus canariensis*, *Halobates micans*, primeras citas, distribución, El Hierro, La Palma, Islas Canarias, España.

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The genus *Halobates* Eschscholtz, 1822 (Heteroptera: Gerridae) is the only taxon of insects that contains species which live on the open ocean. Five species of *Halobates* are completely oceanic in habitat (CHENG, 1985; ANDERSEN & CHENG, 2004; CHENG & MISHRA, 2022). Among them, only *Halobates micans* Eschscholtz, 1822 is present in the Atlantic Ocean (CHENG, 1985, 2006; ANDERSEN & CHENG, 2004).

So far, in Macaronesia *H. micans* has been reported from the Azores (RIBES & BORGES, 2005) and from Madeira (RIBES & HEISS, 2008). In the Azores, *H. micans* sometimes occurs "in fair numbers in a bay near the marine station on Faial Island" (Lanna Cheng, pers. comm.).

Now, *H. micans* can be reported from the Canary Islands, too: On 06-12-2023, a male specimen (Fig. 1) was found near Arenas Blancas, located at the northwestern coast of the island of El Hierro. Four photographs of the specimen were uploaded to the online database iNaturalist (see [here](#)). Based on a photo, the identification of the specimen was confirmed by Lanna Cheng (pers. comm.).



Up to now, *Aradus canariensis* Kormilev, 1954 (Heteroptera: Aradidae) has been reported for the islands of El Hierro and Tenerife (HEISS, 1979; HEISS & BÁEZ, 1990; HEISS & RIBES, 1992; AUKEMA *et al.*, 2006, 2013; ROCA-CUSACHS *et al.*, 2020).

The island of La Palma can be added to the list of the distribution of *A. canariensis* in the Canary archipelago: On 08-12-2023, a male specimen (Fig. 2) was found near Las Tricias in the northwestern part of the island. Two photographs of the specimen were uploaded to the online database iNaturalist (see [here](#)). Based on a photo, the identification of the specimen was confirmed by Ernst Heiss (pers. comm.).

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**Fig. 1.-** Male specimen of *Halobates micans* Eschscholtz, 1822, near Arenas Blancas, El Hierro, Canary Islands, Spain. (Photo: Amanhuy Duque Hernández).

**Fig. 2.-** Male specimen of *Aradus canariensis* Kormilev, 1954, near Las Tricias, La Palma, Canary Islands, Spain. (Photo: Ben Jobson).