

First report of the genus *Heterorhabditis* (Nematoda: Heterorhabditidae) from continental Portugal



Author(s): Valadas V (Valadas, V.)¹, Vieira P (Vieira, P.)¹, Oliveira S (Oliveira, S.)², Mota M (Mota, M.)¹

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Abstract: Until recently, the only entomopathogenic nematode (EPN) species reported from continental Portugal, was of the genus *Steinernema*. Following a national survey of EPNs in continental Portugal, several natural and managed habitats have been surveyed in the southern part of the country. From 57 soil samples collected using the *Galleria mellonella* trapping method, three samples yielded EPN. Morphological characterization and sequence analysis of the ITS regions of ribosomal DNA allowed the identification of EPN isolates as *Heterorhabditis bacteriophora*, representing the first report of this genus for continental Portugal.

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Reprint Address: Valadas, V (reprint author), Univ Evora, Dept Biol, NemaLab ICAM, P-7002554 Evora, Portugal

Addresses:

1. Univ Evora, Dept Biol, NemaLab ICAM, P-7002554 Evora, Portugal
2. Univ Evora, Dept Biol, Lab Microbiol Solo ICAM, P-7002554 Evora, Portugal

E-mail Addresses: vmrv@uevora.pt