

Pyrgus alveus alveus (HÜBNER, [1803]) in Greece (Lepidoptera : Hesperiidae)

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Samenvatting. *Pyrgus alveus alveus* (HÜBNER, [1803]) in Griekenland (Lepidoptera : Hesperiidae)

De auteur geeft een gedetailleerd overzicht van de geografische verspreiding van *Pyrgus alveus* (HÜBNER, [1803]) in Griekenland, toegelicht door een verspreidingskaartje. De soort wordt voor de eerste maal met zekerheid vermeld van de Pelopónnisos.

Résumé. *Pyrgus alveus alveus* (HÜBNER, [1803]) en Grèce (Lepidoptera : Hesperiidae) L'auteur donne un aperçu détaillé de la répartition géographique de *Pyrgus alveus* (HÜBNER, [1803]) en Grèce, illustré au moyen d'une carte de répartition. Pour la première fois, l'espèce est mentionnée avec certitude du Péloponnèse.

Key words : *Pyrgus - alveus - geographic distribution - Greece - Óros Helmós.*

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Introduction

Little is known about the geographic distribution of *Pyrgus alveus* (HÜBNER, [1803]) in Greece and DE JONG (1972) does not even mention any material from that country. An account of the known geographic distribution of *P. alveus* in Greece is given here, based on an extensive survey of the literature and on material deposited in the collections of Mr. J.G. COUTSIS, Mr. D. VAN DER POORTEN, the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden (RMNH) and in the author's collection.

Geographic distribution of *P. alveus* in the Balkans and in Greece

P. alveus appears to be widespread in the Balkans, occurring in Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Albania (a.o. BURESCH & TULESCHKOW 1929-1930, REBEL & ZERNY 1931, THURNER 1964, DE JONG 1972, KRZYWICKI 1981, JAKŠIĆ 1988). I found eight references in the literature concerning the presence of *P. alveus* in Greece, of which some are probably unreliable (¹). REBEL (1902) records two males collected on 27.VII.1901 at Hagios Vlasis [Moní Agia N. Vlassía, Ahaía, Pelopónnisos] at the foot of Ór. Erímanthos (ca. 800 m). These specimens could indeed be *P. alveus*, but it is also very possible that confusion has arisen with *Pyrgus armoricanus* (OBERTHÜR, 1910) or *Pyrgus serratulae* (RAMBUR, 1840). Unfortunately I didn't see the specimens and I consider this record as questionable.

All other literature records refer to material from Northern Greece (Makedonía and the Píndos mountain range). VERITY (1936-1937) states : «I have only seen a photograph of the single specimen found on 5th July in the

(¹) KOUTSAFTIKIS (1973, 1974) records only two *Pyrgus* species from Greece, viz. *Pyrgus sidae* (ESPER, 1784) and *P. alveus*, the latter being recorded by this author from the nomoi Évros, Séres, Flórina and Ahaía, from April to June. I fear that KOUTSAFTIKIS confuses all Greek *Pyrgus* species (and probably *Spiralia orbifer* (HÜBNER, [1823]) too, a species that he doesn't even mention from Greece!) other than *P. sidae* under the single name *Pyrgus alveus*. Furthermore the flight periods mentioned by him make the correctness of his determinations even more doubtful. Consequently I shall not take his records into account in the present study.

Bermion Mts. [Óros Vérmi] between Naussa [Náoussa] and Seli [Séli] [Imathía, Makedonía], at 800 m». Whether or not the determination of this specimen is right is unimportant here, as the species certainly occurs in this area (see below).

COUTSIS (1972) reports *P. alveus* from the South Píndos Mts. at 1100 m in July (see also below) and DACIE et al. (1972) found one single specimen near Dráma. HIGGINS & RILEY (1984) mention «N. Greece (Pindos)», probably referring to the record by COUTSIS (l.c.).

Finally SCHMIDT & HASSLER (1986) record it from the Óros Falakró (Dráma, Makedonía).

Examination of specimens of *Pyrgus alveus* in the collections mentioned in the introduction allows us to add the following data (see also map 1) and to conclude that *P. alveus* is fairly widespread in Greece.

1. Óros Falakró (Dráma, Makedonía) (1200 m), 3.VII.1984; idem (2000 m), 4.VII.1984 (both leg. et coll. D. VAN DER POORTEN).
2. vic. Livaderó (Dráma, Makedonía) (900 m), 25.VII.1987 (leg. et coll. J.G. COUTSIS).
3. Náoussa (Imathía, Makedonía) (leg. ROMEI in coll. RMNH).
4. Óros Vérno [= Ór. Vítsi] (Flórina, Makedonía) (1300 m), 24.VII.1979; idem (1400 m), 9.VII.1980; idem (1800 m), 15.VII.1980; idem (1100 m), 12.VII.1981 (all leg. et coll. D. VAN DER POORTEN). Vic. Flórina [Óros Vérno?] (Flórina, Makedonía) (1500 m), 8.VII.1982 (coll. RMNH).
5. Léhovo (Flórina, Makedonía) (1200 m), 9.VII.1983 (leg. et coll. D. VAN DER POORTEN).
6. Apóskepos (Kastoriá, Makedonía) (1500-1600 m), 17.VII.1982 (leg. et coll. D. VAN DER POORTEN).
7. Katára Pass (Tríkala, Thessalía) (1420 m), 5.VII.1971 (leg. et coll. J.G. COUTSIS).
8. Kalambáká (Tríkala, Thessalía), VII.1976 (coll. RMNH).
9. Aspropótamos (Tríkala, Thessalía) (1100 m), 25.VII.1970; idem, 4.VII. 1971 (all leg. et coll. J.G. COUTSIS).
10. Óros Kóziakas (Tríkala, Thessalía) (1200 m), 16.VII.1980 (leg. et coll. J.G. COUTSIS).
11. Óros Tsoumérka (Arta, Thessalía) (1400 m), end VII.1977 (leg. et coll. J.G. COUTSIS).
12. Óros Timfristós (Evritanía, Stereá Ellás) (1600 m), 17.VII.1981 (leg. et coll. D. VAN DER POORTEN).
13. Óros Helmós (Aroánia Óri, Ahaía, Pelopónnisos) (ca. 1700 m), 4.VIII. 1978 (coll. RMNH); idem (1700 m), 13.VII.1981 (leg. et coll. B. MAES)⁽¹⁾; idem (1800 m), 19.VII.1984 (leg. et coll. D. VAN DER POORTEN); idem (1850 m), 17.VII.1985 (leg. et coll. A. OLIVIER).

(¹) I did not see the specimens collected by MAES myself but I was able to examine a clear photograph of them. They agree well with the specimen shown here on figs. 1 and 2. Dissection of the genitalia confirmed their identity (W.O. DE PRINS, pers. comm.).

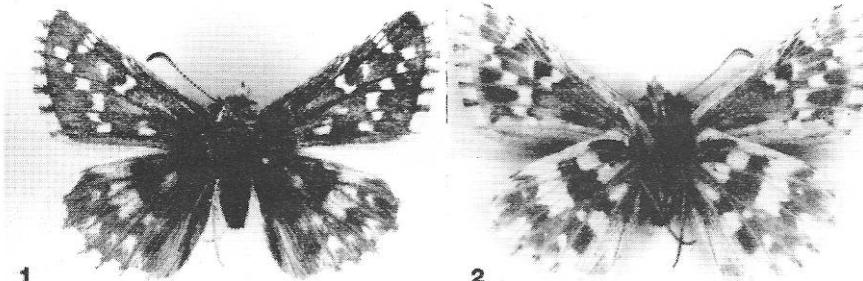


Fig. 1 : *Pyrgus alveus alveus* (HÜBNER, [1803])
♂ (upperside), Ór. Helmós (Aroánia Óri,
Ahaía, Pelopónnisos, Greece) (1850 m), 17.
VII.1985, leg. A. OLIVIER.

Fig. 2 : idem (underside).

Discussion

P. alveus appears to have a continuous geographic distribution from Makedonía and Thessalía southwards to Ór. Timfristós and to occur in an isolated population on Ór. Helmós (and possibly on Ór. Erimanthos). The present report from Ór. Helmós is the first unambiguous record from the Pelopónnisos. The lack of records from any of the mountains lying in between (Ór. Gióna, Ór. Parnassós and Ór. Íti) is more likely to be due to under-collecting than to real absence of the species, as the *Pyrgus* group seems to fall outside the scope of interest of many entomologists.

All specimens of *P. alveus* that I know from Ór. Helmós have been taken at an altitude of 1700-1850 m from mid-July to the beginning of August. All specimens that I have seen show an extension of the white markings on the wings (figs. 1 and 2), this probably being due to the warm and dry climatic conditions on Ór. Helmós (I collected my specimen in a characteristic biotope of *Lycaena thetis hephestos* (DILS & VAN DER POORTEN, 1985)). Similar phenotypes are occasionally met with in other areas and there is no reason to suppose that this marked expression of the spotting is due to anything else than to ecophenotypic variation. All Greek populations can be referred to the nominotypical subspecies. The genitalia of one specimen are illustrated (fig. 3), as well as those of the closely related *P. armoricanus persicus* (REVERDIN, 1913) (fig. 4) for comparison.

Acknowledgments

I would like to thank MM. J.G. COUTSIS (Athens), D. VAN DER POORTEN (Antwerpen) and Dr. R. DE JONG (RMNH, Leiden) for giving me all records of *P. alveus alveus* they had from material in their collections and for allowing me to publish these; Mr. W.O. DE PRINS for the preparation and drawing of the genitalia of the *P. alveus alveus* and *P. armoricanus persicus* specimens (figs. 3 and 4) and Mr. J. HUISENKA (Amsterdam) for both photographs of *P. alveus alveus* shown in the present paper (figs. 1 and 2).

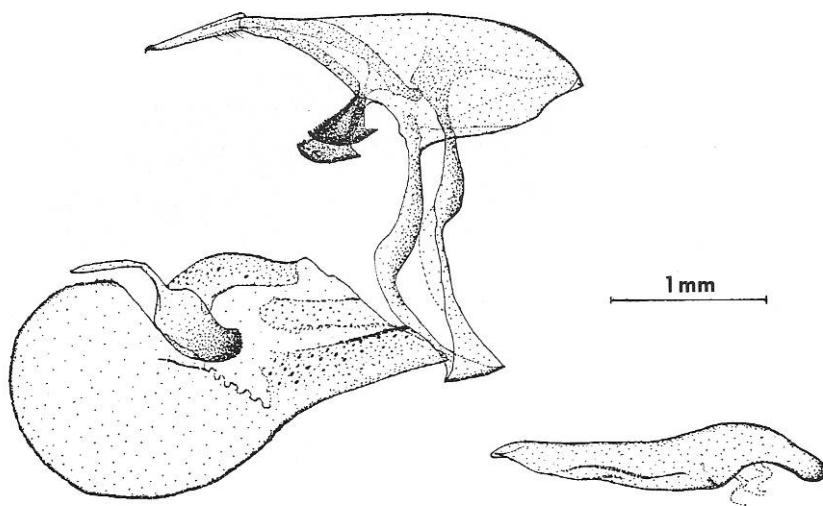


Fig. 3 : *Pyrgus alveus alveus* (HÜBNER, [1803]) ♂, Ór. Helmós (Aroánia Óri, Ahaía, Pelopónnisos, Greece) (1850 m), 17.VII.1985, leg. A. OLIVIER, gen. 2501 [W.O. DE PRINS].

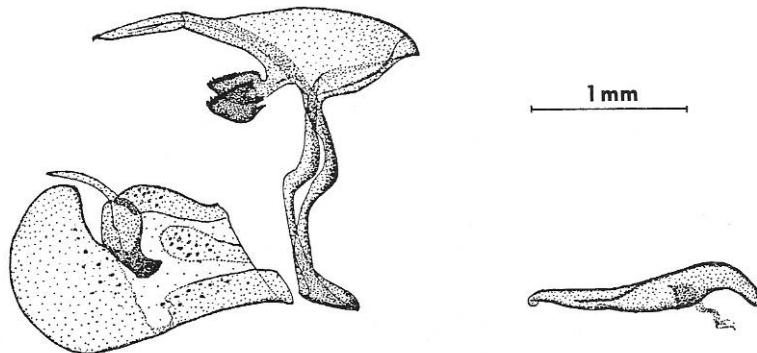


Fig. 4 : *Pyrgus armoricanus persicus* (REVERDIN, 1913) ♂, Diakoftó (Ahaía, Pelopónnisos, Greece) (100 m), 13.VII.1985, leg. A. OLIVIER, gen. 2502 [W.O. DE PRINS].

Map 1. Known geographic distribution of *Pyrgus alveus alveus* in Greece.



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Boekbespreking

Gerlach, D. : Mikroskopieren - ganz einfach. Das Mikroskop - seine Handhabung - Objekte aus dem Alltag.

16 x 23,5 cm, 192 p., 48 kleurenfoto's, 73 zwartwitfoto's, 17 tekstfiguren, Franckh'sche Verlags-handlung, W. Keller & Co., Postfach 640, D-7000 Stuttgart 1, 1987, gebonden, DM 39,80 (ISBN 3-440-05803-4).

Wie zich met de wereld van het kleine bezig houdt, kan niet zonder vergrootglas, prepareermikroscoop of 'echte' mikroscoop. Dit boek behandelt vooral het laatste, hoewel er ook talrijke stukken gewijd zijn aan de minder sterke vergrotingen. De auteur geeft raad bij de aanschaf van een mikroscoop. Dit is uiteraard afhankelijk van het voorwerp dat men wil bestuderen.

De auteur verklaart de bouw en de werking van een mikroscoop en geeft verder een heleboel tips om diverse onderwerpen te onderzoeken. Erg praktisch zijn de raadgevingen voor het aankopen van allerlei toebehoren. Zo legt de auteur de werking uit van fasiekontrast en allerlei optische methoden om de beeldscherpte te vergroten, o.a. schuin invallende belichting, polarisatie, optische kleuring. Ook wordt aangetoond hoe men op de meest praktische wijze het bestudeerde voorwerp kan vastleggen op een foto of een tekening.

De illustraties bestaan voor een groot deel uit afgewerkte preparaten, maar ook uit structuur-tekeningen van apparaten en methoden. Zij dragen in ruime mate bij tot een beter verstaan van de vlot leesbare tekst. Het boek is zeer verzorgd uitgegeven op kwaliteitspapier. Het is een werk voor mensen die meer uit hun mikroscoop willen halen dan het louter plaatjes kijken.

W.O. De Prins