

AN OVERVIEW OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE PARABATHYNELLIDAE (CRUSTACEA, SYNCARIDA BATHYNELLACEA) ON THE IBERIAN PENINSULA AND BALEARIC ISLANDS

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ABSTRACT

This paper reviews all the knowledge on the presence and distribution of 26 species of the family Parabathynellidae Noodt, 1964 (Crustacea, Syncarida, Bathynellacea) on the Iberian Peninsula and Balearic Islands. The different genera, subgenera and species distributions are subjected to a basic analysis. The presence of these taxa in different subterranean aquatic habitats (caves, springs, wells and interstitial environment) is also discussed. The most sampled habitat was the interstitial environment (45%); the least sampled habitat was springs (5%). The most commonly found genus was *Iberobathynella* Schminke, 1973 (54%) and the rarest was *Guadalopecathynella* Camacho & Serban, 1998 (0.7%).

All the knowledge on these taxa in the study area, in Europe and in the world is compared and evaluated. More species of the Parabathynellidae live on the Iberian Peninsula and Balearic Islands than in any other part of the world (26 species). *Iberobathynella* is a highly diversified genus endemic to the Iberian peninsula. Its diversity is comparable to another genus in the order, *Hexabathynella* Schminke, 1972, which also has 18 described species. However, *Hexabathynella* has a cosmopolitan distribution.

Key words: Crustacea, Syncarida, Parabathynellidae, Distribution, Faunistics, subterranean water, Spain, Portugal.

RESUMEN

Distribución de la familia Parabathynellidae (Crustacea, Syncarida, Bathynellacea) en la Península Ibérica e Islas Baleares

En este trabajo se reúne y actualiza el conocimiento acerca de la presencia y distribución de 26 especies de batinelas de la familia Parabathynellidae (Crustacea, Syncarida, Bathynellacea) en la Península Ibérica y las Islas Baleares. Se analiza de forma crítica la distribución de los diferentes géneros, subgéneros y especies y se discute acerca de la presencia de los mismos en diferentes hábitats acuáticos subterráneos (cuevas, fuentes o surgencias, pozos y medio intersticial asociado a ríos epígeos). El mayor número de puntos de muestreo corresponde al medio intersticial (45% del total) y en él se encuentran los cinco géneros presentes en el área de estudio; las surgencias constituyen el conjunto con menos puntos de muestreo (5%) y en ellas sólo se encuentran los géneros *Iberobathynella* (86%) y *Hexaberobathynella* Camacho & Serban, 1998 (14%). El género *Iberobathynella* es el más común (54% de las muestras) y vive en todos los medios. El género *Guadalopecathynella* sólo se ha encontrado en el medio intersticial de un río.

Se valora comparativamente el conocimiento de estos taxa en el área estudiada, en Europa y en el mundo. En la Península Ibérica y las Islas Baleares vive el mayor porcentaje de especies de todo el mundo (24%) y todas ellas son endémicas de esta zona. El género *Iberobathynella*, endémico de la Península Ibérica, cuenta con 18 especies conocidas y tal diversificación sólo se da, en todo el orden, dentro del género *Hexabathynella* (18 especies) que es el único género cosmopolita de Bathynellacea.

Palabras clave: Crustacea, Syncarida, Parabathynellidae, Distribución, Faunística, agua subterránea, España, Portugal.

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Introduction

The Order Bathynellacea Chappuis, 1915, is widely distributed on the Iberian Peninsula and the Balearic Islands. This is the area of the World where most species of this crustacean group are known. The two families described in the order, Parabathynellidae Noodt, 1964 and Bathynellidae Grobben, 1905, are highly diversified in Portugal and Spain. In the rest of Europe only the Bathynellidae has a similar number of known species.

Twenty-six species of Parabathynellidae are known and a similar number of Bathynellidae to date on the Iberian Peninsula and Balearic Islands, but most of the latter have not yet been described. The Parabathynellidae comprises 18 species of *Iberobathynella*; one species of *Guadalopecabathynella*; two species of *Hexaiberobathynella*; two species of *Paraiberobathynella* Camacho & Serban, 1998; and three species of *Hexabathynella* Schminke, 1972 (the only cosmopolitan genus in the order Bathynellacea).

The distribution of the Parabathynellidae family in this area is very extensive and covers the whole of the Peninsula and the islands of Mallorca and menorca (Pretus, 1991). Some of the species are found in many different sites, often placed considerably apart, while other species inhabit very limited areas, some even being known from a single location only. Subterranean water sensu lato (i.e. caves: gours, pools, lakes, subterranean rivers and springs; and in unconsolidated sediments: wells and the hyporheic and interstitial realms) is the only habitat where bathynells live. This environment is poorly known on the Iberian Peninsula as well as in Europe and the world. But, despite this, we consider that the current knowledge on the distribution of 26 species in 139 different places, in four habitats, is such that it constitutes a body of data that is of considerable importance and now is the time that it should be revised, updated and compared critically from a faunistic point of view.

It is important to bear in mind that in Europe, apart from the Iberian Peninsula, only two genera of the Parabathynellidae family have been found. One of these, *Parabathynella* Chappuis, 1926, has only two species, which are widely distributed in France and Central Europe. The other genus, *Hexabathynella*, which is the only cosmopolitan genus in the order, has five species in Bulgaria and one in Corsica. Given that *Parabathynella* never crossed the Pyrenees, *Hexabathynella* has three different species on the Iberian Peninsula, and that as much as four endemic genera are known from this

Table 1.— Recognized names of taxa and corresponding taxonomic authorities for all members of the Family Parabathynellidae of the Iberian Peninsula and Balearic Islands.

Tabla 1.— Nombres y autorías taxonómicas de todos los taxa de la familia Parabathynellidae encontrados en la Península Ibérica e Islas Baleares.

Subclass Eumalacostraca Packard, 1892
Superorder Syncarida Packard, 1885
Order Bathynellacea Chappuis, 1915
Family Parabathynellidae Noodt, 1964
Tribe Iberobathynellini Camacho & Serban, 1998
Subtribe Iberobathynellina Camacho & Serban, 1998
Genus <i>Iberobathynella</i> Schminke, 1973
Subgenus <i>I. (Iberobathynella)</i> Schminke, 1973
<i>I. (I.) lusitanica</i> (Braga, 1949). Portugal. <i>Publ. Inst. Zool. "Dr. Augusto Nobre"</i> , 40: 1-15.
<i>I. (I.) gracilipes</i> (Braga, 1960). Portugal. <i>Publ. Inst. Zool. "Dr. Augusto Nobre"</i> , 75: 9-22.
<i>I. (I.) paragracilipes</i> Camacho & Serban, 1998. Spain.
<i>I. (I.) barcelensis</i> (Galhano, 1970). Portugal. <i>Publ. Inst. Zool. "Dr. Augusto Nobre"</i> , 107: 41-65.
<i>I. (I.) valbonensis</i> (Noodt & Galhano, 1969). Spain & Portugal. <i>Publ. Inst. Zool. "Dr. Augusto Nobre"</i> : 77-82 & 148-153.
Subgenus <i>I. (Espanobathynella)</i> Camacho & Serban, 1998
<i>I. (E) cantabrensis</i> Camacho & Serban, 1998. Spain.
<i>I. (E) magna</i> Camacho & Serban, 1998. Spain.
<i>I. (E) espaniensis</i> Serban & Comas, 1978. Spain. <i>Trav. Inst. Spéol. "Emile Racovitzá"</i> , XVII: 13-37.
Subgenus <i>I. (Asturibathynella)</i> Camacho & Serban, 1998
<i>I. (A) asturiensis</i> Serban & Comas, 1978. Spain. <i>Trav. Inst. Spéol. "Emile Racovitzá"</i> , XVII: 13-37.
<i>I. (A) parasturiensis</i> Camacho & Serban, 1998. Spain.
<i>I. (A) cavaedoensis</i> (Noodt & Galhano, 1969). Spain & Portugal. <i>Publ. Inst. Zool. "Dr. Augusto Nobre"</i> , 107: 41-65.
<i>I. (A) imuniensis</i> Camacho, 1987. Spain.
<i>I. (A) rouchi</i> Camacho & Coineau 1987. Spain. <i>Stylogorgia</i> , 3(2): 125-137.
<i>I. (A) ortizi</i> Camacho, 1989. Spain.
<i>I. (A) guarenensis</i> Camacho, in press c. Spain.
<i>I. (A) celiana</i> Camacho, in press c. Spain.
<i>I. (A) serbani</i> Camacho, in press c. Portugal.
<i>I. pedroi</i> Camacho, in press c. Portugal.
Genus <i>Guadalopecabathynella</i> Camacho & Serban, 1998
<i>Guadalopecabathynella puchi</i> Camacho & Serban, 1998. Spain.
Subtribe Paraiberobathynellina Camacho & Serban, 1998
Genus <i>Paraiberobathynella</i> Camacho & Serban 1998
Subgenus <i>Pi. (Paraiberobathynella)</i> Camacho & Serban, 1998
<i>Pi. (Pi.) fagei</i> (Delamare & Angelier, 1950). Spain & France. <i>C. R. Acad. Sci., Paris</i> , 231: 175-176.
Subgenus <i>Pi. (Oriuelabathynella)</i> Camacho & Serban, 1998
<i>Pi. (O.) notenboomi</i> (Camacho, 1989). Spain.
Subtribe Hexaiberobathynellina Camacho & Serban, 1998
Genus <i>Hexaiberobathynella</i> Camacho & Serban, 1998
<i>Hi. hortezuelensis</i> Camacho & Serban, 1998. Spain.
<i>Hi. mateusi</i> (Galhano, 1967). Portugal & Spain. <i>Publ. Inst. Zool. "Dr. Augusto Nobre"</i> , 98: 9-18.
Genus <i>Hexabathynella</i> Schminke, 1972
<i>H. minuta</i> (Noodt & Galhano, 1969). Portugal & Spain. <i>Publ. Inst. Zool. "Dr. Augusto Nobre"</i> , 107: 41-65.
<i>H. nicoleiana</i> Camacho, 1986. Spain.
<i>H. valdecasasi</i> Camacho, in press b. Spain.

Table 2.— World distribution of the Parabathynellidae.

Tabla 2.— Distribución mundial del número de géneros y especies de la familia Parabathynellidae.

	Family Parabathynellidae			
	number of genera	% of total	number of species	% of total
EUROPE	6	(17)	34	(31,2)
France	3	(8,6)	3	(2,7)
Spain	5	(14,3)	26	(23,8)
AMERICA	13	(37,1)	23	(21,1)
North America	3	(8,6)	6	(5,5)
South America	11	(31,4)	17	(15,6)
ASIA	7	(20)	20	(18,4)
AFRICA	14	(40)	23	(21,1)
AUSTRALIA & N. ZEALAND	5	(14,3)	14	(12,8)
TOTAL	35		109	

region, a comparative assessment of the knowledge on these taxa in the study area, in Europe and in the world is necessary.

Material and Methods

Data source derive from the literature (record appeared until 1980) and from our own surveys (Camacho 1986, 1987a & b, 1988, 1989a, b and c, 1998, 2000, 2003a, b & c; Camacho & Coineau, 1989; Camacho *et al.*, 1997 and 2000; Camacho & Serban, 1998, 2000; and personal observations). The paper by Guil & Camacho (2001) mentions the presence of the species *I. (E.) espaniensis* Serban & Comas, 1978 in the localities following: Torca Treslajorá (10), Fuente del Carnero (11), Torcón de Pelacristo (21) and Torca de la Grañaja (20), but in a later revision we found that these records correspond to the sister species *I. (E.) cantabriensis* Camacho & Serban, 1998, and to *I. (E.) magna* Camacho & Serban, 1998 (see Appendix).

Since 2001 four new species of *Iberobathynella* and one of *Hexabathynella* have been published (Camacho, in press b; Camacho, in press c).

Table 1 shows the recognized names of taxa and the taxonomic authorities for the Parabathynellidae in the study area. There are 18 species of *Iberobathynella* (belonging to three subgenera), one species of *Guadalopecathynella*, two species of *Paraiberobathynella* Camacho & Serban, 1998, two species of the *Hexaiberobathynella* genus, and three species of *Hexabathynella*.

Table 2 shows the world distribution, by continent, of the species of the Parabathynellidae.

Appendix lists the sites where the 26 species of the Parabathynellidae and eleven *Iberobathynella* sp., one *Paraiberobathynella* sp. and one *Hexabathynella* sp. have been found. For each site (139 places in Spain and Portugal) the following data are provided: an identification number, used also in Figures 1 to 4; the province; the country and the UTM coordinates. We also specify the habitat type (cave, spring, well and rivers -interstitial water associated with epigean rivers or streams).

Distribution

The distribution of the 26 species of Parabathynellidae on the Iberian Peninsula & Balearic Islands is shown in detail in Figures 1 to 4.

Each map shows the distribution of a particular genus. The numbers indicate the different places, and the different symbols indicate the different subgenera or species.

Figure 1 shows the 74 localities where the 18 species of *Iberobathynella* have been found (plus 10 *I. sp.* localities). Taxa have been divided into 5 groups (Fig 1A): the *Iberobathynella* (*Iberobathynella*) subgenus in the western part of the Iberian Peninsula; the *Iberobathynella* (*Espanobathynella*) subgenus in a small area in the North of Spain (Picos de Europa); the *Iberobathynella* (*Asturibathynella*) subgenus in the North of the Iberian Peninsula above the Duero basin, plus one species found in Sevilla; *Iberobathynella pedrooi* Camacho (in press c), species

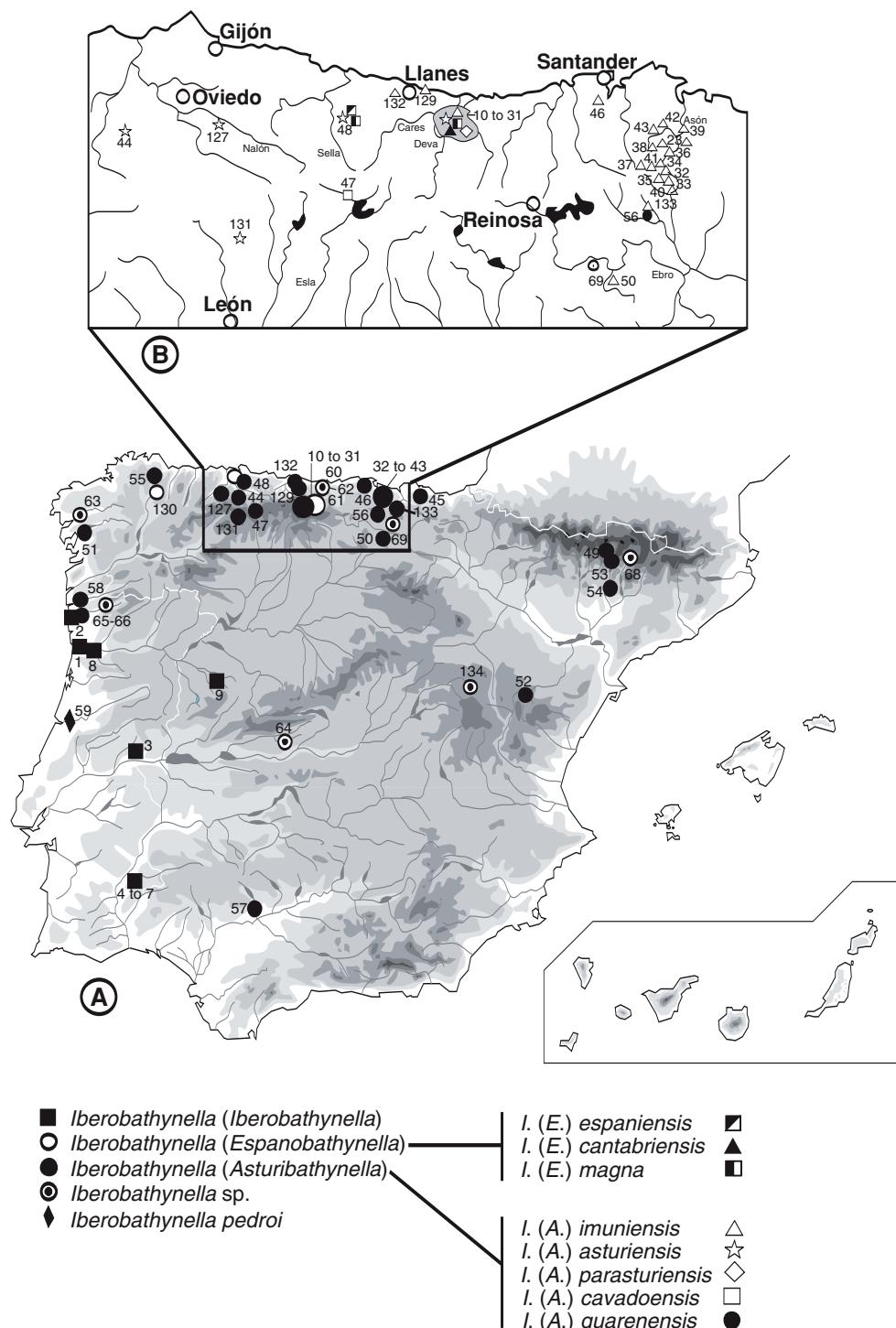


Fig. 1—Distribution of the genus *Iberobathynella* on the Iberian Peninsula. a) Iberian Peninsula and b) detail of Cantabric region, the area with the highest density of sampling points. Each number corresponds to a sampling site (see Appendix).

Fig. 1—Distribución del género *Iberobathynella* en la Península Ibérica. a) Península Ibérica completa y b) detalle de la región Cantábrica, donde se da la mayor densidad de puntos de muestreo. Los números corresponden a las localidades del Apéndice.

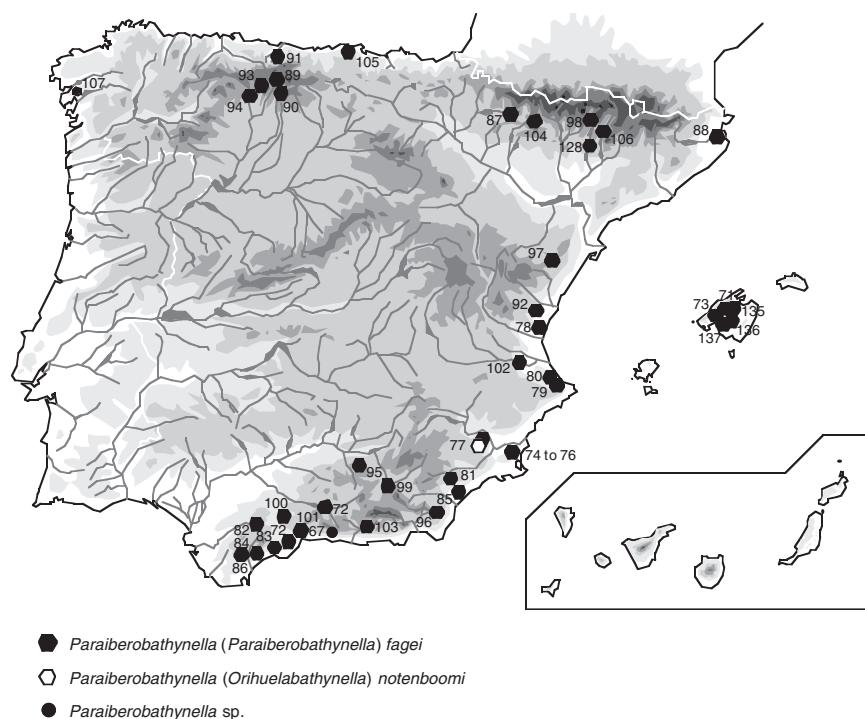


Fig. 2.— Distribution of the species of the genus *Paraiberobathynella* of the Iberian Peninsula and the Balearic Islands. Each number corresponds to a sampling site (see Appendix).

Fig. 2.— Distribución de las especies del género *Paraiberobathynella* en la Península Ibérica e Islas Baleares. Los números corresponden a las localidades del Apéndice.

limited to the western-central region of Portugal; and a fifth group composed of 10 *Iberobathynella* sp. distributed in the north, northeast, northwest and center of the Iberian Peninsula.

Figure 2 details the 43 localities where the 2 species of the genus *Paraiberobathynella* have been found. All places are situated on the edge of the Peninsula, from Cantabria to Cádiz, and on the Island of Mallorca. This genus also lives in North Africa (*Paraiberobathynella maghrebensis* Boutin & Coineau, 1987).

Figure 3 shows the 19 localities of *Hexaberobathynella*. Another genus, the monotypic *Guadlopebathynella* is found in a single locality (70).

Figure 4 shows the distribution of the genus *Hexabathynella*, with two localities in the North of Portugal (124 and 65), one in the south of Spain (123) and three more in Central Spain.

There are 109 species of Parabathynellidae known in the world (Table 2). Europe is the continent which has been most sampled. This sampling

effort has been very unequal over the years and very different in each country. However it can still be said that the some sampling effort has been devoted in France, Spain, Portugal, Slovenia, Italy, Bulgaria, Rumania, Belgium and Germany during the last 70 years. America, both North and South, has been hardly sampled. Few species have been found there, and most new species described are only known from the type locality. The same holds for Asia, Africa, Australia and New Zealand. Most of the genera described worldwide (35) have only been found, to date, in a single country.

Results

Table 2 shows the world distribution of the genera and species of the Parabathynellidae by continent. It can be seem that almost one quarter of all the species known in the world live on the Iberian Peninsula and that of all the genera described, 14% come from Iberian Peninsula.

Table 3.— Number of localities and habitat types where the different taxa of Parabathynellidae family are found on the Iberian Peninsula and Balearic Islands. P= Portugal and S= Spain

Tabla 3.— Resumen del número de localidades y del número de habitat en que aparecen los diferentes taxa de la familia Parabathynellidae en la Península Ibérica y las Islas Baleares. *: P= Portugal and S= España.

Taxa	Number of localities	Number of wells	Number of caves	Number of streams	Number of springs
<i>Iberobathynella</i>	74	7	41	20	6
<i>Iberobathynella</i> (<i>I.</i>)	9	7	0	2	0
<i>I. (I.) lusitanica</i>	2	1	0	1	0
<i>I. (I.) gracilipes</i>	1	1	0	0	0
<i>I. (I.) paragracilipes</i>	4	4	0	0	0
<i>I. (I.) barcelensis</i>	1	0	0	1	0
<i>I. (I.) valbonensis</i>	2	1	0	1	0
<i>Iberobathynella</i> (<i>E.</i>)	15	0	15	0	0
<i>I. (E.) cantabriensis</i>	11	0	11	0	0
<i>I. (E.) magna</i>	11	0	11	0	0
<i>I. (E.) espaniensis</i>	1	0	1	0	0
<i>Iberobathynella</i> (<i>A.</i>)	45	0	29	12	4
<i>I. (A.) asturiensis</i>	5	0	5	0	0
<i>I. (A.) parasturiensis</i>	4	0	4	0	0
<i>I. (A.) cavadoensis</i>	3	0	0	3	0
<i>I. (A.) imuniensis</i>	26	0	19	3	4
<i>I. (A.) rouchi</i>	3	0	0	3	0
<i>I. (A.) ortizi</i>	1	0	1	0	0
<i>I. (A.) guarenensis</i>	1	0	1	0	0
<i>I. (A.) celiana</i>	1	0	0	1	0
<i>I. (A.) serbani</i>	1	0	0	1	0
<i>I. pedroi</i>	1	0	0	1	0
<i>Guadlopebathynella puchi</i>	1	0	0	1	0
<i>Paraiberobathynella</i>	43	12	6	25	0
<i>Pi. fagei</i>	42	12	6	24	0
<i>Pi. notenboomi</i>	1	1	0	0	0
<i>Hexaiberobathynella</i>	21	2	1	17	1
<i>Hi. hortezuelensis</i>	1	1	0	0	0
<i>Hi. mateusi</i>	20	1	1	17	1
<i>Hexabathynella</i>	6	0	0	6	0
<i>H. minuta</i>	3	0	0	3	0
<i>H. nicoleiana</i>	1	0	0	1	0
<i>H. valdecasasi</i>	1	0	0	1	0
TOTAL	139	21	49	62	7

Half of the world genera are African, but the number of African makes up only 25% of the total. In France, only 3 species of this family are known: *Paraiberobathynella* (*Pi.*) *fagei*, which lives in 3 localities close to Perpignan; *Parabathynella motassi* or *stygia*, known only from a single locality; in 10 French localities there are specimens as yet unidentified (under study by the author) but which could correspond to *Parabathynella*; and *Hexabathynella knoepffleri*, found in Corsica.

If we take into account that the sampling effort in neighbouring France has been similar or even greater in the past than that carried out in Spain in the last 18 years, we can conclude that the diversity, in the number of species, is far superior in the Iberian Peninsula.

In the rest of Europe, which has also been well sampled, only 2 species of *Parabathynella*, and 5 more, all Bulgarian, of *Hexabathynella* have been found.

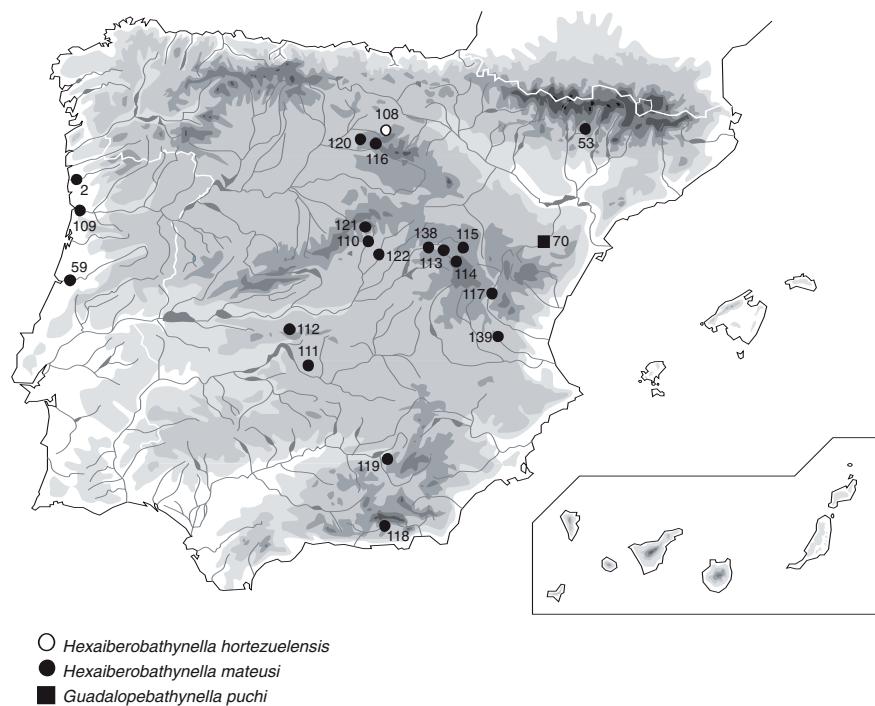


Fig. 3— Distribution of the *Hexaiberobathynella* and *Guadlopebathynella* species of the Iberian Peninsula. Each number corresponds to a sampling site (see Appendix).

Fig. 3— Distribución de las especies de los géneros *Hexaiberobathynella* y *Guadlopebathynella* en la Península Ibérica. Los números corresponden a las localidades del Apéndice.

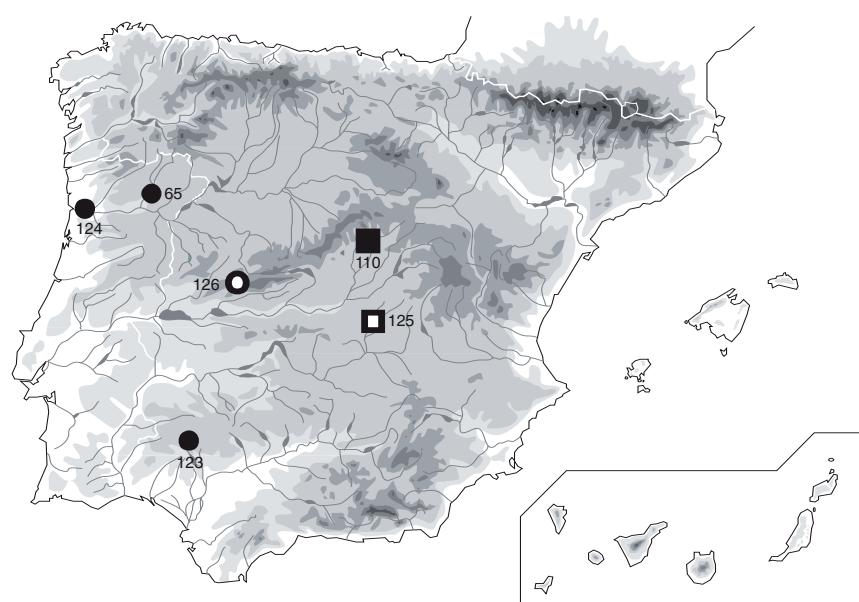


Fig. 4.— Distribution of the species of the genus *Hexabathynella* of the Iberian Peninsula. Each number corresponds to a sampling site (see Appendix).

Fig. 4.— Distribución de las especies del género *Hexabathynella* en la Península Ibérica. Los números corresponden a las localidades del Apéndice.

Table 4.— Coexistence of species of Parabathynellidae in the Iberian Peninsula. 1.- *Iberobathynella (I.) lusitanica*; 4.- *I. (I.) barcelensis*; 6.-*I. (E.) cantabriensis*; 7.-*I. (E.) magna*; 8.-*I. (E.) espaniensis*; 9.-*I. (A.) asturiensis*; 10.-*I. (A.) parasturiensis*; 11.-*I. (A.) cavadoensis*; 12.-*I. (A.) imuniensis*; 13.-*I. (A.) rouchi*; 18.-*I. pedroi*; 20.-*Paraiberobathynella fagei*; 21.-*Paraiberobathynella notenboomii*; 23.-*Hexaiberobathynella mateusi*; 24.-*Hexabathynella minuta*; 25.-*Hexabathynella nicoleiana*; 27.-*Iberobathynella* sp.; 28.-*Paraiberobathynella* sp. Localities with more than one species: 2.- Cavado river (interstitial); 10.- Torca Treslajorá (cave); 11.- Fuente del Carnero (cave); 12.- Torca Divisada (cave); 13.- Torcón de los Lobos (cave); 14.- Torco de los Lobos (cave); 20.- Torca de la Grañaja (cave); 21.- Torcón de Pelacristo (cave); 29.- Torca del Tejo (cave); 48.- Cova del Infierno (cave); 53.- Cinca river (interstitial); 59.- Mondego river (interstitial); 65.- Pinhao river (interstitial); 67.- Vélez river (interstitial); 77.- Los Picos (well) and 110.- Jarama river (interstitial).

Tabla 4.— Coexistencia entre especies de la familia Parabathynellidae presentes en la Péninsula Ibérica. 1.- *Iberobathynella (I.) lusitanica*; 4.- *I. (I.) barcelensis*; 6.-*I. (E.) cantabriensis*; 7.-*I. (E.) magna*; 8.-*I. (E.) espaniensis*; 9.-*I. (A.) asturiensis*; 10.-*I. (A.) parasturiensis*; 11.-*I. (A.) cavadoensis*; 12.-*I. (A.) imuniensis*; 13.-*I. (A.) rouchi*; 18.-*I. pedroi*; 20.-*Paraiberobathynella fagei*; 21.-*Paraiberobathynella notenboomii*; 23.-*Hexaiberobathynella mateusi*; 24.-*Hexabathynella minuta*; 25.-*Hexabathynella nicoleiana*; 27.-*Iberobathynella* sp.; 28.-*Paraiberobathynella* sp. Localidades en que se ha encontrado más de una especie: 2.- Río Cavado (interstitial); 10.- Torca de Treslajorá (cueva); 11.- Fuente del Carnero (cueva); 12.- Torca Divisada (cueva); 13.- Torcón de los Lobos (cueva); 14.- Torco de los Lobos (cueva); 20.- Torca de la Grañaja (cueva); 21.- Torcón de Pelacristo (cueva); 29.- Torca del Tejo (cueva); 48.- Cova del Infierno (cueva); 53.- Río Cinca (interstitial); 59.- Río Mondego (interstitial); 65.- Río Pinhao (interstitial); 67.- Río Vélez (interstitial); 77.- Los Picos (pozo) y 110.- Río Jarama (interstitial).

Species	Sampling points															
	2	10	11	12	13	14	20	21	29	48	53	59	65	67	77	110
1	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-
8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-
21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
23	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	+
24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-
25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-
28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-

None of the other 4 continents can equal the Iberian Peninsula in the number of known species. Africa, which is far bigger than the Iberian Peninsula harbours only 23 known species and the same holds for America (23 species). But the sampling effort in these continents cannot be compared with that carried out in the Iberian Peninsula in the last few years and it is to be expected that when more intensive sampling takes place the figures will go up significantly.

Table 3 and Appendix it show that the genus *Iberobathynella* is the most common in the study area, being present in 74 sites (Fig. 1). The 18 species belong to three subgenera: *Iberobathynella* (*Iberobathynella*) (9 localities, four in Portugal and

five in Spain), containing five species, three being unique to Portugal, one which only lives in Spain, and another found in both countries; the *Iberobathynella* (*Espanobathynella*) subgenus inhabits 15 localities, with one species in a single locality, the other two species coexisting in 7 localities and each inhabiting 4 additional localities separately; the *Iberobathynella* (*Asturibathynella*) subgenus is found in 45 localities, has the greatest number of species of all the subgenera (nine); four of its species are only found in a single site, one in Portugal, and the other three in Spain; another five species only appear in Spain in 5, 4, 3, 3 and 26 localities respectively; *Iberobathynella pedroi* (subgenus unknown) has only been found in a single locality in Portugal.

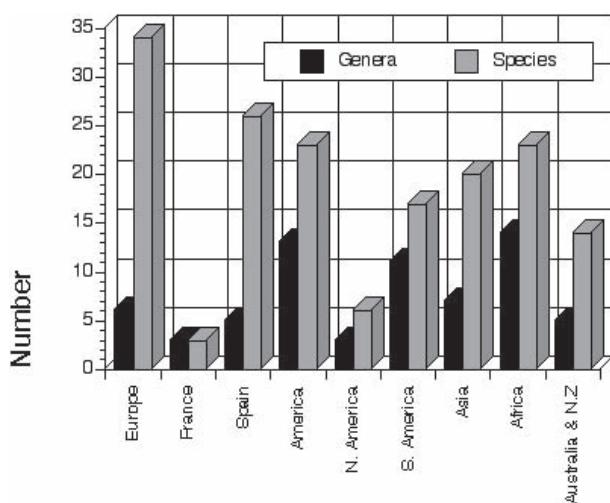


Fig. 5.— Number of genera and species of the world Parabathynellidae.

Fig. 5.— Histograma del número de géneros y especies de la familia Parabathynellidae en el mundo.

The genus *Paraiberobathynella* occurs in 43 localities (Fig. 2; Table 3): *Pi. (Paraiberobathynella) fagei* (42 localities), and *Pi. (Orihuelabathynella) notenboomi* (single locality, number 77), and *Pi. sp.* found in a single locality (67).

Hexaiberobathynella has been found in 21 localities (Fig. 3; Table 3); one species, *Hi. mateusi* was found in 20 sites, while the other species, *Hi. horstzuelensis* is known from a single site only (108).

Another genus with a reduced distribution (a single locality, 70) is the monotypic *Guadlopebathynella* (Fig. 3; Table 3).

Hexabathynella has been found in 6 localities (Fig. 4; Table 3); one species, *H. minuta*, lives in three sites, two in the North of Portugal, and one in the south of Spain. The other two species, *H. nico-leiana* and *H. valdecasasi*, are only found in Central Spain, each in a single place. An additional species, *H. sp.*, lives also in Central Spain.

Table 3 shows also the habitat types occupied by the 5 genera and 26 species: rivers (interstitial environment), caves, wells and springs.

Figure 6A shows of the percentage of sampling points per habitat type: 45%- the biggest- for rivers and 5% for springs- the smallest. In these habitats the representation of genera is very unequal, as can be seen in Fig. 6B. In rivers all 5 genera are present, with *Paraiberobathynella* being the most common, found in 40% of the sampling points) although

Iberobathynella is also very common (32%); *Guadlopebathynella* has only been found once and does not appear in any other habitat.

In caves only 3 genera have been found (neither *Guadlopebathynella* nor *Hexabathynella* occur) and here it is the genus *Iberobathynella* which occurs most frequently (84%); *Paraiberobathynella* only appears in 13% of the sampling points, and *Hexaiberobathynella* in 3%.

In wells the same subgenera as in caves are found, but again and as for rivers *Paraiberobathynella* is most common (57%), whereas the least common is *Hexaiberobathynella* (10%).

In springs we only found *Iberobathynella* (86%) and *Hexaiberobathynella* (14%).

Figure 6C shows the percentage of sampling points where each of the 5 genera have been found. *Iberobathynella* is most common (54% of the total), followed by *Paraiberobathynella* (31%), whereas the rarest is *Guadlopebathynella* (0.9%). Figure 6D shows the habitat preference for each genus. *Iberobathynella* occurs in all habitats, although it is more common in caves (55%). *Paraiberobathynella* is most common in rivers (53%) and is never found in springs. *Hexaiberobathynella* appears in all habitats, but most commonly in rivers (80%). *Guadlopebathynella* and *Hexabathynella* only live in rivers.

The most common species is *Paraiberobathynella fagei* (42 sampling points, covering all habitats except springs), followed by *Iberobathynella (A.) imuniensis* (26 sites, all habitats except wells) and *Hexaiberobathynella mateusi* (20 localities). The only species that appears in all habitats is *Hexaiberobathynella mateusi* (Table 3).

The different species of the genus *Iberobathynella* frequently coexist (*I. (E.) magna* and *I. (E.) cantabriensis* in 7 caves; e.g. see Table 4) while they rarely coexist with species from other genera. Species from the other genera show also little propensity to coexist with other species of their own genus or of other genera.

Discussion and Conclusion

The subterranean waters of the Iberian Peninsula and the Balearic Islands have been sampled very unequally. There are areas (e.g. the North of Spain) where a great deal of sampling has been carried out, whereas in other (e.g. the karsts of Cuenca and Andalucia) the invested sampling effort has been minimal. There is still a lot of virgin territory remaining to be explored. As the interstitial waters associated with rivers is

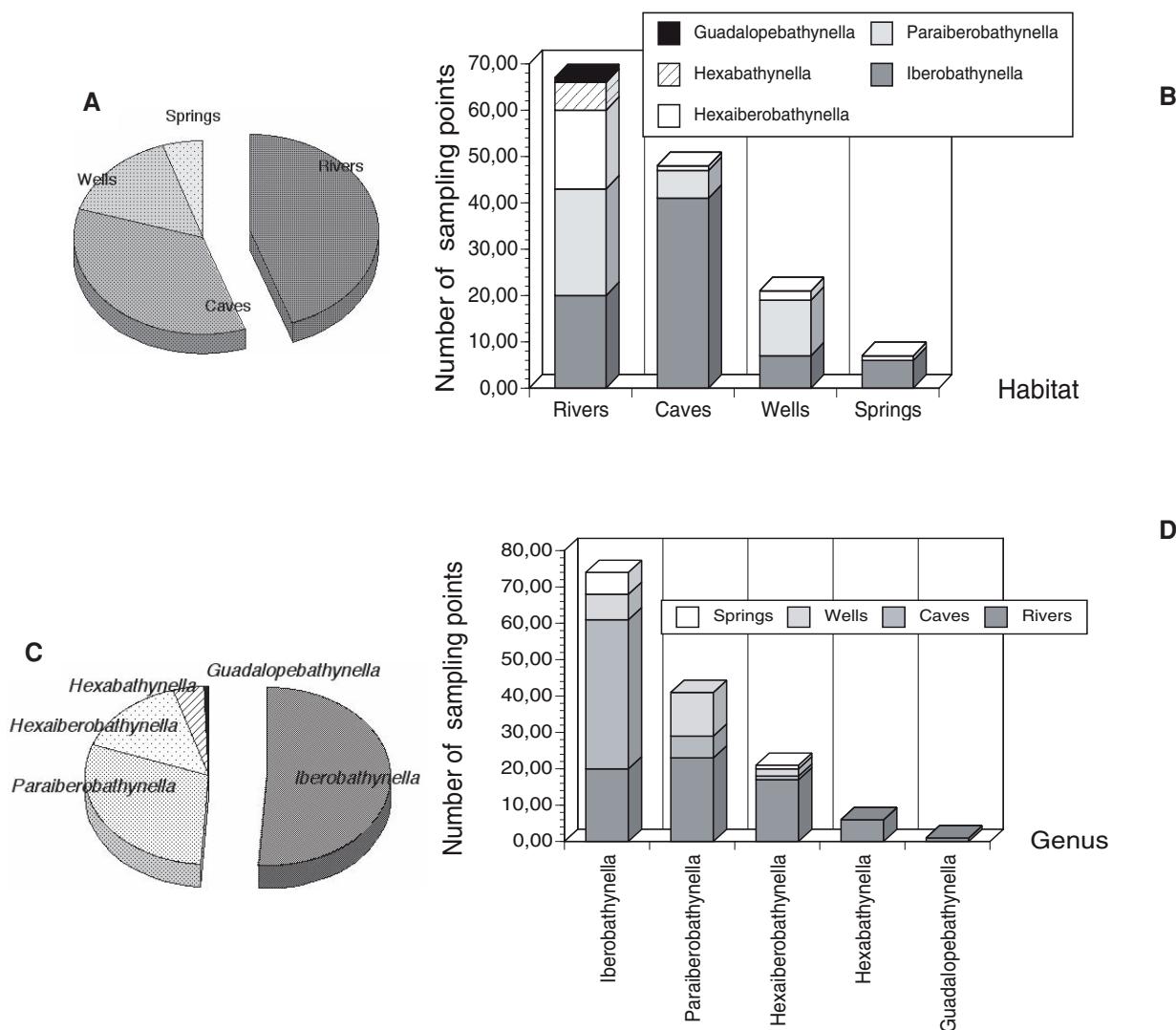


Fig. 6.— A) Number of locations sampled per habitat type as a percentage of the total. B) Number of samples per habitat rendering each genus. C) Number of points sampled rendering each genus as a percentage of the total. D) Number of samples containing each genus per habitat.

Fig. 6.— A) Distribucion del número de puntos de muestreo en los medios acuáticos subterráneos considerados, en %. B) Reparto de géneros por medios. C) Número de puntos de muestreo en que se ha encontrado cada género, en % y D) reparto de medios por géneros.

the most easily accessible habitat, it has been the most “intensively” sampled. However the very big subterranean systems are practically unknown from a faunistic viewpoint, especially those reaching great depth (in Spain there are 14 sinkholes more than 1000 m depth, see Puch, 1998) and length (many caves are more than 30 km long).

Nevertheless, and in spite of the big gap of knowledge that still remain on this habitat, batinels have been found in almost all places sampled, and the number of species known to date (26, see Table 4) is the biggest the world around.

The most abundant genus in the study area, *Iberobathynella* (18 species), is the world most

diversified of the Parabathynellidae (only the cosmopolitan genus *Hexabathynella* embraces a similar number of species). *Iberobathynella* is found in all habitat types studied, although it is more common in cave waters.

As sampling is intensified and sampling areas are expanded the number of new species found is growing up. This trend affects not only the family Parabathynellidae, but also the Bathynellidae, which also appears in almost every subterranean habitat sampled (data still unpublished).

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Appendix.— Sites that have rendered species of Parabathynellidae in the Iberian Peninsula and Balearic Islands.

Apéndice.— Localidades donde han sido encontradas las diferentes especies de la familia Parabathynellidae en la Península Ibérica e Islas Baleares.

Taxon	Sites	Province	Country	Habitat	UTM
<i>Iberobathynella (iberobathynella) lusitanica</i> (Braga, 1949).	(1) Lega de Palmeira (Type Locality) (2) Rio Cavadinho (3) Idanha-a-Nova (Type Locality) (4) El Quijigo, Jabugo (5) Fuente Aroche, Gibraleón (6) La Ermita de San Isidro, Gibraleón (7) Las Mesas, Gibraleón (2) Río Cañavate (Type Locality) (8) Areinho de Valbom, near Rio Tua (Type Locality) (9) Rio Yéltes road Tamames- La Alberca	Oporto Barcelos Beira-Baixa Huelva Huelva Huelva Huelva Barcelos Oporto Salamanca	Portugal Portugal Portugal Spain Spain Spain Spain Portugal Portugal	Well River Well Well Well Well Well River Well River	29TNF2360 29TNF3198 29TP5020 29SPB992972 29SPB764412 29SPB751428 29SPB752468 29TNF3198 29TNF3455 30TQE4299
<i>I. (I.) gracilipes</i> (Braga, 1960).	(10) Torca Treslajorá, CO.209, Pº de las Llaves	Cantabria	Spain	Cave	30TUN709919
<i>I. (I.) paragracilipes</i> Camacho & Serban, 1998.	(11) Fuentet del Carnero, CO.220, Venta Fresnedillo	Cantabria	Spain	Cave	30TUN804939
<i>I. (I.) barcelensis</i> (Galvano, 1970).	(12) Torca Divisada, CO.275, Panes	Asturias	Spain	Cave	30TUN739951
<i>I. (I.) valbonensis</i> (Noodt & Galvano, 1969).	(13) Torca de los Lobos, CO.277, Herrerías	Cantabria	Spain	Cave	30TUN777939
<i>I. (Espanobathynella) cantabriensis</i> Camacho & Serban, 1998.	(14) Torco de los Lobos, CO.276, Herrerías	Asturias	Spain	Cave	30TUN776940
	(15) Cabaña del Indiana, CO.170, Panes	Asturias	Spain	Cave	30TUN742949
	(16) El Calderón, CO.099, La Venta (Type Locality)	Cantabria	Spain	Cave	30TUN784922
	(17) Las Torcas, CO.121, Lamason	Cantabria	Spain	Cave	30TUN786929
	(18) Los Sotombos, CO.180, Lamason	Cantabria	Spain	Cave	30TUN788923
	(29) Torca del Tejo, CO.246, Herrerías	Cantabria	Spain	Cave	30TUN793943
	(21) Torca de Pelacristo, CO.261, Merodio	Asturias	Spain	Cave	30TUN745947
	(48) Cova del Infierno, Covadonga (Type Locality)	Asturias	Spain	Cave	30TUN3397
	(10) Torca Treslajorá, CO.209, Pº de las Llaves	Cantabria	Spain	Cave	30TUN709919
	(20) Torca de La Grañaja, CO.150, Suarías, Panes	Asturias	Spain	Cave	30TUN728945
	(11) Fuentet del Carnero, CO.220, Venta Fresnedillo	Cantabria	Spain	Cave	30TUN804939
	(21) Torca de Pelacristo, CO. 261, Merodio	Asturias	Spain	Cave	30TUN743947
	(22) La Helechosa, CO.084, Penarrubia	Cantabria	Spain	Cave	30TUN759226
	(12) Torca Divisada, CO.275, Panes	Asturias	Spain	Cave	30TUN739951
	(13) Torca de los Lobos, CO.277, Herrerías	Cantabria	Spain	Cave	30TUN777939
	(14) Torco de los Lobos, CO.276, Herrerías	Cantabria	Spain	Cave	30TUN776940
	(29) Torca del Tejo, CO.246, Herrerías	Cantabria	Spain	Cave	30TUN739943
	(130) Río Arbon, Villayón	Asturias	Spain	Lake	29TP18815
	(48) Cova del Infierno, Covadonga (Type Locality)	Asturias	Spain	Cave	30TUN3397
	(48) Cova del Infierno, Covadonga (Type Locality)	Asturias	Spain	Cave	30TUN3397
	(23) Cueva Tresavarillas, CO.044, Pº de las Llaves	Cantabria	Spain	Cave	30TUN722929
	(127) Cueva de la Pruneda, Bobia de Abajo	Asturias	Spain	Cave	30TTN8092
	(44) Cueva Menor, Bermiego	Asturias	Spain	Cave	30TTN581875
	(131) Cueva de Valporquero, Valporquero de Torio	León	Spain	Cave	30TTN910538

Taxon	Sites	Province	Country	Habitat	UTM
<i>Iberobathyphella</i> sp. 6	(65) Río Pinhão, Balsa	Baixa	Portugal	Stream	29TPF2262
<i>Iberobathyphella</i> sp. 7	(66) Río Cavado, Entre-os-Pontes	Oporto	Portugal	River	29TN4505
<i>Iberobathyphella</i> sp. 8	(68) Río Veros, Barbastro	Huesca	Spain	Stream	31TBG5473
<i>Iberobathyphella</i> sp. 9	(69) Cueva de Piscarciano, Soncillo	Burgos	Spain	Cave	30TVN36551
<i>Iberobathyphella</i> sp. 10	(134) Río Tejadillos, Cañete	Cuenca	Spain	Stream	30TXK1643
<i>Guadalopelobathyphella puchi</i> Camacho & Serban, 1998;	(70) Río Guadalupe, Más de las Matas	Teruel	Spain	River	30TYL3324.
<i>Paraliberobathyphella (Pl.) fagei</i> (Delamare & Angélier, 1950).	(71) Cueva Son Berenguer, Santa María del Camí	Mallorca	Spain	Cave	31SDD7281
	(72) Cueva de la Pileta, Benaoján.	Málaga	Spain	Cave	30STF9866
	(73) Cueva de Génova, Palma de Mallorca	Mallorca	Spain	Cave	31SDD6777
	(74) Las Tarrugas, San Pedro del Pinatar	Murcia	Spain	Well	30SXG334909.
	(75) Los Piñacos, San Pedro del Pinatar	Murcia	Spain	Well	30SXG354895
	(76) 0,4 Km of Girena river, Campo de Orba	Alicante	Spain	Well	30SYH565993
	(77) Los Picos, Pilar de la Horadada	Alicante	Spain	Well	30SXG932943
	(78) Playa, Canet de Berenguer	Valencia	Spain	Well	30SYI397962
	(79) Carr. Ondara-Benidoleig, Benidoleig	Alicante	Spain	Well	30SYJ600007
	(80) Carr. Benidoleig-Orba, Benidoleig	Alicante	Spain	Well	30SYH572981
	(81) German, 100m of Arboleas railway	Almería	Spain	Well	30SWG812338
	(82) Marchenilla, Jimena de la Frontera	Cádiz	Spain	Well	30STF825305
	(83) Punta Pinillos, Estepona	Málaga	Spain	Well	30SUU098343
	(84) Road from Ronda to Jimena, Faraján	Málaga	Spain	Well	30SUU0362
	(85) Almanzora, Railway of Albox, Cantoria	Almería	Spain	Well	30SWH752337
	(86) Small stream on Descansadero, Grazalema	Cádiz	Spain	Stream	30STI805709
	(87) Río Areta, Puente a Lumpier, Ripodas	Navarra	Spain	River	301XN391274
	(88) Río Ter, Torroella de Montgrí	Gerona	Spain	River	30TEG103538.
	(67) Río Velez, 2 Km de Viñuela	Málaga	Spain	River	30SUU9979
	(89) Río Esla, Huelde, Riaño	León	Spain	River	30TUN308563
	(90) Tributary río Esla, Vegacerneja	León	Spain	River	30TUN337673
	(91) Río Sella river, Vega de Sella, Amieva	Asturias	Spain	River	30TUN293906
	(92) Río Pequeño, Puente de Onda, Espadilla	Castellón	Spain	Stream	30TYK259349
	(93) Río Aller, Casomera, Aller	Asturias	Spain	Stream	30TTN906745
	(94) Río Torío, Feimín-Los Carmenes	León	Spain	Stream	30TTN926546
	(95) Río Guadabullón, Cañalejo	Jaén	Spain	Stream	30SVG471625
	(96) Río Lucainera, Cherín	Granada	Spain	Stream	30SVF991913
	(97) Río Alfambra, Aguilar de Alfambra	Teruel	Spain	Stream	30TXK8695
	(98) Río Alcanadre, Angües/ Ponzano (N-240)	Huesca	Spain	Stream	30TYM4261
	(99) Río Frio, Pisofactoria, Riofrío/Loja	Granada	Spain	Stream	30SUL9313
	(100) Río Turón, El Burgo	Málaga	Spain	Stream	30SUU2866
	(101) Río Guadalhorce, Alora/Vado de Alamo	Málaga	Spain	River	30SUU3672
	(102) Río Turia, C-3322, Villamarchante	Valencia	Spain	River	30SYJ0482
	(103) Río Guadalfeo, Pº Camacho, Orgiva	Granada	Spain	Stream	30SVF6284
	(104) Río Majones, Villareal de la Canal	Huesca	Spain	Stream	30TXN734236
	(105) Río Deva, San Pelayo, Camaleño	Asturias	Spain	River	30TUN635794
	(106) Río Noguera Ribagorzana, Arén	Lérida	Spain	River	31TCG1281
	(107) Río Arnoia, Celanova	Orense	Spain	Stream	29TNC98075
	(135) Cova de Can Sion, Palma de Mallorca	Malorca	Spain	Cave	31SDD997098
	(136) Cova de Ses Rodes, Palma de Mallorca	Malorca	Spain	Cave	31SDD6777

Taxon	Sites	Province	Country	Habitat	UTM
<i>Paraiberobathyphella</i> (<i>O.</i>) <i>notenboomi</i> sp.	(128) Río Alcanadre, near Bierge (137) Cova de Sa Bassa Blanca, Alcudia (77) Los Picos, Pilar de la Horadada (67) Río Vélez, 2 Km Viñuela (108) Hontezuela	Huesca Mallorca Alicante Málaga Soria	Spain Spain Spain Spain Spain	River Cave Well Stream Well	30TYM14182 31SDD6777 30SXG932943 30SUF9979 30TWL1093
<i>Paraiberobathyphella</i> sp.	(109) Río Duero (2) Río Cavado (59) Río Mondego	Oporto Barcelos Coimbra Madrid	Portugal Portugal Portugal Spain	River River River River	29TNF2755 29TNF3198 29TNE45 30TVL5908
<i>Hexaiberobathyphella hortezuelensis</i> Camacho & Serban, 1998.	(110) Río Jarama, Talamanca del Jarama (110) Río Jarama, Torrelaguna (111) Río Pusa, Santa Ana de Pusa	Madrid Toledo	Spain Spain	River Stream	30TVL5219 30SUJ5078
<i>Hexaiberobathyphella mateusi</i> (Galhano, 1967).	(112) Río Valdehornos, Montes de Toledo (113) Río Tajo, Peralesjos de las Truchas (138) Río Tajo, Peñalén (114) Río Hoz Seca, Peralejos de las Truchas (115) Río Tajo, Zaorejas (116) Río Ucero, Ucero (117) Río De los Santos, Sierra de Javalón (118) Río Fárdes, Lanteira-Jerez del Marquesado (119) Fuente el Ballil, Quesada (120) Berlanga de Dueiro (121) Cueva del Reguerillo, Patones (122) Río Sorbe	Toledo Guadalajara Guadalajara Guadalajara Guadalajara Guadalajara Guadalajara Soria Teruel Granada Jaén Soria Madrid Guadalajara Huesca	Spain Spain Spain Spain Spain Spain Spain Spain Spain Spain Spain Spain Spain Spain Spain	Stream River River River River River River Stream River Spring Well Cave Stream River	30TVK6689 30TWR9294 30TWR8299 30TWR9294 30TWL6712 30TYM9518 30TXK53 30SVG8614 30SVG979809 30TWL1190 30TVL5824 30TVK8898 31TBG7161 30TYK1138 29SQB47 29TPF2262 29TNF4545 30TVL5908 30SUJ8093 30TTK8570
<i>Hexabathyphella minuta</i> (Noodt & Galhano, 1969).	(123) Río Rivera de Huelva, Embalse de la Minilla (65) Río Piñhao, Balsa (124) Río Duero, Zebrieros (110) Río Jarama, Torrelaguna & Talamanca (125) Torcón stream, San Martín de Montalbán (126) Río Astillas, Gredos	Castellón Sevilla Bálsica Zebrieros Madrid Toledo Ávila	Spain Spain Spain Portugal Spain Spain Spain	Stream River River Stream Stream River	
<i>H. nicoleiana</i> Camacho, 1986. <i>H. vaidecasasi</i> n. sp. Camacho 2003. <i>Hexabathyphella</i> sp.					