

## *PTERIS VITTATA* (PTERIDACEAE), NATURALIZED IN PORTUGAL

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BIBLID [0211-9714 (2003) 22, 63-64]

Fecha de aceptación de la nota: 12-12-03

***Pteris vittata*** L., *Sp. Pl.*: 1074 (1753)

PORTUGAL: **Beira Litoral**: Coimbra, Botanical Garden, living on the calcareous wall between “Alameda de São Bento” and “Jardineteta Um”, 29TNE493510, ca. 80 m, 9-II-1999, *J.D. Almeida* 28, COI.

Rhizomatous hemicriptomphyte; epiphyte from Mediterranean Region, introduced by culture in the Botanical Garden of Coimbra, possibly escaped from cultivation.

This exotic fern, native in the Iberian Peninsula, although not in Portugal (NOGUEIRA in *Flora iberica*, 1: 59. 1986), is found in subsponaneous conditions in the Botanical Garden of Coimbra, on a wall, forming an expanding population of more than fifty individuals, well developed and producing spores.

It's almost a cosmopolitan plant, living in Mediterranean, Macaronesian, Paleotropical, Capense and Australian regions (NOGUEIRA, *l. c.*).

Not referred in COUTINHO and SAMPAIO Portuguese *Floras*, and referred only for the Azores by FRANCO (*Nova Flora Port.*, 1: 14. 1971). T. G. WALKER (in *Flora Europaea*, ed. 2, 1: 14. 1993) also refers *P. vittata* as a subsponaneous species in

the Azores, as well as its spontaneous existence in Spain and other Mediterranean countries.

Among the accompanying species are present: *Parietaria judaica* L., *Micromeria juliana* (L.) Benth. ex Reichenb., *Cymbalaria muralis* P. Gaertner, Meyer & Scherb., *Erigeron karwinskianus* DC. and *Conyza* sp.