

SHORT COMMUNICATION

Phyllidia flava Aradas, 1847 (Mollusca, Opisthobranchia), new record for the Azores

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Cervera et al. (2006) listed 113 opisthobranch species from the Azores. Since then, several additional coastal opisthobranchs have been reported from the Azores, e.g. Malaquias et al. (2011), Pedro et al. (2011), Cordeiro et al. (2013). We here report yet another previously unrecorded opisthobranch species from the Azores.

The observations were made while SCUBA diving at Pico Island, Azores. Two specimens were deposited in the Zoologische Staatssammlung, München, Germany.

Phyllidia flava Aradas, 1847

An individual of this species was photographed on rocky bottom in approximately 30 m depth at São João on 18th May 2011. Numerous additional specimens were seen and photographed at São Mateus, on rocky bottom, in a depth range of 33 to 43 m, in May 2013. The species is unmistakable, due to the numerous white spots on a bright yellow body; colour photos can be found in Wirtz & Debelius (2003, p. 227) and Wirtz (2009). It is known from the Mediterranean Sea, the Canary Islands, and from the Cape Verde Islands (Cervera et al. 2006; Wirtz 2009). Also recently recorded from Madeira Island (Wirtz, ms submitted).

The occurrence *Phyllidia flava* in the Azores extends the known range of the species to the north. In the Atlantic, it is now known from the Azores to the Cape Verde Islands. Undoubtedly,

there are many more opisthobranchs to be discovered in this area.

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