

PTERIS VITTATA (PTERIDACEAE), NATURALIZED IN PORTUGAL

João DOMINGUES DE ALMEIDA

*Departamento de Botânica da Universidade de Coimbra. Arcos do Jardim,
P-3049 Coimbra, Portugal. jddalmeida@hotmail.com*

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

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

Rhizomatous hemicriptomite; 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 spontaneous 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 spontaneous 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.