Defining the importance of landscape metrics for large branchiopod biodiversity and conservation: the case of the Iberian Peninsula and Balearic Islands

Jordi Sala · Stéphanie Gascón · David Cunillera-Montcusí · Miguel Alonso · Francisco Amat · Luíz Cancela da Fonseca · Margarida Cristo · Margarita Florencio · Juan García-de-Lomas · Margarida Machado · María Rosa Miracle · Alexandre Miró · José Luis Pérez-Bote · Joan Lluís Pretus · Florent Prunier · Javier Ripoll · Juan Rueda · María Sahuquillo · Laura Serrano · Marc Ventura · David Verdiell-Cubedo · Dani Boix

Received: 23 December 2016 / Revised: 20 June 2017 / Accepted: 30 June 2017 / Published online: 12 July 2017 © Springer International Publishing AG 2017

Abstract The deficiency in the distributional data of invertebrate taxa is one of the major impediments acting on the bias towards the low awareness of its conservation status. The present study sets a basic framework to understand the large branchiopods distribution in the Iberian Peninsula and Balearic Islands. Since the extensive surveys performed in the late 1980s, no more studies existed updating the information for the whole studied area. The present study fills the gap, gathering together all available information on large branchiopods distribution since 1995, and analysing the effect of human population density and several landscape characteristics on their distribution, taking into consideration different spatial scales (100 m, 1 km and 10 km). In overall, 28 large branchiopod taxa (17 anostracans, 7 notostracans and 4 spinicaudatans) are known to occur in the area. Approximately 30% of the sites hosted multiple species, with a maximum of 6 species. Significant positive co-occurring species pairs were found clustered together, forming 4 different associations of...
Large branchiopods are a key faunal group of crustaceans characteristic of temporary aquatic systems (with few exceptions) which can be found across all continents (Brendonck et al., 2008). Although nowadays nearly 600 species of large branchiopods are known worldwide (Rogers et al., 2015), a large part of them are known only from a few localities (>50% of the species are known from ≤10 localities in the case of anostracans; Rogers, 2013), indicating that the faunal group harbours a large amount of biodiversity, and that the knowledge of the group is still far from being complete (Rogers et al., 2015). This is also the case in the western Mediterranean, where descriptions of new species are still being performed (e.g. Alonso & García-de-Lomas, 2009; Korn et al., 2010; Machado & Sala, 2013; Boix et al., 2016) and some efforts to describe the distribution of large branchiopods are made at regional (e.g. Machado et al., 1999; Boix, 2002; Samraoui & Dumont, 2002; Culioli et al., 2006; Marrone & Mura, 2006; Miracle et al., 2008; Prunier & Saldaña, 2010; Rodríguez-Flores et al., 2016) and national level (e.g. Alonso, 1985; Thiéry, 1987; Defaye et al., 1998; Mura, 1999; Van den Broeck et al., 2015a; Marrone et al., 2016). The effects of environmental factors on the distribution of large branchiopods are largely known, particularly those related to habitat characteristics (e.g. salinity, turbidity, temperature, surface, depth, altitude, vegetation cover; Alonso, 1998; Boven et al., 2008; Nhaiwatiwa et al., 2011; Gascon et al., 2012; Horváth et al., 2013; Sahuquillo & Miracle, 2013; Stoch et al., 2016). Moreover, some spatial variables at regional level are also known to affect species distribution, such as the closeness of sites (which can be related to dispersal or shared environmental characteristics; Nhaiwatiwa et al., 2011; Horváth et al., 2013), climatic gradients (Stoch et al., 2016) or habitat fragmentation (Gascon et al., 2012). The sensitivity of large branchiopods to all this range of environmental and spatial variables makes them especially interesting as biological indicators of the conservation status of temporary wetlands (e.g. Sahuquillo & Miracle, 2015; Van den Broeck et al., 2015b; Lumbreras et al., 2016).

However, the effects of changes in land use and the fragmentation and loss of habitats have been less explored on large branchiopods, although these factors are recognized as some of the main threats to global biodiversity. In the case of the Mediterranean region, larger biodiversity losses are expected in future

---

M. Florencio
Departamento de Ecología, Instituto de Ciencias Biológicas, Universidade Federal de Goiás, Goiânia, Goiás, Brazil

J. García-de-Lomas
Research Group on Ecology and Dynamics of Aquatic Ecosystems, University of Cádiz, Cádiz, Spain

M. R. Miracle · J. Rueda · M. Sahuquillo
Instituto Cavanilles de Biodiversidad y Biología Evolutiva, University of Valencia, Burjassot, Valencia, Spain

M. Sahuquillo
Direcció General de Medio Natural, Generalitat Valenciana, Valencia, Spain

J. L. Pérez-Bote
Zoology Unit, University of Extremadura, Badajoz, Spain

---

Keywords  Anostraca · Co-occurrences · Land cover · Notostraca · Rarity · Spinicaudata
scenarios, due to the sensitivity of its ecosystems to drivers of biodiversity change, especially those related to land-use change and introduction of exotic species (Sala et al., 2000; Underwood et al., 2009). Although temporary ponds were so far only minimally impacted by traditional agricultural uses, their disappearance and degradation have been highly intensified during the last 50 years, due to infrastructure and urban development, and intensification of agricultural activity (Gallego-Fernández et al., 1999; Rhazi et al., 2012). This increasing degradation and loss of habitats (Belk, 1998; Zacharias & Zamparas, 2010) strongly impact large branchiopod populations, leading to greater distances between remaining populations, eventually leading to the loss of local populations (Eder & Hödl, 2002) and even some species on the regional scale (Martens & De Moor, 1995; Mura, 1999; De Roeck et al., 2007). Therefore, the landscape structure surrounding the wetlands should be taken into account when evaluating the factors affecting large branchiopod assemblages, since some landscape characteristics are known to have great importance for biotic communities, such as landscape heterogeneity or land-use types, acting at several spatial scales (Weibull et al., 2000; Hall et al., 2004; Hartel & von Wehrden, 2013). The evaluation of these landscape characteristics for the conservation of the large branchiopod assemblages has been seldomly carried out, but the type of land use is known to affect assemblage structure of passive dispersers (Hall et al., 2004), as well as some species at different spatial scales (Angeler et al., 2008), whereas for other species, the land use surrounding the wetland was shown to be irrelevant (Angeler et al., 2008; Horváth et al., 2013). To this end, the integration of landscape characteristics will improve large branchiopod conservation programs at regional and national level, and they will help to better understand the drivers of biodiversity change linked to future scenarios of global change.

The main goal of this article is to describe the overall biodiversity patterns of the large branchiopods present in the Iberian Peninsula and Balearic Islands, establishing a general overview for the conservation of this faunal group in this area. Additionally, we aim to determine if the biodiversity patterns detected are similar across the entire study area, and to investigate the role of land use, landscape structure, population density and protected area networks on the large branchiopod species distribution. These will set a basic framework to understand their distribution and will allow us to assess whether there are particular factors affecting this faunal group that should be taken into consideration in the evaluation of their conservation status.

Materials and methods

Study area

The Iberian Peninsula and the Balearic Islands are situated in the western Mediterranean, and cover an area of about 587,000 km². The area is shared by several countries (Spain, Portugal, Andorra, France and Gibraltar), although the scope of this study focuses only on Spain and Portugal. The climate types present in the study area are mainly arid and temperate climates, with cold climates circumscribed to the higher peaks in the mountain ranges (Peel et al., 2007; AEMET & IM, 2011). Arid climate is restricted mostly to southeastern Spain, although there are some areas in northeastern (Ebro valley), central (southern Meseta and Extremadura) and southwestern (Alentejo) Iberian Peninsula, and Balearic Islands (southern Majorca, and the islands of Ibiza and Formentera) with this type of climate. Temperate climates are divided into those with dry summer (which comprises the majority of the area of the Iberian Peninsula, from the western Atlantic coast to the Mediterranean sea, excluding the arid southeastern Spain) or without dry season (restricted to the northern Iberian Peninsula–Cantabrian coast, northern Meseta and the Iberian and Pyrenees mountain ranges).

Species distribution

All known bibliographical and unpublished large branchiopod records from the Iberian Peninsula and Balearic Islands were compiled (dating back to 1916), and geographically referenced to the maximum possible resolution whenever possible (see Online Resource 1 for bibliographical references). This allowed to create the checklist of the large branchiopod fauna, and the global distribution in the Iberian Peninsula and Balearic Islands (see Online Resource 2). However, as it is unreliable to relate old records to present-day landscape metrics, all analyses were limited to records from 1995 onwards. Moreover,
some records were not considered for the study of the biodiversity patterns due to particularities in the biology or in the taxonomic resolution of different taxa. Thus, the exotic invasive *Artemia franciscana* Kellogg, 1906 was not considered as this species competitively displaces the autochthonous species of *Artemia*. Records of parthenogenetic strains of *Artemia* with undefined ploidy were also not considered, because parthenogenetic strains with different ploidies (i.e. diploid and tetraploid) were considered as two different taxa, as recent studies suggest that they could be related to different bisexual *Artemia* species (Muñoz et al., 2010; Asem et al., 2016). In the case of genus *Triops*, we considered all species of the genus as one taxon, due to the difficulties to allocate the bibliographical records of this genus to the 6 existing species present in the Iberian Peninsula (Korn et al., 2006, 2010); at this moment, syntopic occurrences of different species of *Triops* have not been recorded in the Iberian Peninsula or the Balearic Islands.

For each species, the number of occurrences in the study area allowed to determine their rarity with rank–frequency curves following Siqueira et al. (2012). The inflection point of the curve classified the species as common (those at the left side of the curve) or rare (those at the right side of the curve; in this case those that were present in less than 50 sites; see Online Resource 3). Moreover, those species that contributed with less than 1% to the total occurrences were considered very rare (in this case, those that were present in less than 15 sites).

Biodiversity metrics were calculated using two different approaches. In one hand, for each site species richness and composition was recorded in order to describe biodiversity patterns across the whole study area. We considered co-occurring species as those species that were recorded in the same site, but not necessarily at the same time (i.e. syntopic species). However, data on synchronous species (i.e. those species that were recorded at the same time in the same site) appear in Online Resource 4. On the other hand, for each UTM 100 km grid square we calculated the number of sites with presence of large branchiopods, the mean species richness per site, the total species richness in each grid square and the percentage of sites that showed co-occurring species. Seventy-seven UTM 100 km grid squares had presence of large branchiopods in the Iberian Peninsula and Balearic Islands, but only those with more than 5 sites were included in the analyses (39 out of 77).

### Landscape metrics

Landscape metrics were calculated considering human population density (DP, based on local administrative units), protection status (N2000, Natura 2000 network areas), land cover (CORINE land cover) and landscape structure. We assigned to each site the corresponding population density of the local administrative units (LAUs) where it was located. LAUs, as well as their corresponding population, were obtained from 2011 population census (European Statistical System, 2011). Natura 2000 network areas (EEA, 2015) were used as the protection category for the studied region instead of other national protected areas due to its high representativeness of biodiversity (Rosati et al., 2008; Abellán & Sánchez-Fernández, 2015). Sites that were in a Natura 2000 network area were classified as Protected. Land covers were classified in 6 categories based on CORINE Land Cover inventories (EEA, 2006): artificial surfaces (AS), forests and seminatural areas (FS), irrigated agricultural areas (IA), non-irrigated agricultural areas (nIA), wetland areas (W) and water bodies, although this last category was not used to test its effects on the biotic assemblages. Then, for each site, we calculated the relative percentage of surface occupied by each category using 3 different spatial scales (circular areas were constructed using 100 m, 1 km and 10 km radius distances to the central point of each site as centroid). We used ArcMap GIS 10.0 to process all datasets and calculate landscape metrics (ESRI, 1999). Finally, following Weibull et al. (2000), landscape diversity (Ldiv) was calculated as a measure of landscape structure using the Shannon diversity index, \[ L_{\text{div}} = -\sum p_i \ln(p_i), \] where \( p_i \) is the proportion of habitat \( i \) in the circular areas used for calculating the land covers. In the case of the UTM grid square approach, we calculated the mean values of the relative percentage of surface occupied by each category of land covers and landscape diversity for all the sites present at each grid square.
Data analysis

Species associations

Species associations were explored using two different approaches: (1) co-occurrence analysis and (2) classification analysis. The co-occurrence analysis allowed us to identify significant co-occurring species, either with positive or negative co-occurrences. Moreover, the effect size (i.e. the difference between expected and observed frequency of co-occurrence) was also obtained in order to quantify the strength of the pattern. In the second approach, a non-hierarchical cluster approach was used to identify species assemblages. Partitioning around medoids (PAM) was the classification technique chosen to cluster species into groups, since it has been pointed out as more robust than more classical approaches like k-means clustering (Borcard et al., 2011). Sørensen similarity was used as the similarity measure. The number of groups tested representing existing species assemblages was from 2 to 16 (number of large branchiopod species minus 1, only considering the species with more than 5 occurrences). Silhouette widths of the resulting groups were obtained to examine group membership’s appropriateness, as well as the overall classification result using the Rousseeuw quality index. The silhouette width ranges between −1 and 1, and it is a measure of the degree of membership of an object to its cluster, negative values indicating misclassified objects. Co-occurrence analysis was performed using package “cooccur” (Griffith et al., 2016), and PAM analysis was performed using package “cluster” (Maechler et al., 2016).

Species and landscape metrics

Hierarchical partitioning was used to identify the relationship’s sign (positive or negative) and the relative magnitude of the effects of the landscape metrics tested at different scales (areas of 100 m, 1 km and 10 km radius). This method assesses the independent, joint and total contribution (relative influence) of each predictor variable by averaging a measure of goodness-of-fit over all possible models that include that predictor variable. Therefore, it is less susceptible to multicollinearity problems than are the single-model approaches when looking for the “best” model (Logan, 2010). In order to evaluate whether the magnitude of the contribution of a variable is significant ($Z \geq 1.65$ at the 95% level), a randomization procedure was used in which the independent contributions of each predictor variable were compared to distributions of such contributions generated by repeated randomizations of the data matrix (number of randomizations = 100). While a binomial family error was specified for the species hierarchical partitioning and randomization procedures, a Poisson family error was used for species richness analyses. When over- or under-dispersion was detected, $P$ values were corrected using quasi-likelihood model (Logan, 2010). The sign of the relationship between species presence–absence or richness data and landscape metrics was assessed with generalized linear models (GLM) using all environmental variables as predictors. To assess the model goodness-of-fit, we employed the squared Pearson correlation coefficient between observed and predicted values. Hierarchical partitioning and randomizations were carried out using package “hier.part” (Walsh & Mac Nally, 2013).

Biodiversity and landscape metrics

Conditional inference tree (CIT) models were used to assess the relationship between biodiversity (response variables: mean species richness per site, the total species richness in each UTM 100 km grid square and the percentage of sites with co-occurrences) and landscape metrics (explanatory variables: DP, N2000, AS, FS, IA, nIA, W, Ldiv) in the 3 tested spatial scales (100 m, 1 km and 10 km radius). This type of regression displays a binary tree, built by a process known as binary recursive partitioning, which gives a very clear picture of the structure of the data, and provides a highly intuitive insight into the kinds of interactions between variables (Crawley, 2002). CIT are not affected by over-fitting and are unbiased with regard to the types of explanatory variables used (Hothorn et al., 2006; Strobl et al., 2007). CIT models were developed using the “party” package for R (Hothorn et al., 2006). Three models, one for each biodiversity metric, were run with the different spatial scales.

All statistical analyses were run using R 3.0.1 (R Core Team, 2013).
Results

In total, 1808 bibliographical and unpublished records of large branchiopods in the Iberian Peninsula and the Balearic Islands were obtained (see Online Resource 1), corresponding to 1167 different sites (i.e. water bodies). One hundred seventy sites had only records before 1995 (Fig. 1), and were used only for the overall distribution of species (see Online Resource 2 for distribution maps with all records), leaving 997

![Distribution maps of large branchiopods]

Fig. 1 Distribution maps of all records of large branchiopods before 1995, of all records from 1995 onwards, and of the different large branchiopod taxa present in Iberian Peninsula and Balearic Islands from 1995 onwards
sites to use for analyses. The records were scattered all across the Iberian Peninsula and the Balearic Islands, but they were more frequent in the southern regions (Andalusia, Alentejo and Algarve) than in the central and northern ones, with the exception of Catalonia (Fig. 2A). There are still some regions (Navarra, Cantabria and several northern Portuguese districts) without records of large branchiopods.

Twenty-eight taxa have been recorded to date in the Iberian Peninsula and Balearic Islands: 17 anostracans (one of them the invasive exotic *Artemia franciscana*), 7 notostracans and 4 spinicaudatans. Seven taxa can be considered common (>50 sites) (Table 1), although we considered all *Triops* spp. together, and within this group there are some species with restricted distributions (e.g. *T. emeritensis* Korn & Pérez-Bote, 2010, with two known sites; Korn et al., 2010). Fifteen taxa can be considered rare (<50 sites); within this group, 11 taxa are extremely rare, being in less than 15 sites (Table 1). To our knowledge, *Cyzicus tetracerus* (Krynicki, 1830) is the only taxon that has not been captured again since 1983 (Alonso, 1996), so it was not present in further analyses. The majority of the taxa are considered as Trans-Iberian species with wide distributions across the western Palaearctic, although there are also a large number of Iberian endemic species (10 species, of which 4 can be considered as extremely rare). Spinicaudatans, notostracans and extremely rare anostracans tended to co-occur frequently with other species, with the exception of *Tanymastigites lusitanica* Machado & Sala, 2013, usually found alone (Table 1). Approximately 30% of
sites presented co-occurrence of large branchiopod species, with decreasing site frequencies when number of co-occurring species increased (see Online Resource 4). A maximum of 6 species were found co-occurring together in 2 different sites in SW Iberian Peninsula (in Andalusia and Algarve), followed by 5 species found in 7 sites (Andalusia, Extremadura and Alentejo) and 4 species found in 34 sites (Andalusia, Extremadura, Algarve, Alentejo and Valencia).

The UTM 100 km grid square approach showed that the general biodiversity patterns were geographically heterogeneous in the study area (Fig. 2).

Number of sites with large branchiopods (mean = 23.3; range 6–125; Fig. 2A) had high values in SW and NE Iberian Peninsula, similarly to the pattern found for the total species richness per UTM grid square (mean = 4.6; range 1–11; Fig. 2C). In the case of the mean species richness per site (mean = 1.4; range 1.0–2.2; Fig. 2B), high values were also more common in SW Iberian Peninsula, but there were also some UTM grid squares with high values in the eastern part of the Peninsula and in the Balearic Islands. The percentage of sites with co-occurrences within a UTM grid square (mean = 26.8;
range 0.0–67.4; Fig. 2D) was especially high in SW, whereas lower values were observed in the NE and some areas in the SE Iberian Peninsula.

The probabilistic co-occurrences analysis showed some species pairs with significant positive associations (e.g., *Branchipus cortesi* Alonso & Jaume, 1991 and *Tanyamastix stagnalis* (L., 1758); *Cyzicus grubei* (Simon, 1886) and *Triops* spp.; Fig. 3), whereas other pairs had significant negative co-occurrences (e.g., *Branchipus schaefferi* Fischer, 1834 and *Chirocephalus diaphanus* Prévost, 1803; *T. stagnalis* and *B. schaefferi*; *C. diaphanus* and *T. stagnalis*; Fig. 3). The partitioning around medoids (PAM) analysis obtained similar results, clustering together the species that showed positive co-occurrences (Fig. 4). However, the global average silhouette width (ASW; a measure of how well the species are clustered) was quite low, indicating that in general the affinity among the species in each cluster was not very strong. PAM analysis classified the species in four significant groups: group 1 (including *Artemia salina* (L., 1758) and the diploid parthenogenetic *Artemia*), group 3 (including *B. cortesi*, *T. stagnalis* and *Maghrebesthesa maroccana* Thiéry, 1988), group 4 (including *Streptocephalus torvicornis* (Waga, 1842), *Triops* spp., *C. grubei*, *C. diaphanus* and *B. schaefferi*) and group 6 [including the halophilous *Branchinectella media* (Schmankewitsch, 1873) and *Phallocryptus spinosus* (Milne-Edwards, 1840)]. Group 1 had the highest ASW, whereas group 4 had the lowest ASW, pointing that the species in this cluster were not tightly grouped.

Overall, hierarchical variation partitioning showed significant effects of landscape metrics on large branchiopods at several spatial scales. In general, the best fit was observed at the largest spatial scale (10 km). In the case of species richness, although the proportion of the variation explained was low, the presence of non-irrigated agriculture (nIA) revealed positive relationships at lower spatial scales (100 m and 1 km), whereas forests and semi-natural vegetation (FS) showed significant positive relationship at
the lowest spatial scale (100 m) but negative relationships at larger scales (Fig. 5). At the largest spatial scale, presence of wetlands and landscape diversity (Ldiv) showed a positive relationship, and population density showed a negative relationship.

In the case of group 1 of PAM analysis, the proportion of the variation explained was relatively high, especially for the diploid parthenogenetic Artemia. Wetlands (W) and population density (DP) had significant positive relationships on the distribution of both taxa at different scales, whereas the rest of metrics had low relation (Fig. 5). For group 3 of PAM analysis, composed by an assemblage characteristic of the SW Iberian Peninsula, protected areas (N2000) and Ldiv (especially at large spatial scales) showed significant positive relationships on the distribution of B. cortesi and T. stagnalis. FS and nIA showed different effects depending of the spatial scale analysed, being negative at larger scales and positive at smaller ones (Fig. 5). In contrast, the group 4 of PAM analysis (Fig. 5) was characterized by significant positive relationships of nIA, especially at small spatial scales, although the proportion of the variation explained was relatively low. Also, the distribution of some species was defined by being outside of protected areas (C. diaphanus, S. torvicornis and Triops spp.). Interestingly, B. schaefferi was positively related to population density (DP), artificial surfaces (AS), irrigated agriculture (IA), FS and nIA, whereas Chirocephalus diaphanus was negatively related to DP, IA and Ldiv. The group 6 of PAM analysis was composed of Branchinectella media and Phallocryptus spinosus, two characteristic species of saline endorheic wetlands, and their distribution were explained by being positively related to N2000, Ldiv.

![Fig. 4](image)

**Fig. 4** Silhouette plots showing the partition around medoids (PAM) analysis results. *Different colours* indicate different groups. Average silhouette width of the overall analysis is indicated at the bottom of the plot. *j* stands for the number of the cluster; *nj* indicates the number of species within each cluster *j*; $\text{ave}_{i \in C_j} s_i$ corresponds to the average silhouette width for each cluster. Abbreviations of species are the same as in Table 1.

![Fig. 5](image)

**Fig. 5** Plots showing species richness ($S$) and species groups of PAM analysis (groups 1, 3, 4, 6 and the rest of species not clustered in any group of PAM analysis) in the three spatial scales (100 m, 1 km and 10 km). The first column shows the fit of the binomial models calculated as the Pearson’s correlation between observed and expected values (white bars), whereas the rest of columns show the independent contribution of the landscape metrics obtained from the hierarchical partitioning (grey bars indicate positive effects while black bars indicate negative effects). Only significant relationships detected after the randomization process are shown (see “Materials and methods” section for more details). Abbreviations of species are the same as in Table 1, and those of landscape metrics appear in Materials and methods.
(mainly at small spatial scales), nIA and W (both at large spatial scales), while FS had negative significant relationship on them (Fig. 5). The rest of the species formed a heterogeneous group of extremely rare species that did not cluster significantly in PAM analysis. Therefore, there was not a common pattern in the landscape metrics affecting the species distributions, although DP had negative significant relationships on the distribution of all species except *Lepidurus apus* (L., 1758), whereas nIA had positive significant relationships at larger scales with the exception of the tetraploid parthenogenetic *Artemia* (Fig. 5).

Wetland and non-irrigated agriculture land covers were the only factors that were related to the biodiversity metrics at the UTM 100 km grid square approach. Significantly higher values of mean species richness per site at a spatial scale of 1 km radius (Fig. 6A) were found in UTM grid squares with high values of wetland land cover (more than 6.9 ha), and also in non-irrigated agriculture land cover (more than 177.4 ha). Similar results were obtained for total
species richness per UTM grid square at a spatial scale of 10 km radius (Fig. 6C), and for the percentage of sites with co-occurrences at a spatial scale of 1 km radius (Fig. 6D). In the case of total species richness per UTM grid square at a spatial scale of 1 km radius (Fig. 6B), significantly higher values were found only in UTM grid squares with high values of wetland land cover (more than 2.4 ha).

Discussion

This work represents an exhaustive update of the distribution and the biodiversity patterns of the large branchiopod fauna of the Iberian Peninsula and Balearic Islands, similarly to other studies in neighbouring countries (e.g. Defaye et al., 1998; Mura, 1999; Van den Broeck et al., 2015a; Marrone et al., 2016). Since the major works by Alonso (1985, 1996, 1998) on Iberian and Balearic large branchiopods, six new species were described (L. baetica, Tanymastigites lusitanica, Triops baeticus Korn, 2010, T. gadensis Korn & García-de-Lomas, 2010, T. vicentinus Korn, Machado, Cristo & Cancela da Fonseca, 2010 and T. emeritensis; Alonso & García-de-Lomas, 2009; Korn et al., 2010; Machado & Sala, 2013), 2 more are currently being described (Linderiella sp. and Tanymastix sp.), 1 is new for the Iberian Peninsula (Triops simplex Ghigi, 1921; Korn et al., 2010) and an exotic species was recorded all along the Peninsula (Artemia franciscana; Amat et al., 2005). To date, the number of species found in the study area, 28 species, is similar to neighbouring countries (e.g. 22 species in Morocco (Thiery, 1986; Amat et al., 2005; Boix et al., 2016; Korn & Hundsdoerfer, 2016), and 25 in Italy (Cottarelli & Mura, 1983; Mura, 1999; Marrone & Mura, 2006; Mura et al., 2006; Scanabissi et al., 2006; Alfonso, 2017)) and slightly higher than others (e.g. 19 species both in Tunisia (Ben Naceur et al., 2013; Marrone et al., 2016) and Algeria (Samraoui & Dumont, 2002; Samraoui et al., 2006; Ghomari et al., 2011), and 18 species in France (Nourisson & Thiery, 1988; Defaye et al., 1998; Amat et al., 2005; Rabet et al., 2005)). The taxa with high occurrences were species common in the western Palearctic (C. diaphanus, B. schaefferi, T. stagnalis, S. torvicornis), together with two Iberian endemics (B. cortesi, C. grubei) widely distributed mainly in the western Peninsula. Also, the genus Triops had high occurrences, but paradoxically it is one of the taxa that gathers more uncertainties about its distribution due to recent taxonomical modifications (until 2006 it was considered as only one species, T. cancriformis (Bosc, 1801); Korn et al., 2006, 2010), that difficult the allocation of all previous bibliographical records to the 6 species present in the Iberian Peninsula. A detailed study of the identities, distributions and conservation status of the genus Triops in the Iberian Peninsula (especially in the northern and eastern regions) and Balearic Islands is therefore strongly recommended. For the extremely rare species, monitoring and conservation programs should be mandatory, due to their low occurrences, in some cases with the major part of their localities outside protected areas. A paradigmatic case is the anostracan Linderiella baetica Alonso & García-de-Lomas, 2009, of which the only known remaining population is critically endangered by urbanization (García de Lomas et al., 2016), and that urgent measures are needed to avoid extinction. However, surveillance and monitoring programs should be also regarded for not so rare species, because their populations could be declining rapidly, even at supranational scales. This is the case of the autochthonous species of genus Artemia, which are also of great concern. The abandonment of the salterns, together with the expansion of the invasive A. franciscana, are leading to the decline and loss of populations of native species through competition and displacement (Amat et al., 2007; Redón et al., 2015), and there is an urgent need to update the distributional data and to assess the conservation status of the Mediterranean brine shrimps at national level or higher in order to evaluate the extent of damage to their populations (Mura et al., 2006).

Four large branchiopod associations were detected which corresponded in part to those already described by Alonso (1998). Two associations were characteristic of saline habitats: group 1 is a characteristic association with Artemia present mainly in salterns, whereas group 6 contained the halophile species Phallocryptus spinosus and Branchinectella media, which is also present in other areas with steppic habitats (e.g. Samraoui et al., 2006; Marrone et al., 2016). The other two associations were characteristic of freshwater temporary waterbodies. Group 3 is a characteristic association from the SW Iberian Peninsula with B. cortesi, T. stagnalis and sometimes M.
maroccana, partly described in Cancela da Fonseca et al. (2008). This association is partly similar to the one observed in Morocco, where M. maroccana usually also appears with Tanymastix affinis Daday, 1910 and sometimes with B. schaefferi (Thiéry, 1991; Van den Broeck et al., 2015a). Group 4 corresponds to an association that coincides partly with the one described by Alonso (1998), but probably corresponds to two different groups due to the fact that several species of genus Triops are included in this group. In this sense, an association with B. schaefferi, Triops spp. and sometimes S. torvicornis, is present in the arid climates of the north and the east of the Peninsula, and in the Balearic Islands, whereas an association with C. diaphanus, C. grubei and Triops spp. is characteristic of the south of the Iberian Peninsula.

The necessity of increasing our knowledge on large branchiopod ecology should not be restricted only to species or population level, but they should also encompass higher levels of organization. The functioning of biodiversity patterns at different spatial scales must be taken into account for improving conservation actions, because disturbances are scale dependent (Caro, 2010). In general, our study detected that land use had an effect on the species richness and distribution of large branchiopods. However, not all the species were affected by the same landscape metrics. These results are in concordance with those observed by Angeler et al. (2008), with T. cancriformis being affected by irrigated agriculture at large spatial scale, whereas Branchinecta orientalis was not. In contrast, other studies found no effects of land use on large branchiopod communities (e.g. Horváth et al., 2013; Mabidi et al., 2016). We found that species clustered together were similarly affected by the same landscape metrics, but that different clusters were affected by different landscape metrics, which could partially explain those contrasting results. Agricultural (irrigated and non-irrigated) and wetland land covers were the metrics that affected to more species (positive or negative, and with different magnitudes). It is known that agricultural land use around temporary ponds can have important effects on their biota (Rhazi et al., 2001; O’Neill et al., 2016), although traditional agricultural practices are a key factor for temporary pond conservation (Bagella et al., 2016). This is in concordance with the positive relationships that showed the non-irrigated agriculture on the majority of large branchiopod species. Similarly, it is known that the extent of wet areas or the pond density also influences invertebrate and plant assemblages (e.g. Boix et al., 2008; Bagella et al., 2010). It is interesting to note that the majority of the relationships had a better fit at larger spatial scales, in accordance with the results found by Angeler et al. (2008), suggesting that management at larger scales have also to be taken into account for the conservation of large branchiopods.

Moreover, biodiversity metrics were influenced by the presence of wetlands and/or land use linked to non-irrigated agricultural practices, especially at larger scales. Our results showed that wetlands, floodplains and surrounding areas in the Iberian Peninsula (e.g. Guadiana, Doñana, Cádiz and Empordà wetlands) presented high values of large branchiopod species richness at different spatial scales, probably due to the heterogeneity of the water body types that could host different communities. Moreover, these areas were also important for the presence of rare and/or Iberian endemic species. The importance of this kind of habitats for the biodiversity of large branchiopods has also been observed in other regions (e.g. Eder et al., 1997; Timms & Sanders, 2002; Waterkeyn et al., 2009; Nhiwatiwa et al., 2014; Stoch et al., 2016). However, land-use analyses also revealed that temporary water bodies in non-irrigated agricultural landscapes not linked directly to large wetland areas also hosted a large amount of biodiversity. Traditional, non-intensive agricultural practices are compatible with the existence of highly biodiverse temporary ponds (e.g. Grillas et al., 2004; Robson & Clay, 2005), even in areas where temporary ponds are human-made and the presence of natural temporary water bodies is very rare (e.g. Verdiell-Cubedo & Boix, 2014). The large branchiopod fauna associated to these habitats is usually very rich, and they host multiple species (e.g. Boven et al., 2008; Cancela da Fonseca et al., 2008; Prunier & Saldana, 2010; Marrone et al., 2016; Alfonso, 2017). However, these habitats are rapidly declining due to intensification of agricultural practices, changes in land use and population growth (e.g. Underwood et al., 2009; Rhazi et al., 2012), affecting the biotic populations linked to these habitats (e.g. Euliss Jr. & Mushet, 1999; Beja & Alcazar, 2003; Van den Broeck et al., 2015a).

Since the extensive surveys performed by Alonso (1985, 1996, 1998) in the Iberian Peninsula and Balearic Islands during the last quarter of the twentieth century, no more studies exist updating the
information for the whole study area. In this sense, the present study represents a new step on the knowledge of large branchiopod distribution in this area, not only because it gathers all available information on the distribution of this taxonomic group (historical records and new observations), but also because it analyses the effect of several landscape characteristics on its distribution, detailing the spatial scale at which its influence is noticeable for large branchiopods presence. All this information would be highly valuable for land stakeholders under future conservation scenarios.

Acknowledgements We dedicate this paper to the memory of Prof. Graziella Mura that inspired many of us with her passionate approach to these interesting organisms. We also dedicate this study to the memory of our co-author Prof. Maria Rosa Miracle, who was an admired and stimulating researcher in the Iberian limnology. We want to sincerely thank all people that selflessly supplied us with large branchiopod records. We also thank two anonymous reviewers for providing valuable comments to an earlier version of the manuscript. MF is supported by a grant from the Brazilian Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico—CNpq (401045/2014-5), program Ciência sem Fronteiras. DC-M held a grant from the Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport (FPU014/06783).

References

Abellán, P. & D. Sánchez-Fernández, 2015. A gap analysis comparing the effectiveness of Natura 2000 and national protected area networks in representing European amphibians and reptiles. Biodiversity and Conservation 24: 1377–1390.

Abellán, P., D. Sánchez-Fernández, J. Velasco & A. Millán, 2005. Assessing conservation priorities for insects: status of water beetles in southeast Spain. Biological Conservation 121: 79–90.

AEMET & IM, 2011. Iberian climate atlas. Air temperature and precipitation (1971–2000). Agencia Estatal de Meteorología & Instituto de Meteorologia de Portugal, Madrid.

Alfonso, G., 2017. Diversity and distribution of large branchiopods (Branchiopoda: Anostraca, Notostraca, Spirobola) in Apulian ponds (SE Italy). The European Zoological Journal 84: 172–185.

Alonso, M., 1985. A survey of the Spanish Euphyllopoda. Miscel·lània Zoològica 9: 179–208.

Alonso, M., 1996. Crustacea. Branchiopoda. In Ramos, M. A., et al. (eds), Fauna Ibérica, Vol. 7. Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales, CSIC, Madrid.

Alonso, M., 1998. Las lagunas de la España peninsular. Limnetica 15: 1–176.

Alonso, M. & J. García-de-Lomas, 2009. Systematics and ecology of Linderiella baetica n. sp. (Crustacea, Branchiopoda, Anostraca, Chirocephalidae). In G. Bagella, S. Gascon, M. C. Caria, J. Sala, M. A. Mariani & D. Boix, 2010. Identifying key environmental factors related to plant and crustacean assemblages in Mediterranean temporary ponds. Biodiversity and Conservation 19: 1749–1768.

Bagella, S., S. Gascon, M. C. Caria, J. Sala, M. A. Mariani & D. Boix, 2016. Mediterranean temporary ponds: new challenges from a neglected habitat. Hydrobiologia 782: 1–10.

Beja, P. & R. Alcazar, 2003. Conservation of Mediterranean temporary ponds under agricultural intensification: an evaluation using amphibians. Biological Conservation 114: 317–326.

Belk, D., 1998. Global status and trends in ephemeral pool invertebrate conservation: implications for Californian fairy shrimp. In Witham, C. W., et al. (eds.), Ecology, Conservation, and Management of Vernal Pool Ecosystems – Proceedings from a 1996 Conference. California Native Plant Society, Sacramento: 147–150.

Ben Naceur, H., A. Ben Rejeb Jenhani & M. S. Romdhane, 2013. Morphometric characterization of adult Artemia (Crustacea: Branchiopoda) populations from costal and inland Tunisian salt lakes. African Invertebrates 54: 543–555.

Boix, D., 2002. Aportación al coneixement de la distribució d’anostracis i nitostracis (Crustacea: Branchiopoda) als Països Catalans. Butlletí de la Institució Catalana d’Història Natural 70: 55–71.

Boix, D., S. Gascón, J. Sala, A. Badosa, S. Bruzet, R. López-Flores, M. Martinoy, J. Gifre & X. D. Quintana, 2008. Patterns of composition and species richness of crustaceans and aquatic insects along environmental gradients in Mediterranean water bodies. Hydrobiologia 597: 53–69.

Boix, D., J. Sala, D. Escoriza & M. Alonso, 2016. Linderiella jebalae sp. nov. (Crustacea: Branchiopoda: Anostraca), a new species from the Rif mountains (northern Morocco). Zoontaxa 4138: 491–512.

Borcard, D., F. Gillet & P. Legendre, 2011. Numerical Ecology with R. Springer, New York.

Boven, L., B. Vanschoenwinkel, E. R. De Roeck, A. Hulsmans & L. Brendonck, 2008. Diversity and distribution of large branchiopods in Kiskunság (Hungary) in relation to local habitat and spatial factors: implications for their conservation. Marine and Freshwater Research 59: 940–950.
Brendonck, L., D. C. Rogers, J. Olesen, S. Weeks & W. R. Hoeh, 2008. Global diversity of large branchiopods (Crustacea: Branchiopoda) in freshwater. Hydrobiologia 595: 167–176.

Cancela da Fonseca, L., M. Cristo, M. Machado, J. Sala, J. Reis, R. Alcazar & P. Beja, 2008. Mediterranean temporary ponds in Southern Portugal: key faunal groups as management tools? Pan-American Journal of Aquatic Sciences 3: 304–320.

Caro, T., 2010. Conservation by Proxy. Indicator, Umbrella, Keystone, Flagship, and Other Surrogate Species. Island Press, Washington.

Cottarelli, V. & G. Mura, 1983. Anostraci, Notostraci, Conchostraci (Crustacea: Anostraca, Notostraca, Conchostraca). In Ruffo, S. (ed.), Guide per il riconoscimento delle specie animali delle acque interne italiane, 18. Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Verona.

Crawley, M. J., 2002. Statistical Computing. An Introduction to Data Analysis Using S-Plus. John Wiley & Sons, Chichester.

Culíoi, J.-L., C. Mori, A. Orsini & B. Marchand, 2006. Distribution and status of the large Branchiopoda (Crustacea) in Corsica, France. First International Symposium on Environment Identities and Mediterranean Area (ISEIMA). Corte-Ajaccio, Corsica, France, 9–12 July 2006: 271–273.

De Roeck, E. R., B. J. Vanschoenwinkel, J. A. Day, Y. Xu, L. Culioli, J.-L., C. Mori, A. Orsini & B. Marchand, 2006. Conservation status of large branchiopods in the western Cape, South Africa. Wetlands 27: 162–173.

Defaye, D., N. Rabet & A. Thiéry, 1998. Atlas et bibliographie des crustacés branchipodes (Anostraca, Notostraca, Spinicaudata) de France métropolitaine. In Maurin, H. (ed), Coll. Patrimoines Naturels, 32. Service du Patrimoine Naturel/IEGB/MNHN, Paris.

Eder, E. & W. Hödl, 2002. Large freshwater branchiopods in Austria: diversity, threats and conservation status. In Escobar-Briones, E. & F. Álvarez (eds.), Modern Approaches to the Study of Crustacea. Kluwer Academic/Plenum Publishers, New York: 281–289.

Eder, E., W. Hödl & R. Gottwald, 1997. Distribution and phylogeny of large branchiopods in Austria. Hydrobiologia 359: 13–22.

EEA, 2006. CORINE land cover 2006 project. European Environment Agency [Accessed 1 Dec 2016].

EEA, 2015. Natura 2000 data – the European network of protected sites. European Environment Agency. http://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/data/natura-5. [Accessed 1 Dec 2016].

ESRI, 1999. ArcMap 10.0 GIS software. Redlands, California USA.

Euliss Jr., N. H. & D. M. Mushet, 1991. Influence of agriculture on aquatic invertebrate communities of temporary wetlands in the Prairie Pothole Region of North Dakota, USA. Wetlands 19: 578–583.

European Statistical System, 2011. Population and Housing Census database. Eurostat. http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/population-and-housing-census/census-data/2011-census [Accessed 1 Dec 2016].

Gallego-Fernández, J. B., M. R. García-Mora & F. García-Novó, 1999. Small wetlands lost: a biological conservation hazard in Mediterranean landscapes. Environmental Conservation 26: 190–199.

García de Lomas, J., C. M. García, F. Hortas, F. Prunier, D. Boix, J. Sala, D. León, L. Serrano, J. Prenda, J. D. Gilbert, F. J. Guerrero, F. Marrone, M. Salamaquillo, A. Camacho, C. Olmo, M. R. Miracle, C. Zamora-Muñoz, G. Mura, M. Machado, I. Sánchez, J. Á. Gálvez, M. Florencio, J. L. Pérez-Bote & M. Alonso, 2016. Linderiella baetica Alonso & García-de-Lomas 2009 (Crustacea, Branchiopoda, Anostraca): ¿al borde de la extinción? Revista de la Sociedad Gaditana de Historia Natural 10: 15–26.

Gascón, S., M. Machado, J. Sala, L. Cancela de Fonseca, M. Cristo & D. Boix, 2012. Spatial characteristics and species niche attributes modulate the response by aquatic passive dispersers to habitat degradation. Marine and Freshwater Research 63: 232–245.

Ghomiari, M. S., G. S. Selselet, F. Hontoria & F. Amat, 2011. Artemia biodiversity in Algerian sebkhas. Crustaceana 84: 1025–1039.

Griffith, D. M., J. A. Veech & C. J. Marsh, 2016. Cooccurrence: Probabilistic Species Co-Occurrence Analysis in R. Journal of Statistical Software 69: 1–17.

Grillas, P., P. Gauthier, N. Yavercovski & C. Perennou (eds), 2004. Mediterranean Temporary Pools. Volume 1 – Issues relating to conservation, functioning and management. Station Biologique de la Tour du Valat, Le Sambuc.

Hall, D. L., M. R. Willig, D. L. Moorhead, R. W. Sites, E. B. Fish & T. R. Mollhagen, 2004. Aquatic macroinvertebrate diversity of playa wetlands: the role of landscape and island biogeographic characteristics. Wetlands 24: 77–91.

Hartel, T. & H. von Wehrden, 2013. Farmed areas predict the distribution of amphibian ponds in a traditional rural landscape. PLoS ONE 8: e63649.

Horváth, Z., C. F. Vad, L. Vörös & E. Boros, 2013. Distribution and conservation status of fairy shrimps (Crustacea: Anostraca) in the astatic soda pans of the Carpathian basin: the role of local and spatial factors. Journal of Limnology 72: 103–116.

Hothorn, T., K. Hornik & A. Zeileis, 2006. Unbiased recursive partitioning: A conditional inference framework. Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics 15: 651–674.

Korn, M. & A. K. Hundsdorfer, 2016. Molecular phylogeny, morphology and taxonomy of Moroccan Triops granarius (Lucas, 1864) (Crustacea: Notostraca), with the description of two new species. Zootaxa 4178: 328–346.

Korn, M., F. Marrone, J. L. Pérez-Bote, M. Machado, M. Cristo, L. Cancela da Fonseca & A. K. Hundsdorfer, 2006. Sister species within the Triops cancriciformis lineage (Crustacea, Notostraca). Zoologica Scripta 35: 301–322.

Korn, M., A. J. Green, M. Machado, J. García-de-Lomas, M. Cristo, L. Cancela da Fonseca, D. Frisch, J. L. Pérez-Bote & A. K. Hundsdorfer, 2010. Phylogeny, molecular ecology and taxonomy of southern Iberian lineages of Triops mauritanicus (Crustacea: Notostraca). Organisms, Diversity & Evolution 10: 409–440.

Logan, M., 2010. Biostatistical Design and Analysis Using R. A Practical Guide. Wiley, Oxford.

Lumbrares, A., J. T. Marqués, A. F. Belo, M. Cristo, M. Fernandes, D. Galioto, M. Machado, A. Mira, P. Sá-Sousa, R. Silva, L. G. Sousa & C. Pinto-Cruz, 2016. Assessing the conservation status of Mediterranean temporary ponds
H. Walker, M. Walker & D. H. Wall, 2000. Global biodiversity scenarios for the year 2100. Science 287: 1770–1774.

Samraoui, B. & H. J. Dumont, 2002. The large branchiopods (Anostraca, Notostraca and Spinicaudata) of Numidia (Algeria). Hydrobiologia 486: 119–123.

Samraoui, B., K. Chakri & F. Samraoui, 2006. Large branchiopods (Branchiopoda: Anostraca, Notostraca and Spinicaudata) from the salt lakes of Algeria. Journal of Limnology 65: 83–88.

Scanabissi, F., G. Alfonso, S. Bergamaschi & B. Mantovani, 2006. Primo ritrovamento di *Lepidurus couesii* Packard, 1875 in Italia. Thalassia Salentina 29: 111–122.

Siqueira, T., L. M. Bini, F. O. Roque, S. R. Marques Couceiro, S. Trivinho-Strixino & K. Cottenie, 2012. Common and rare species respond to similar niche processes in macroinvertebrate metacommunities. Ecography 35: 183–192.

Stoch, F., M. Korn, S. Turki, L. Naselli-Flores & F. Marrone, 2016. The role of spatial environmental factors as determinants of large branchiopod distribution in Tunisian temporary ponds. Hydrobiologia 782: 37–51.

Strobl, C., A.-L. Boulesteix, A. Zeileis & T. Hothorn, 2007. Bias in random forest variable importance measures: Illustrations, sources and a solution. BMC Bioinformatics 8: 25.

Thiéry, A., 1986. Les crustacés branchiopodes (Anostraca, Notostraca et Conchostraca) du Maroc occidental. I. Inventaire et répartition. Bulletin de la Société d’Histoire Naturelle de Toulouse 122: 145–155.

Thiéry, A., 1987. Les Crustacés Branchiopodes Anostraca, Notostraca et Conchostraca des milieux limniques temporaires (dayas) au Maroc. Taxonomie, biogéographie, écologie. Ph.D. Thesis. Université d’Aix-Marseille III, Marseille.

Thiéry, A., 1991. Multispecies coexistence of branchiopods (Anostraca, Notostraca & Spinicaudata) in temporary ponds of Chaouia plain (western Morocco): sympathy or syntopy between usually allopatric species. Hydrobiologia 212: 117–136.

Timms, B. V. & P. R. Sanders, 2002. Biogeography and ecology of Anostraca (Crustacea) in middle Paroo catchment of the Australian arid-zone. Hydrobiologia 486: 225–238.

Underwood, E. C., J. H. Viers, K. R. Klausmeyer, R. L. Cox & M. R. Shaw, 2009. Threats and biodiversity in the Mediterranean biome. Diversity and Distributions 15: 188–197.

Van den Broeck, M., A. Waterkeyn, L. Brendonck & L. Rhazi, 2015a. Distribution, coexistence, and decline of Moroccan large branchiopods. Journal of Crustacean Biology 35: 355–365.

Van den Broeck, M., A. Waterkeyn, L. Rhazi, P. Grillas & L. Brendonck, 2015b. Assessing the ecological integrity of endorheic wetlands, with focus on Mediterranean temporary ponds. Ecological Indicators 54: 1–11.

Verdiell-Cubedo, D. & D. Boix, 2014. Primeros datos sobre la distribución de grandes branquiópodos (Crustacea: Branchiopoda) en la Región de Murcia (SE España). Anales de Biología 36: 65–69.

Walsh, C. & R. Mac Nally, 2013. Hier.part: Hierarchical Partitioning. R package version 1.0.4. https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/hier.part/index.html.

Waterkeyn, A., P. Grillas, E. R. De Roeck, L. Boven & L. Brendonck, 2009. Assemblage structure and dynamics of large branchiopods in Mediterranean temporary wetlands: patterns and processes. Freshwater Biology 54: 1256–1270.

Weibull, A.-C., J. Bengtsson & E. Nohlgren, 2000. Diversity of butterflies in the agricultural landscape: the role of farming system and landscape heterogeneity. Ecography 23: 743–750.

Zacharias, I. & M. Zamparas, 2010. Mediterranean temporary ponds. A disappearing ecosystem. Biodiversity and Conservation 19: 3827–3834.
Bibliographical references used to compile large branchiopods records in the Iberian Peninsula and Balearic Islands.

Alcorlo, P. & Á. Baltanás, 1999. Limnología de las lagunas salinas de Los Monegros y caracterización de sus comunidades animales. Boletín de la Sociedad Entomológica Aragonesa 24: 113–120.

Alonso, M., 1978. Nuevos hallazgos de anostráceos (Crustáceos: Eufilópodos) en España. Oecologia Aquatica 3: 211–212.

Alonso, M., 1980. Estudio sistemático y ecológico de los eufilópodos (Ephylllopooda) no cladóceros de España. Master's Thesis. University of Barcelona, Barcelona.

Alonso, M., 1983. Las comunidades de entomóstráceos de las lagunas de Villafáfila (Zamora). Actas del Primer Congreso Español de Limnología: 61–67.

Alonso, M., 1985. A survey of the Spanish Euphylllopooda. Miscel·lània Zoològica 9: 179–208.

Alonso, M., 1996. Crustacea. Branchiopoda. In Ramos, M.A. et al. (eds), Fauna Ibérica, 7. Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales CSIC, Madrid.

Alonso, M. & D. Jaume, 1991. Branchipus cortesi n. sp.: a new anostracan from western Spain (Crustacea, Branchiopoda). Hydrobiologia 212: 221–230.

Alonso, M. & J. Garcia-de-Lomas, 2009. Systematics and ecology of Linderiella baetica n. sp. (Crustacea, Branchiopoda, Anostraca, Chirocephalidae), a new species from southern Spain. Zoosystema 31: 807–827.

Amat, F., C. Barata, F. Hontoria, J.C. Navarro & I. Varó, 1995. Biogeography of the genus Artemia (Crustacea, Branchiopoda, Anostraca) in Spain. International Journal of Salt Lake Research 3: 175–190.
Amat, F., F. Hontoria, J.C. Navarro, N. Vieira & G. Mura, 2007. Biodiversity loss in the genus *Artemia* in the Western Mediterranean Region. Limnetica 26: 387–404.

Angeler, D.G., O. Viedma, S. Sánchez-Carrillo & M. Álvarez-Cobelas, 2008. Conservation issues of temporary wetland Branchiopoda (Anostraca, Notostraca: Crustacea) in a semiarid agricultural landscape: What spatial scales are relevant? Biological Conservation 141: 1224–1234.

Arukwe, A. & A. Langeland, 2013. Mitochondrial DNA inference between European populations of *Tanymastix stagnalis* and their glacial survival in Scandinavia. Ecology and Evolution 3: 3868–3878.

Bigot, L. & F. Marazanof, 1965. Considérations sur l'écologie des invertébrés terrestres et aquatiques des Marismas du Guadalquivir (Andalucia). Vie et Milieu 16: 441–473.

Boix, D., 2002. Aportació al coneixement de la distribució d'anostracis i notostracis (Crustacea: Branchiopoda) als Països Catalans. Butlletí de la Institució Catalana d'Història Natural 70: 55–71.

Boix, D., J. Sala, S. Gascón & A. Ruhí, 2007. Prospección de branquiópodos (Crustacea) en las lagunas de la Reserva Biológica de Doñana. Technical report. Institut d'Ecologia Aquàtica, Universitat de Girona, Girona.

Boix, D., J. Sala, S. Gascón, A. Ruhí, J. Compte & X.D. Quintana, 2009. Aportació al coneixement de la distribució de grans branquiòpodes (Crustacea: Branchiopoda: Anostraca, Spinicaudata, Notostraca) a Menorca. Technical report. Institut d'Ecologia Aquàtica, Universitat de Girona, Girona.

Boronat, M.D., 2003. Distribución de los microcrustáceos en lagunas de Castilla-La Mancha. Ciclos estacionales y migración vertical en lagunas cársticas estratificadas. Ph.D. Thesis. University of València, València.
Busquets, J.M., 1988. Altres organismes interessants de Graugés i encontorns. In
Busquets, J.M. et al. (eds), La vida als estanys de Graugés. Edicions l'Albí,
Berga: 134-144.

Carbonell, R., 2011. Inverterbrats del massís del Mont. Annals de l'Institut d'Estudis
Empordaneses 42: 48–60.

Carvalho, R. N., 1944. Catálogo da colecção de invertebrados de Portugal existentes no
Museu Zoológico da Universidade de Coimbra. Crustacea. Memórias e Estudos
do Museu Zoológico da Universidade de Coimbra 160: 1–15.

Cristo, M., M. Machado & J. Sala, 2002. Identificação dos elementos de conservação
(fauna de crustáceos filópodes e anfíbios) nos charcos temporários do Parque
Natural do Vale do Guadiana e áreas limítrofes. Technical report. CCMAR,
Universidade do Algarve, Faro.

De Buen, O., 1916. Los crustáceos de las Baleares. Boletín de la Real Sociedad
Española de Historia Natural 16: 355–367.

Dirección General de Recursos Hídricos, 2007. Documento técnico de delimitación,
caracterización, clasificación e inventario de zonas húmedas de Baleares. Fichas
balsas temporales de interés científico. Technical report. Conselleria de Medi
Ambient, Govern de les Illes Balears, Palma.

Escrivà, A., X. Armengol & F. Mezquita, 2010. Microcrustacean and rotiferan
communities of two close Mediterranean mountain ponds, lagunas de Bezas and
Rubiales (Spain). Journal of Freshwater Ecology 25: 427–435.

Fahd, K., L. Serrano & J. Toja, 2000. Crustacean and rotifer composition of temporary
ponds in the Doñana National Park (SW Spain) during floods. Hydrobiologia
436: 41–49.
Fahd, K., A. Arechederra, M. Florencio, D. León & L. Serrano, 2009. Copepods and branchiopods of temporary ponds in the Doñana Natural Area (SW Spain): a four-decade record (1964–2007). Hydrobiologia 634: 219–230.

Fernández, A.I., O. Viedma & D.G. Angeler, 2009. False correlates of nested patterns: a case study using temporary pond microcrustaceans. International Review of Hydrobiology 94: 513–527.

Fernández Bernaldo de Quirós, C., 1981. Primera cita de *Chirocephalus diaphanus* Prévost, 1803 (Crustacea, Branchiopoda: Anostraca) para la cordillera cantábrica. Boletín de Ciencias de la Naturaleza I.D.E.A. 27: 179–185.

Fernández Bernaldo de Quirós, C., 1982. *Tanymastix stagnalis* (Linné, 1758), segunda especie de anostraceos (Crustacea) halladas en la cordillera Cantábrica. Boletín de Ciencias de la Naturaleza I.D.E.A. 30: 59–62.

Florencio, M., L. Serrano, C. Gómez-Rodríguez, A. Millán & C. Díaz-Paniagua, 2009. Inter- and intra-annual variations of macroinvertebrate assemblages are related to the hydroperiod in Mediterranean temporary ponds. Hydrobiologia 634: 167–183.

Forés, E., M. Menéndez & F.A. Comín, 1986. Contribución al conocimiento de crustáceos y rotíferos del Delta del Ebro. Miscel·lània Zoològica 10: 105–111.

Forner, E. & J.E. Brewster, 2013. First observation of *Triops* (Crustacea: Branchiopoda: Notostraca) in the Natural Park of the Serra d’Irta (Peníscola, el Baix Maestrat). Nemus 3: 101–110.

Furest, A. & J. Toja, 1981. Ecosistemas acuáticos del Parque Nacional de Doñana: distribución del zooplancton. Primer Simposio del Agua en Andalucía. Granada, 23-26 March 1981: 151–165.
Furest, A. & J. Toja, 1987. Tipificación de lagunas andaluzas según sus comunidades de crustáceos. Oxyura 4: 89–100.

García-Novo, F. & C. Marín (eds.), 2006. Doñana. Water and Biosphere. Confederación Hidrográfica del Guadalquivir, Ministerio de Medio Ambiente, Madrid.

García, C.M. & F.X. Niell, 1993. Seasonal change in a saline temporary lake (Fuente de Piedra, southern Spain). Hydrobiologia 267: 211–223.

García de Lomas, J. & C.M. García, 2003. Observaciones de Branchiopoda en lagunas temporales litorales de la provincia. Revista de la Sociedad Gaditana de Historia Natural 3: 277–279.

García de Lomas, J. & C.M. García, 2008. Observaciones de Branchiopoda en lagunas temporales de la provincia. Revista de la Sociedad Gaditana de Historia Natural 5: 143–146.

García de Lomas, J., C.M. García & I. Canca, 2005. Caracterización y fenología de las lagunas temporales del Pinar de la Algaida (Puerto Real, Cádiz). Revista de la Sociedad Gaditana de Historia Natural 4: 105–124.

García, G., J.L. Menéndez & A. Torralba-Burrial, 2013. Primera cita de Lepidurus apus (Linnaeus, 1758) (Notostraca: Triopidae) para Asturias (norte de la península Ibérica). Boletín de la Sociedad Entomológica Aragonesa 52: 285–286.

Garrido, J. & A. Gayoso, 2002. Primera cita de Lepidurus apus (Linnaeus, 1758) (Branchiopoda: Notostraca) en Galicia (NO España). Boletín de la Asociación Española de Entomología 26: 197–198.

Gibert, A.M., 1920. Crustacis de Catalunya. Treballs de la Institució Catalana d'Història Natural 1919-1920: 9–127.
Gilbert, J.D., I. De Vicente, F. Ortega, R. Jiménez-Melero, G. Parra & F. Guerrero, 2015. A comprehensive evaluation of the crustacean assemblages in southern Iberian Mediterranean wetlands. Journal of Limnology 74: 169–181.

Ginard, A., D. Vicens, D. Crespi, M. Vadell, P. Bover, P. Balaguer & F. Gràcia, 2008. Coves litorals, geomorfologia i jaciments del quaternari de la Marina de Llucmajor 1: la franja costanera entre es Racó des Llobets i Cala Esglesieta (1a part). Endins 32: 81–104.

Grosso-Silva, J.M. & P. Soares-Vieira, 2002. Primeiro registo de Lepidurus apus (Linnaeus, 1758) para Portugal (Crustacea, Branchiopoda, Notostraca, Triopidae). Boletín de la Sociedad Entomológica Aragonesa 30: 176.

Jiménez, T., 2009. Les zones humides del Parc del Garraf. Catàleg, biodiversitat i estat de conservació. Comissió VII Premi "Castelldelfs àmbit sostenible", Castelldelfs.

Lucena-Moya, P., R. Abrain, I. Pardo, B. Hermida & M. Domínguez, 2010. Invertebrate species list of coastal lagoons in the Balearic Islands. Transitional Waters Bulletin 4: 1–11.

Machado, M., M. Cristo & L. Cancela da Fonseca, 1999. Non-cladoceran branchiopod crustaceans from southwest Portugal. I. Occurrence notes. Crustaceana 72: 591–602.

Machado, M. & J. Sala, 2013. Tanymastigites lusitanica sp. nov. (Crustacea: Branchiopoda: Anostraca) from Portugal, first representative of the genus in Europe. Zootaxa 3681: 501–523.

Margalef, R., 1947. Estudios sobre la vida en las aguas continentales de la región endorreica manchega. Publicaciones del Instituto de Biología Aplicada 4: 5–51.
Margalef, R., 1953. Los crustáceos de las aguas continentales ibéricas. Instituto Forestal de Investigaciones y Experiencias, Ministerio de Agricultura, Madrid.

Margalef, R., 1955. Datos para el estudio de la distribución de los crustáceos en las aguas continentales españolas. Publicaciones del Instituto de Biología Aplicada, 21: 173–177.

Margalef, R., 1958. Algunos crustáceos de las aguas continentales de España y norte de África. Miscelánea Zoológica 1: 51–60.

Margalef, R. & M. Bassetas, 1946. Algunos branquiópodos del NE de España y consideraciones sobre la fauna ibérica de cladóceros. Publicaciones del Instituto de Biología Aplicada 2: 127–148.

Miracle, M.R., 1978. Composición específica de las comunidades zooplanctónicas de 153 lagos de los Pirineos y su interés biogeográfico. Oecologia Aquatica 3: 167–191.

Miracle, M.R., M. Sahuquillo & E. Vicente, 2008. Large branchiopods from freshwater temporary ponds of Eastern Spain. Verhandlungen der Internationalen Vereinigung für Limnologie 30: 501–505.

Muñoz, J. & F. Pacios, 2010. Global biodiversity and geographical distribution of diapausing aquatic invertebrates: the case of the cosmopolitan brine shrimp, *Artemia* (Branchiopoda, Anostraca). Crustaceana 83: 465–480.

Muñoz, J., A. Gómez, A.J. Green, J. Figuerola, F. Amat & C. Rico, 2008. Phylogeography and local endemism of the native Mediterranean brine shrimp *Artemia salina* (Branchiopoda : Anostraca). Molecular Ecology 17: 3160–3177.

Ortiz, J. (ed.), 2014. La vida al riu Francolí. Els humans i els sistemes aquàtics. Publicacions URV, Tarragona.
Pedrocchi, C., 1998. Los organismos acuáticos. In Pedrocchi, C. (ed), Ecología de los Monegros. La paciencia como estrategia de supervivencia. Instituto de Estudios Altoaragoneses y Centro de Desarrollo de Monegros, Huesca: 81–125.

Pérez-Bilbao, A., C.J. Benetti & J. Garrido, 2015. Biodiversity and conservation of temporary ponds — Assessment of the conservation status of “Veiga de Pontelíñares”, NW Spain (Natura 2000 Network), using freshwater invertebrates. In Lo, Y.-H. et al. (eds), Biodiversity in Ecosystems - Linking Structure and Function. InTech: 241–269.

Pérez-Bote, J.L., 2001. Primera cita de *Cyzicus grubei* (Simon, 1886) (Spinicaudata, Cyzicidae) en la cuenca del Guadiana. Boletín de la Asociación Española de Entomología 25: 133–134.

Pérez-Bote, J.L., A. Muñoz, J.M. García, S. Rodríguez & A.J. Romero, 2008. Distribución y abundancia de los huevos de resistencia de *Triops cancriformis mauritanicus* Ghigi, 1921 y *Branchipus cortesi* Alonso & Jaume, 1991 (Crustacea, Branchiopoda) en una laguna temporal del suroeste de la península Ibérica. Limnetica 27: 57–64.

Pérez-Bote, J.L., A. Muñoz, J.M. García, S.P. Rodríguez, A.J. Romero, P. Corbacho & J. Fernández, 2006. Distribución, estatus y conservación de los grandes branquiópodos (Crustacea, Branchiopoda) en Extremadura (SO de la Península Ibérica). Boletín de la Asociación Española de Entomología 30: 41–57.

Pinya, S. & L. Gil, 2009. Primary results on biodiversity analysis of the temporary ponds in the Natural Park of Mondragó, Mallorca. In Fraga, P. (ed), International Conference on Mediterranean Temporary Ponds. 14. Consell Insular de Menorca, Menorca, 5-8 May 2009: 291–295.
Pretus, J.L., 1987. Presencia d'elements estepàrics a les aigües dolces de Menorca: crustacís eufil·lòpodes. Nota preliminar. Boletí de la Societat d'Història Natural de les Balears 31: 153–154.

Pretus, J.L., 1990. A commented check-list of the Balearic Branchiopoda (Crustacea). Limnetica 6: 157–164.

Pretus, J.L., 1991. Estudio taxonómico biogeográfico y ecológico de los crustáceos epigeos e hipogeos de las Baleares (Branchiopoda, Copepoda, Mystacocarida y Malacostraca). Ph.D. Thesis. Universitat de Barcelona, Barcelona.

Prunier, F. & S. Saldaña, 2010. Grandes branquiópodos (Crustacea: Branchiopoda: Anostraca, Spinicaudata, Notostraca) en la provincia de Córdoba (España) (año hidrológico 2009/2010). Boletín de la Sociedad Entomológica Aragonesa 47: 349–355.

Prunier, F., R. Sosa & S. Saldaña, 2011. Grandes branquiópodos (Crustacea: Branchiopoda: Anostraca, Spinicaudata, Notostraca) en la provincia de Córdoba (España) (año hidrológico 2010/2011). Boletín de la Sociedad Entomológica Aragonesa 49: 223–226.

Redón, S., F. Amat, M.I. Sanchez & A.J. Green, 2015. Comparing cestode infections and their consequences for host fitness in two sexual branchiopods: alien *Artemia franciscana* and native *A. salina* from syntopic-populations. PeerJ 3: e1073.

Ripoll, J., M. De las Heras, J.M. Moreno, F. Prunier & F. Solano, 2013. Grandes branquiópodos (Crustacea, Branchiopoda, Anostraca, Notostraca) en la provincia de Málaga, España (año hidrológico 2012/2013). Arxius de Miscel·lània Zoològica 11: 163–177.
Rodríguez-Flores, P.C., A. Sánchez-Vialas & M. García-París, 2016. Muestreos taxonómicos en charcos estacionales: una herramienta imprescindible para el conocimiento de la distribución geográfica de Anostraca (Crustacea: Branchiopoda) en el centro de la Península Ibérica. Heteropterus Revista de Entomología 16: 29–52.

Romera, J., 2016a. Nova localització a Tordera per al crustaci anostraci de l’espècie Branchipus schaefferi (Illa del riu) 27/3/2016 [blog post]. http://natura-tordera.blogspot.com.es/2016/03/nova-localitzacio-tordera-per-al.html. [Consulted: 11 Oct 2016].

Romera, J., 2016b. Crustaci anostraci de l’espècie Branchipus schaefferi als Pla de Can Jalpí (Tordera) 25/3/2016 [blog post]. http://natura-tordera.blogspot.com.es/2016/03/crustaci-anostraci-de-lespecie.html. [Consulted: 11 Oct 2016].

Rueda, J., J.A. Aguilar-Alberola & F. Mezquita, 2006. Contribución al conocimiento de los crustáceos (Arthropoda, Crustacea) de las Malladas de la Devesa del Parque Natural de la Albufera (Valencia). Boletín de la Asociación Española de Entomología 30: 9–29.

Sahuquillo, M. & M.R. Miracle, 2010. Crustacean and rotifer seasonality in a Mediterranean temporary pond with high biodiversity (Lavajo de Abajo de Sinarcas, Eastern Spain). Limnetica 29: 75–92.

Sala, J., D. Boix & M. Franch, 2003. Noves localitzacions d'anostracis i notostracis (Crustacea: Branchiopoda) a Catalunya. Scientia gerundensis 26: 9–13.

Sala, J., S. Gascón & D. Boix, 2005. Nueva localidad para Branchinectella media (Crustacea: Anostraca) en Los Monegros. Boletín de la Sociedad Entomológica Aragonesa 37: 164.
Sánchez-Fernández, D., P. Abellán, F. Camarero, Í. Esteban, C. Gutiérrez-Cánovas, I. Ribera, J. Velasco & A. Millán, 2007. Los macroinvertebrados acuáticos de las Salinas de Añana (Álava, España): biodiversidad, vulnerabilidad y especies indicadoras. Boletín de la Sociedad Entomológica Aragonesa 40: 233–245.

Serrano, L. & K. Fahd, 2005. Zooplankton communities across a hydroperiod gradient of temporary ponds in the Doñana National Park (SW Spain). Wetlands 25: 101–111.

Soria, J.M., T. Alfonso, C. Rojo & L. Ballesteros, 1987. Aportación al estudio limnológico de la laguna temporal de San Benito. IV Congreso Español de Limnología. Sevilla, Spain, 5-8 May 1987: 123–126.

Triantaphyllidis, G.V., T.J. Abatzopoulos & P. Sorgeloos, 1998. Review of the biogeography of the genus *Artemia* (Crustacea, Anostraca). Journal of Biogeography 25: 213–226.

Valladares, L.F., F.J. Vega, R.A. Mazé, J.A. Régil & F. García-Criado, 2002. Biodiversidad de los macroinvertebrados del Parque Natural de Valderejo (Álava): implicaciones en conservación. Boletín de la Asociación Española de Entomología 26: 37–55.

Verdiell-Cubedo, D. & D. Boix, 2014. Primeros datos sobre la distribución de grandes branquiópodos (Crustacea: Branchiopoda) en la Región de Murcia (SE España). Anales de Biología 36: 65–69.

Vianna-Fernandes, A.M., 1951. Contribuções para o estudo dos Filópodes portugueses. I. Primeiras espécies encontradas em Portugal. Arquivos do Museu Bocage 22: 75–85.

Vieira, N. & A. Bio, 2011. Spatial and temporal variability of water quality and zooplankton in an artisanal salina. Journal of Sea Research 65: 293–303.
Zierold, T., B. Hanfling & A. Gómez, 2007. Recent evolution of alternative reproductive modes in the 'living fossil' *Triops cancriformis*. BMC Evolutionary Biology 7: 161–172.
Online Resource 2.

Distribution maps of all records (including those records before 1995) of large branchiopods, and for each large branchiopod taxon present in Iberian Peninsula and Balearic Islands.
Online Resource 3.

Rank frequency curve exhibited by each large branchiopod taxon present in the Iberian Peninsula and Balearic Islands from 1995 onwards. The arrow indicates the inflection point, and the species at the left side are classified as common, and those at the right side are classified as rare. Abbreviations: ART_FRA: Artemia franciscana; ART_PAD: parthenogenetic Artemia (diploid); ART_PAT: parthenogenetic Artemia (tetraploid); ART_SAL: Artemia salina; BCH_COR: Branchipus cortesi; BCH_SCH: Branchipus schaefferi; BRN_FER: Branchinecta ferox; BRN_ORI: Branchinecta orientalis; BRT_MED: Branchinectella media; CHR_DIA: Chirocephalus diaphanus; CYZ_GRU: Cyzicus grubei; CYZ_TET: Cyzicus tetracerus; LEP_APU: Lepidurus apus; LIN_BAE: Linderiella baetica; LIN_SP: Linderiella sp.; LPT_MAY: Leptestheria mayeti; MAG_MAR: Maghrebestheria maroccana; PHC_SPI: Phalocryptus spinosus; STR_TOR: Streptoccephalus torvicornis; TAG_LUS: Tanymastigites lusitanica; TAN_SP: Tanymastix sp.; TAN_STA: Tanymastix stagnalis; TRP_SPP: Triops spp.
Online Resource 4.

Number of co-occurring native large branchiopod species in the Iberian Peninsula and Balearic Islands from 1995 onwards. From a total of 997 sites with large branchiopods, we show the number of sites with syntopic species (not necessarily co-occurring synchronically), the number of sites with synchronic species (some sites can have more syntopic species than those occurring synchronically), and the number of sites with all syntopic species co-occurring synchronically, for each number of co-occurring native species.

| number of co-occurring native species | number of sites with syntopic native species | number of sites with synchronic native species | number of sites with all syntopic native species co-occurring synchronically |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2                                    | 188                                         | 179                                           | 163                                                                     |
| 3                                    | 68                                          | 59                                            | 48                                                                      |
| 4                                    | 34                                          | 23                                            | 20                                                                      |
| 5                                    | 7                                           | 3                                             | 3                                                                       |
| 6                                    | 2                                           | 2                                             | 2                                                                       |
| Total                                | 299                                         | 266                                           | 236                                                                     |