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September 2008

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Gordon, Robert and Davidson, John, "A new prey record and range extension for Hyperaspis paludicola Schwarz and a new prey record for Microweisea misella (LeConte) (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae)" (2008). Insecta Mundi. 571.

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INSECTA MUNDI

A Journal of World Insect Systematics

0043

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Date of Issue: September 26, 2008

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Insecta Mundi 0043: 1-2

Published in 2008 by

Center for Systematic Entomology, Inc. P.O. Box 141874 Gainesville, FL 32614-1874 U.S.A. http://www.centerforsystematicentomology.org/

Insecta Mundi is a journal primarily devoted to insect systematics, but articles can be published on any non-marine arthropod taxon. Manuscripts considered for publication include, but are not limited to, systematic or taxonomic studies, revisions, nomenclatural changes, faunal studies, book reviews, phylogenetic analyses, biological or behavioral studies, etc. Insecta Mundi is widely distributed, and referenced or abstracted by several sources including the Zoological Record, CAB Abstracts, etc.

As of 2007, **Insecta Mundi** is published irregularly throughout the year, not as quarterly issues. As manuscripts are completed they are published and given an individual number. Manuscripts must be peer reviewed prior to submission, after which they are again reviewed by the editorial board to insure quality. One author of each submitted manuscript must be a current member of the Center for Systematic Entomology.

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Printed Copy ISSN 0749-6737 On-Line ISSN 1942-1354 CD-ROM ISSN 1942-1362 A new prey record and range extension for *Hyperaspis paludicola* Schwarz and a new prey record for *Microweisea misella* (LeConte) (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae)

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Abstract. The miscanthus mealybug, *Miscanthicoccus miscanthi* (Takahashi) (Hemiptera: Pseudococcidae), is newly reported as prey for the lady beetle *Hyperaspis paludicola* Schwarz (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae) at the Regan National Airport, Washington, DC (northern range extension). A new armored scale prey, *Diaspidiotus ancyclus* (Putnam) (Hemiptera: Diaspididae), for the lady beetle *Microweisea misella* (LeConte) (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae) is recorded. A range extension for *Hyperaspis paludicola* is reported.

Introduction

New prey records for two United States species of Coccinellidae are recorded and a range extension noted for *Hyperaspis paludicola* Schwarz. Both species were taxonomically treated by Gordon (1976, 1985), and that publication should be consulted for descriptions, illustrations, and other details. Scale insect identifications were made by D. R. Miller, Systematic Entomology Laboratory, ARS, USDA, Beltsville, MD, coccinellid identifications by the senior author.

Voucher specimens have been deposited in the Natural History Museum, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC.

Armored scale insects known as prey for *Microweisea misella* (LeConte) are listed and *Diaspidiotus ancyclus* (Putnam) (Pseudococcidae) is newly recorded as prey.

Hyperaspis paludicola Schwarz

Hyperaspis paludicola: Gordon 1985: 539.

This is a small, elongate, parallel-sided, dorsoventrally depressed species. It is rarely collected and is known from a few localities in AL, FL, GA, and SC. No prey data are on record, but in 1997 many specimens were reared from the miscanthus mealybug, *Miscanthicoccus miscanthi* (Takahashi) (Pseudococcidae), feeding on the leaf sheaths of Japanese silver grass, *Miscanthus sinensis* Andersson (Gramineae), **new prey record**. About 40 grass stems heavily infested with the mealybug were collected from a median strip in Reagan National Airport, Washington, D.C., in October 1977. They were brought into the lab in a perforated 50 gallon plastic bag. Opened leaf sheaths revealed a mass of mealybugs, white wax, an opaque viscous honeydew, and lady beetle pupae and larvae. The latter were white, elongate, flattened, and covered with powdery white wax. The pupae were light brown and remained in the white, split, last instar larval exuviae. Adults emerged one month later. The site was revisited Oct. 2006, when both mealybugs and lady beetles were still present in the leaf sheaths.

Microweisea misella (LeConte)

Microweisea misella: Gordon 1985: 40.

This is an extremely small (0.98-1.45 mm long), rounded, dark brown scale insect predator found from southeastern Canada to Florida and Texas west to British Columbia and northern California. Scale prey previously recorded are *Lepidosaphes beckii* (Newman), *Melanaspis obscura* (Comstock), *Chionaspis pinifolia* (Fitch), *Pseudaonidia duplex* (Cockerell), and *Diaspidiotus perniciosus* (Comstock) (Miller and Davidson 2005).

In 1998 M. misella was laboratory reared from a collection of Putnam scale, Diaspidiotus ancylus (Putnam) (Diaspididae), **new prey record**. The original collection was from blueberry at Chatsworth, NJ, Blueberry-Cranberry Experiment Station, on March 28, 1998, by Miller and Davidson.

Acknowledgments

We thank Tina MacIntyre of Crozet, VA, for collecting *Miscanthus* samples infested with miscanthus mealybug and *H. paludicola*, and D. R. Miller, Systematic Entomology Laboratory, ARS, USDA, Beltsville, MD, and F. E. Wood, Department of Entomology, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, for manuscript review.

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Received March 8, 2008; accepted May 20, 2008.