NON-CAVERNICOLOUS PSEUDOSCORPIONS FROM WEST VIRGINIA

Michael P. Sweeney, Ralph W. Taylor, and Clement L. Counts, III

ABSTRACT - Three species of non-cavernicolous pseudoscorpions, Apochthonius moestus, Chthonius tetrachelatus, and Neobisium carolinense, are reported for the first time from West Virginia.

Previous reports of pseudoscorpions from West Virginia have been confined to the cavernicolous species. Hoff (1958) reported only one species, Kleptochthonius (Chamberlinochthonius) henroti (Vachon), as occurring within the state. Muchmore (1965) reported K. (C.) henroti, K. orpheus Muchmore, and K. proserpinae Muchmore, from eastern West Virginia caves, as well as Apochthonius paucispinosus Muchmore (Muchmore, 1967). Muchmore (1973) further reported Chitrella cavicola (Packard), C. regina (Malcolm and Chamberlin), and K. (C.) hetricki Muchmore (1974) in West Virginia. The present note reports three species of non-cavernicolous pseudoscorpions from West Virginia.

Chthonius tetrachelatus (Preyssler) was collected from within the empty shells of the terrestrial gastropods Mesodon thyroidus (Say) and Triodopsis albolarbis (Say) from Lesage, Cabell County; Nitro, Kanawha County; Hurricane, Putnam County; and Lavalette, Wayne County. Apochthonius moestus (Banks) was also collected, under similar circumstances, from Milton, Cabell County. Neobisium carolinense (Banks) was taken from a spider web in woodland near White Run of Seneca Creek, Randolph County, by Dr. Donald C. Tarter. This occurrence may have been due to the pseudoscorpions arrival in the web by phoretic means, however, N. carolinense has never been reported in a phoretic situation (Muchmore, 1971).

C. tetrachelatus has been reported from every state adjacent to West Virginia (Hoff, 1958) and A. moestus has been found in every surrounding state but Ohio (Hoff, 1958). N. carolinense has been found in Kentucky, Pennsylvania, and Virginia (Hoff, 1958). Thus, the presence of these species in West Virginia is not surprising. However, this note represents the first report of non-cavernicolous pseudoscorpions in West Virginia.

1 Accepted for publication: June 7, 1976

2 Department of Biological Sciences, Marshall University, Huntington, West Virginia 25701
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We thank Dr. Sigurd Nelson, Jr., SUNY College at Oswego, New York, Dr. William B. Muchmore, University of Rochester, and Dr. C. Clayton Hoff, University of New Mexico for their advice and assistance.

REFERENCES


INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE ANNOUNCEMENT

Required six months' notice is given of the possible use of plenary powers by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in connection with the following name listed by case number: (see Bull. Zool. Nom. 33 part 2, 30 September 1976).

Z.N.(S.) 2140 ERIOCOCCIDAE Cockerell, 1899, proposed conservation of, and Eriococcus Targioni-Tozzetti, 1868, proposed designation of type-species for (Insecta: Homoptera).

Comments should be sent in duplicate, citing case number, to the Secretary, International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, c/o British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, London, SW7 5BD, England, if possible within 6 months of the date of publication of this notice. Those received early enough will be published in the Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature.