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A new Chilean species of *Cycloneda* Crotch (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae: Coccinellinae: Coccinellini)

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Abstract

Cycloneda pretiosa, **new species** is described from Lago Pirihueico in southern Chile The species is diagnosed and compared with both related and superficially similar species. Habitus and genitalic characters are illustrated. Geographical and temporal data are given. The new species is assigned to the *Cycloneda germainii* species complex and integrated into the key to species of this group (González and Vandenberg, 2006).

Key words: Insecta, Coleoptera, Coccinellidae, *Cycloneda***,** new species, key, South America, Chile

Introduction

The tribe Coccinellini contains some of the more conspicuous and brightly colored members of the ladybird beetle family. While the group is well characterized in many regions, much of the diverse South American fauna has yet to be systematically collected and/or critically studied by specialists in the field. A recent review of the *Cycloneda germainii* species complex (González & Vandenberg, 2006) uncovered three new species distributed in Chile and adjacent countries. Subsequently, examination of material from South and Austral Chile in the private collection of Alfredo Lüer has revealed the presence of yet another undocumented member.

The *C. germainii* species complex was erected as an informal grouping of species that possess similar dorsal color patterns and have often been confused with one another. The southern South American distribution and extremely similar male genitalia (*e.g.*, parameres slightly shorter than basal lobe; basal lobe simple, predominantly planar, tapered distally with nipple-like or attenuate apex) suggest that the complex represents a natural grouping of closely related species (however we may have failed to recognize some immaculate species that should have been included). The above-mentioned characteristics are shared by the new species as well, although the vivid and highly contrasted dorsal color pattern insures that it will not be easily mistaken for other members of the group.

For a detailed historical review of *Cycloneda* see Vandenberg (2002).

Material and methods

The following institutional and private collections were consulted during this study or are depositories of type material for the new species (acronyms assigned here are used throughout the paper):

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