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Studies in Guatemalan Caelifera: New grasshoppers and monkey grasshoppers (Orthoptera: Caelifera: Acridoidea & Eumastacoidea) and an updated checklist

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Abstract

We describe six species of Acridomorpha, Orthoptera from Guatemala: *Paraletthus rowelli* n. sp., *Paraletthus cerezoi* n. sp., *Episactus schusteri* n. sp. (Episactidae: Episactinae), *Pararhicnoderma eniocanoi* n. sp. (Romaleidae: Bactrophorinae), *Tela neumanni* n. sp. and *Leioscapheus faustinoi* n. sp. (Acrididae: Proctolabinae). four genera and five species are recorded for Guatemala and, at the same time a checklist is provided for Caelifera species found so far in the country.

Key words: Eumastacoidea, Tetrigoidea, Pyrgomorphoidea, Acridoidea, Tridactyloidea, *Paraletthus*, *Episactus*, *Parepisactus*, *Pararhicnoderma*, *Leioscapheus*, *Thela*

Resumen

Se describen seis especies de Acridomorpha, Orthoptera de Guatemala: *Paraletthus rowelli* n. sp., *Paraletthus cerezoi* n. sp., *Episactus schusteri* n. sp. (Episactidae: Episactinae), *Pararhicnoderma eniocanoi* n. sp. (Romaleidae: Bactrophorinae) *Tela neumanni* n. sp. y *Leioscapheus faustinoi* n. sp. (Acrididae: Proctolabinae). se reportan por la primera vez cuatro géneros y cinco especies para Guatemala, a su vez se aporta una listado para las especies de Caelifera halladas hasta la fecha en el país.

Palabras clave: Eumastacoidea, Tetrigoidea, Pyrgomorphoidea, Acridoidea, Tridactyloidea, *Paraletthus*, *Episactus*, *Parepisactus*, *Pararhicnoderma*, *Leioscapheus*, *Thela*

Introduction

The fauna of the suborder Caelifera (Orthoptera) in Guatemala is poorly known, in fact for more than 50 years scientists have not conducted much research in the country mainly because of the internal war that started in 1960. Even though this war ended officially in 1996, conflicts still exist and Guatemala is dangerous to collect in many remote areas, specially the ones controlled by the Mayan groups that resist the presence of foreigners. Also important to mention is the second author has conducted extensive Orthoptera collecting in the past years and photographed (Figs. 66–81) in many different sites, which has provided the material, treated in this paper. The currently known Caelifera fauna for Guatemala includes: Ripipterygidae (four species), Tridactylidae (one species), Tetrigidae (five species), Acrididae (22 species), Romaleidae (nine species), Episactidae (three species) and Pyrgomorphidae (two species). This totals 46 species for Caelifera (Eades *et al.* 2014).

The Orthoptera fauna from Mexico, Costa Rica and Panama are the best known from the region (Fontana *et al.* 2008, Barrientos *et al.* 2013, Rowell 2013); Guatemala, being in the middle of these countries must host many species already reported from these other countries, which would constitute new country records. Also the varied topography of Guatemala from sea level to above 4,000 meters (Map 1) and with very varied habitats from mangroves to very wet cloud forests (in the mountains) are ideal places to have great species diversity (including

TABLE 2. Number of species distributed by Departamentos.

Departamento	Ripterygidae	Tridactylidae	Tetrigidae	Acrididae	Romaleidae	Episactidae	Pyrgomorphidae	Total per departamento
Alta Verapaz	1		1	5	3	1		11
Baja Verapaz				4		1		5
Chimaltenango					1			1
Chiquimula				1				1
Petén	3	1		5	3	1		13
El Progreso			1	1		1		3
Quiché				2	1			3
Escuintla	1	1		2	4		1	9
Guatemala	1		3	2	2			8
Huehuetenango	1		1	5	2	3	1	13
Izabal	1		1	3				5
Jalapa								0
Jutiapa				2	1			3
Quetzaltenango			1	2	1			4
Retalhuleu								0
Sacatepéquez					1			1
San Marcos	1			2		1		4
Santa Rosa	1						1	2
Solola		1		2	1			4
Suchitepéquez			1	1	1			3
Totonicapán								0
Zacapa					2	2		4
Without locality				9				9
Total for family	10	3	9	48	23	10	3	108

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