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The Tribe Anisoscelini (Hemiptera: Heteroptera, Coreidae) in Argentina

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Abstract

Eight genera and 21 species of the tribe Anisoscelini (Coreidae, Coreinae) are recorded in Argentina: *Anisoscelis foliaceus* (Fabricius); *Coribergeria declivicollis* (Berg); *Dalmatomammurius vandoesburgi* (Brailovsky); *Holymeria hystrio* (Fabricius); *Leptoglossus chilensis* (Spinola); *L. cinctus* (Herrich-Schaeffer); *L. concolor* Walker; *L. crassicornis* (Dallas); *L. dentatus* Berg; *L. fasciatus* (Westwood); *L. gonagra* (Fabricius); *L. impictus* (Stål); *L. ingens* (Mayr); *L. neovexillatus* Allen; *L. quadricollis* (Westwood); *L. stigma* (Herbst); *L. vexillatus* (Stål); *L. zonatus* (Dallas); *Phthia lunata* (Fabricius); *Phthiacnemia picta* (Drury) and *Ugnius kermesinus* (Linnaeus). A key to genera belonging to the tribe is provided. *L. stigma* is recorded for the first time in Argentina with new locality records for La Rioja, Salta and San Juan.

Key words: genera, insecta, distribution, key, diagnosis

Introduction

The family Coreidae, commonly called “leaf-footed bugs” or “squash-bugs”, are heavy-bodied insects usually strongly elongate or broadly elliptical (Schuh & Slater 1995). The worldwide composition of this family numbers a total of 2569 species assigned to 439 genera (CoreoideaSF Team, 2015). Of these, 82 species have been mentioned in the literature as potentially or actually damaging for crops (Mitchell, 2000). Thus relatively few coreid species are considered economically important.

The Coreidae includes three subfamilies, i.e. Coreinae, Meropachydinae and Pseudophloeinae. Coreinae is worldwide in distribution with most species occurring in the tropics. Meropachydinae are mainly tropical except for one genus that extends into to the USA. The Pseudophloeinae is an Old World group, and only a few genera inhabit the Neotropical and Nearctic regions. The New World Coreidae were studied by Packauskas (1994), who published keys to three subfamilies (Coreinae, Meropachyinae and Pseudophloeinae), 15 tribes, and a checklist of previously published keys to genera and species. Packauskas (2010), in a New World catalogue of Coreidae, provided a summary of the classification of the group and an in-depth introduction to the literature.

Maes & Göellner-Scheiding (1993) mentioned that Coreidae attack oranges, guava, passion fruit, marrows, cotton, limes, melons, tomatoes, pumpkins, eggplants and pomegranates. Mitchell (2000) also mentioned legumes, rice, cassava, cucurbits, tomatoes, garden vegetables and various fruits and nut trees among the crops attacked by coreids worldwide. In the same paper (Mitchell, 2000) recorded a few species of Anisoscelini of minor economic importance in Brazil, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador and Nicaragua.

The most comprehensive studies of the Coreidae in Argentina were by Pennington (1921, 1922) and Kormilev (1954). Coscarón (in press)—in a catalogue of the Heteroptera or true bugs of Argentina—mentioned a total of 48 genera and 125 species of Coreidae (with 8 genera and 21 species of Anisoscelini).

Knowledge on the South American fauna is poor, especially in relation to economically important taxa, and no comprehensive identification keys for the region have been published, except for the Acanthocerini by Pall and Coscarón (2012). Di Iorio (2004) compiled a catalogue of phytophagous insects, including Coreidae, and their host plants in Argentina.