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El género *Xenogenus* Berg, 1883 (Heteroptera: Rhopalidae) en Chile

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Abstract: The distribution of the species of *Xenogenus* Berg in Chile is addressed. The known distribution of *Xenogenus gracilis* (Reed), previously restricted to the O'Higgins region (besides Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil and Peru), is expanded up to Tarapacá and Los Ríos regions. *Xenogenus picturatum* Berg (previously known from Argentina, Bolivia, Cuba, Mexico, Nicaragua, Uruguay and USA including Puerto Rico) is recorded for the first time in Chile, in the Metropolitan and Maule regions.

Keywords: Coreoidea, Faunistics, Hemiptera, New records.

Resumen: Se aborda la distribución de las especies de *Xenogenus* Berg en Chile. La distribución conocida de *Xenogenus gracilis* (Reed), previamente limitada a la región de O'Higgins (además de Argentina, Bolivia, Brasil y Perú), se expande hasta las regiones de Tarapacá y de Los Ríos. *Xenogenus picturatum* Berg (previamente conocido en Argentina, Bolivia, Cuba, México, Nicaragua, Uruguay y EE. UU. incluyendo Puerto Rico) se registra por primera vez en el país, en las regiones Metropolitana y del Maule.

Palabras clave: Coreoidea, Faunística, Hemiptera, Nuevos registros.

Rhopalidae, commonly known as scentless plant bugs is a family of phytophagous heteropterans that currently comprises 236 species classified in 26 genera (Coreoidea Species File, 2021). This family was for a long time considered a subfamily of Coreidae until Chopra (1967) gave it family rank. Several rhopalids are considered to have an economic importance, because they feed on crops; however, with a relatively low impact (Schaefer & Kotulski, 2000). In Chile this family is represented by 15 species classified in six genera (Faúndez, 2016; Faúndez et al., 2020).

Xenogenus Berg is a bispecific genus of scentless plant bugs, widely distributed in the Americas (Diez & Coscarón, 2015; Melo & Montemayor, 2016). In Chile, to date, this genus is represented just by *Xenogenus gracilis* (Reed, 1899) which was described from Baños de Cauquenes, O'Higgins region. After that, no additional references on this genus have been published in the country (Melo & Montemayor, 2016). The purpose of this contribution is to provide new distributional records

for *X. gracilis* in Chile as well as the first records of *Xenogenus picturatum* Berg in the country.

Photos were taken with a digital camera adapted to a stereoscopic microscope. Maps were developed with QGIS. The collections cited in the text are from Museo Entomológico Luis Peña, Departamento de Sanidad Vegetal, Universidad de Chile [MEUC], and Heteroptera Reference Collection of the CEBCh [HRCC].

Xenogenus gracilis (Reed, 1899) (Figs. 1A, 1B, 2A)

(*Harmostes gracilis* Reed, 1899)

This species is currently distributed in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile and Peru towards the Andes mountains (Gollner-Scheiding, 1980; Diez & Coscarón, 2015; Melo & Montemayor, 2016). In Chile, so far, it is known just from the type locality Baños de Cauquenes O'Higgins region. Here we provide the first records for Tarapacá, Coquimbo, Metropolitan and Los Ríos regions.

Material Examined: Chile: Tarapacá region: Mamiña, II-2016, J. F. Campodonico leg., 2 ♂ [HRCC]; Mamiña, 29-IX-1967, R. Charlin leg., 1 ♂ [MNNC]; La Tirana, II-2016 J. F. Campodonico leg., 1 ♀ [HRCC]; Coquimbo region: Llanos de la Higuera, Ruta 5 Norte, Km 537, 11-X-2015, J. F. Campodonico leg., 1 ♂ [HRCC]; Vicuña, 4-X-1966, R. Charlin leg., 1 ♀ [MEUC] Metropolitan region: Maipú, Quebrada de la Plata, 33°29'S. 70°53'W. 520m, 4-XI-2015, J. F. Campodonico leg., 2 ♂ [1MEUC,1HRCC]; Rinconada de Maipú, 19-II-1963, R. Charlin leg., 1 ♀ [MEUC]; Rinconada de Maipú, IV-1963, R. Charlin leg., 1 ♀ [MEUC]; Rinconada de Maipú, 29-I-1956, R. H. González leg., 1 ♀ [MEUC]; Los Ríos region: Pirihueico Lake, 20-I-2011, R. Perez de Arce leg., 1 ♂ [HRCC].

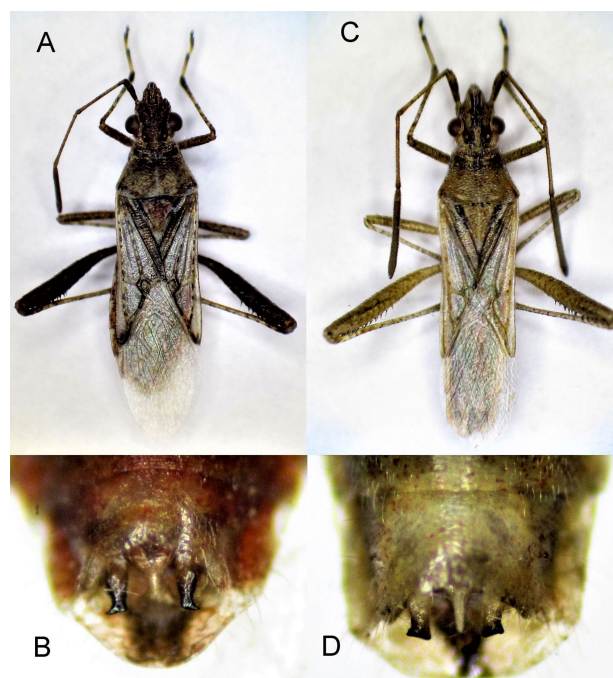


Fig. 1. *Xenogenus gracilis*: A. habitus. B. male genitalia; *X. picturatum*: C. habitus. D. male genitalia.

Xenogenus picturatum Berg, 1883 (Figs. 1C, 1D, 2B)

(=*Xenogenus extensus* Distant, 1893)

(=*Darmistidius maculatus* Uhler, 1893)

This species is the most widely distributed in the genus *Xenogenus*, recorded from Argentina, Bolivia, Cuba, Mexico, Nicaragua, Uruguay and USA (including Puerto Rico) (Gollner-Scheiding, 1980; Diez & Coscarón, 2015; Melo & Montemayor, 2016). Here we provide the first records from Chile.

Material examined: Chile Metropolitan Region, Maipú, Quebrada de la Plata, 33° 29' S. 70° 53' W. 520 m, 4. XI. 2015, J. F. Campodonico leg., 2 ♂ [1 MEUC, 1 HRCC]; Chile, Metropolitan Region, El Alfalfal, III-2009, R. Perez de Arce leg. 1 ♂ 1 ♀ [HRCC] Maule región: Armerillo, 35°42' S. 71°05' W. 500 m., II-2015, J. F. Campodonico leg., 1 ♂ [HRCC]; Quinamavida, 13- XI-1966, R. Charlin leg., 1 ♂ 2 ♀ [MEUC].

Remarks. *Xenogenus* species are hard to identify because of their variability; however, male genitalia characters are strongly useful (Gollner-Scheiding, 1980, Diez & Coscarón, 2015; Fig. 1). Furthermore, to identify females, these are usually just associated with males correctly identified using genitalia (Diez & Coscarón, 2015). The presence of *X. picturatum* in Chile is not rare as it is widely present in the surrounding countries.

Although the new records here provided extend considerably the distribution of both species, there are still several distributional gaps that

may have been influenced by the lack of collecting, or hard climates in the Atacama Desert (the most arid desert in the world). Therefore, further prospection is needed to totally elucidate the whole distribution of these species in the country. Finally, with the recent introduction of the North American Box elder bug, *Boisea trivittata* (Say) (Faúndez et al., 2020), the Rhopalidae diversity of Chile included 15 species in six genera. With the new addition of *X. picturatum*, the number of species rises to 16.

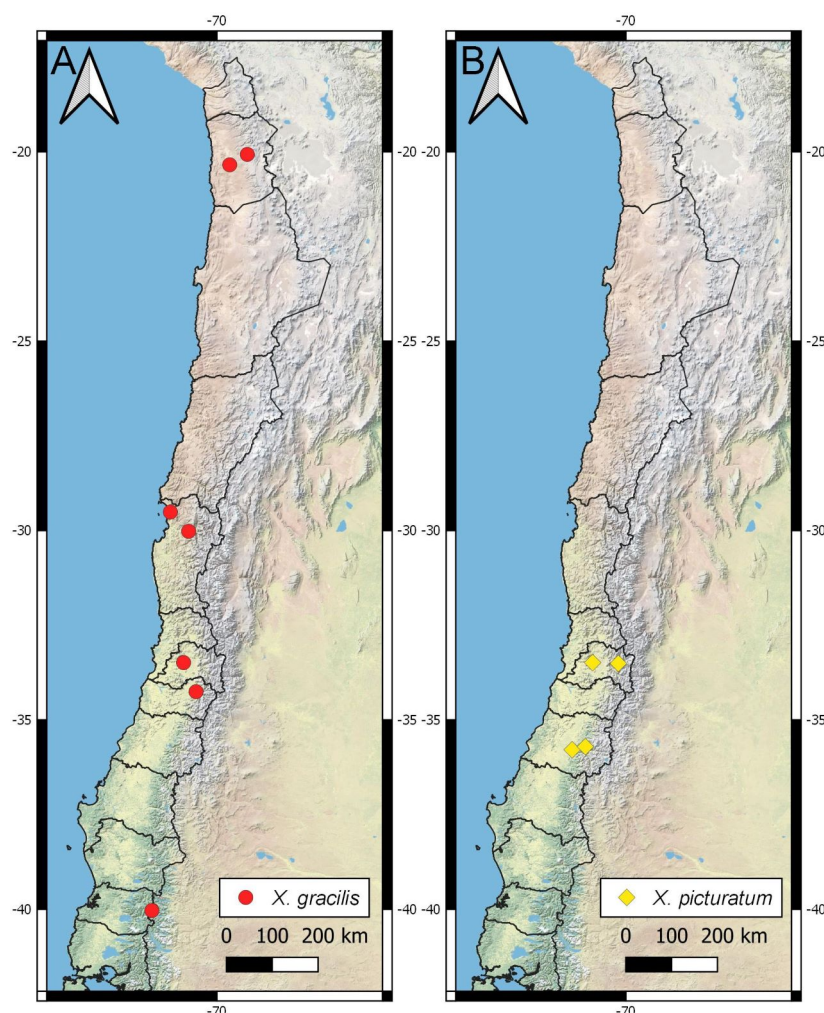


Fig. 2. Records of *Xenogenus gracilis* (A) and *Xenogenus picturatum* (B) in Chile.
Geodetic datum WGS 84.

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