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New host and distribution record for *Acanthoscelides malvitus* Johnson (Coleoptera: Bruchidae)

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Short communication*(Nota científica)***NEW HOST AND DISTRIBUTION RECORD FOR
ACANTHOSCELIDES MALVITUS JOHNSON
(COLEOPTERA: BRUCHIDAE)**

Romero Nápoles, J. y J. M. Kingsolver. 2009. Nuevo registro de huésped y distribución para *Acanthoscelides malvitus* Johnson (Coleoptera: Bruchidae). *Acta Zoológica Mexicana* (n. s.), 25(2): 431-434.

RESUMEN. Se registra un nuevo hospedero para *Acanthoscelides malvitus* Johnson, se redescubre la genitalia del macho y se proporciona un esquema de ésta.

During examination of material from Texas A&M University, Department of Entomology Collection (TAMU) and Colección del Centro de Entomología y Acarología, Montecillo, Mexico (CEAM) we found specimens of *Acanthoscelides malvitus* (Fig. 1a, 1b) with record of a new host and distribution records for this bruchid. Johnson (1983) described this species from Guatemala and Mexico (Chiapas and Oaxaca), from specimens intercepted in plant quarantine. The old host records were *Abutilon* sp., *Malva* sp., and *Robinsonella* sp. However *Robinsonella* was missed as host in later works because it was cited alone in another page of the paper. This is the first documented record that seeds of *Robinsonella discolor* are attacked by *Acanthoscelides malvitus*. The collection data are as follows:

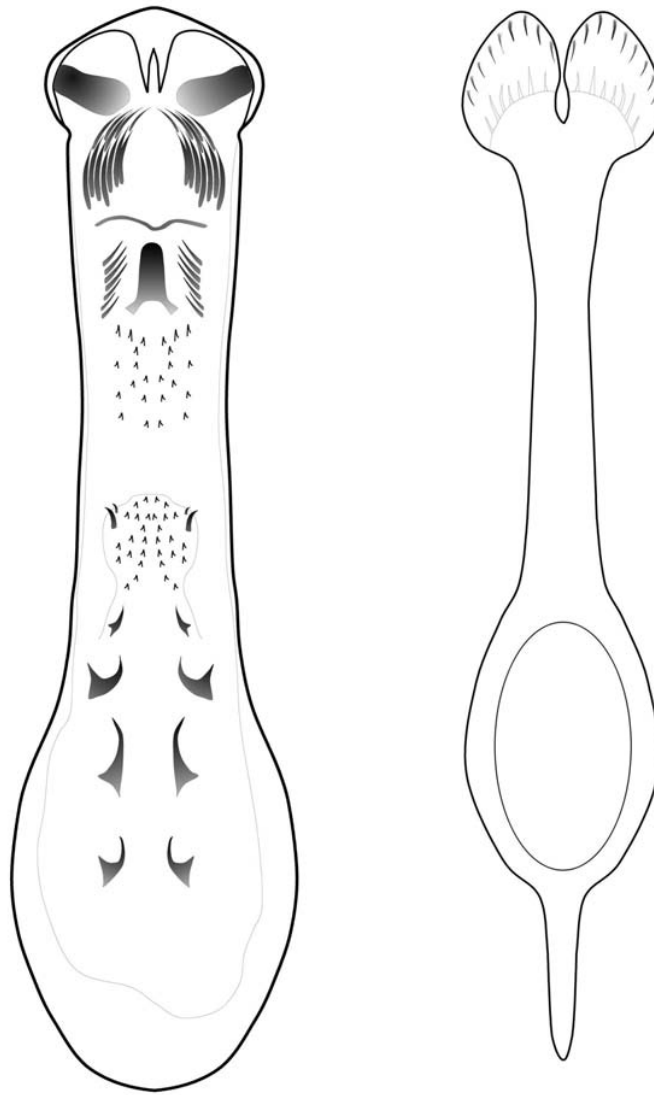
New host plants and distribution records. 4.5 mi. S Cd. Victoria, Tamaulipas, MEX, III/5/1986, reared on seeds of *Robinsoniella discolor* Rose & E.G. Baker ex Rose, R. Jones collector (TAMU). Santa Ana, 8 km E Tehuacán, Puebla, MEX, X/21/2005, 1840 m, Romero N.J. collector (CEAM).

Robinsoniella is a genus of sixteen arborescent plant species from Mexico and Central America, of which fourteen may be found in Mexico (Fryxell 1988, 1997 & Kearney 1951). *Robinsoniella discolor* is a small to medium sized tree up to 12 m tall, occurring in dry deciduous forest from southern Tamaulipas to northern Hidalgo, Mexico, and flowering from January to April. According to Romero *et al.* (2004) the following genera of Bruchidae feed on Malvaceae seeds in the world: *Abutiloneus* (1 species), *Acanthoscelides* (35 species), *Althaeus* (3 species), *Amblycerus* (2 species), *Bonaerius* (1 species), *Bruchidius* (1 species), *Bruchus* (2 species), *Callosobruchus* (1 species), *Caryedon* (1 species), *Neobruchidius* (1 species), *Sennius* (1 species), and *Spermophagus* (12 species). However, *Acanthoscelides* is the genus that has specialized strongly in Malvaceae. There are about 80 host species in 15 genera.

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I. Acanthoscelides malvitus; a) dorsal view, b) lateral view.



2. *Acanthoscelides malvitus* male genitalia; a) median lobe, b) lateral lobes.

Because some of the sclerites of the internal sac were not clear in the original drawing, we herein redraw and redescribe it.

Genitalia. Median lobe moderate in length; in ventral view, ventral valve with distinctly bifurcate apex, in lateral view apex bent down; armature of internal sac with two clusters of curved spines, a campanulate sclerite flanked by lines of spines, and a median spherical spiny sclerite followed by four paired thorns, which may vary in position (Fig. 2a). Lateral lobes elongate, expanded at apex, cleft to about 0.28 of their length (Fig. 2b).

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