

Literature Cited

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SCIENTIFIC NOTE

New Distribution Records for Water Beetles (Coleoptera: Elmidae, Gyridae) in Florida

Epler (1996) updated the taxonomy and distribution of water beetles in Florida. Since that publication, several beetle taxa new to Florida have been collected. This paper gives collection data for some of those taxa. Specimens are located in the collection of the senior author as well as at the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) in Pensacola, FL; in the Aquatic Entomology Research Collections at Florida A & M University, Tallahassee, FL; and in a reference collection housed at Jackson Guard, Eglin Air Force Base, Niceville, FL. Other new records for Florida water beetle taxa, mostly the result of revisionary "splitting," may be found at the Chironomidae and Water Beetles of Florida web site at <http://home.earthlink.net/~johneppler/index.html>

Elmidae

Optioservus ovalis (LeConte). Florida: Walton County; Bear Bay Branch at Eglin 381, lat. 30.6865, long. -86.2717; 7 August 2003; leg. T. Thom, K. Loscheider, L. Stewart; 1 male. With records from southern Alabama (White 1978), the occurrence of this species in northern Florida was expected (Epler 1996: 4.12). The specimen has one complete vitta on each elytron.

Oulimnius latiusculus (LeConte). Numerous specimens from Florida: Bay County: Econfina Creek; 6 February 2001. Escambia County: Mitchell Creek; 13 February 1996. Escambia County: Pine Barren Creek; 16 August 2000. Santa Rosa County: McCostill Mill Creek; 25 January 1999; 29 January 2004; 24 July 2004. Ciegler (2003) gave Georgia and Alabama as the southernmost records for this elmid, and added records for several sites in South Carolina.

Gyridae

Gyrinus marginellus Fall. Florida: Okaloosa County; Turtle Creek at Eglin 234 (lat 30.509, long. -86.6703); 4 August 2002; leg. T. Thom, N. Koch, S. Evans; 2 males. Oygur and Wolfe (1991) gave the southernmost distribution of this gyrid as Virginia, with one record from Alabama. Ciegler (2003) reported the beetle from Pickens County in South Carolina.

Spanglerogyrus albiventris Folkerts. Florida: Gadsden County; "Beech" Branch tributary to Hurricane Creek, Ochlockonee River basin; 14 April 2004; leg. D. Ray, L. Donelan, F. Butera, W. Keller; 2 males, 1 female. This smallest of North American gyrids was described from just two localities in Alabama's Red Hills district by Folkerts (1979); Steiner and Anderson (1981) reported it from another Alabama locality. Ciegler (2003: 23) reported it from two sites in South Carolina's Piedmont and Sandhills regions, where they were collected by "dipnetting on stream bottom; along banks of moderate-sized streams."

The locality in Florida was a steephead ravine stream. One of us (DHR) saw and dip netted a *Spanglerogyrus* swimming near rootlets growing from a steep bank overhanging the stream. It was not noted in which microhabitats the other specimens were collected. We suspect that *Spanglerogyrus* might be finding refugia in cool ravines heavily shaded by beech/magnolia forests. Due to development, this steephead site has been permitted for an impoundment by the FDEP, and the ravine slope forest on the adjacent property was being cleared for equestrian riding stables. By the time this paper is distributed, the only known collection site in Florida for *Spanglerogyrus* will be gone.

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