

Scientific Note

NEW RECORD OF THE BEETLE, *SCYMNUS FENDERI* MALKIN (COLEOPTERA: COCCINELLIDAE), FROM *DIURAPHIS NOXIA* (MORDVILKO) (HOMOPTERA: APHIDIDAE)

Scymnus fenderi Malkin is reported for the first time as a natural enemy of the Russian wheat aphid, *Diuraphis noxia* (Mordvilko). I seeded spring barley at the USDA—Agricultural Research Service Plant Materials Introduction Center at Central Ferry, Washington in May 1992. Weekly counts of Russian wheat aphid were made and all parasitoid mummies and predators encountered were recorded and retained. One adult female *S. fenderi* was recovered from the plot on 24 June 1992. *Scymnus fenderi* is an endemic species. No other specimens of *S. fenderi* have been collected to date. *Scymnus fenderi* differs from *Scymnus frontalis* Fabr. in having black elytra, whereas *S. frontalis* has a red spot on each elytron. *Scymnus frontalis* was released en mass in 1991 at a site near Central Ferry by the USDA—Animal Plant Health Inspection Service Plant Protection & Quarantine. No specimen of *S. frontalis* has been recovered in Washington since that release. The specimen of *S. fenderi* recovered was feeding on Russian wheat aphids located between the flag leaf sheath and stem of a barley tiller.

Record.—WASHINGTON. GARFIELD Co.: Central Ferry, May 1992, 24 June 1992.

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NOTES ON PARASITIDS OF *PLATYPTILIA CARDUIDACTYLA* (RILEY) (LEPIDOPTERA: PTEROPHORIDAE) IN TRANSITION ZONE SOUTHEASTERN WASHINGTON

Parasitoids and adult artichoke plume moths were reared from prepupal larvae and pupae collected in 1990 and 1991 from bull thistle, *Cirsium vulgare* L., growing in a pasture near Pomeroy, Washington. Larvae and pupae dissected from thistle tissue were placed on cut pieces of thistle stem in organdy screen cages of 34 cm × 46 cm with a sleeve to allow access. Fresh pieces of thistle stem were supplied as needed until all larvae in a cage pupated or parasitoids emerged from

them. Adult plume moths were counted, separated by sex, and released back into the environment. Parasitoid adults were aspirated upon emergence, placed in alcohol, and retained for identification. Collections were made weekly in this manner from May through September of both years. Six species of primary parasitoid were reared from the artichoke plume moth in this location over the two year period: *Bracon hyslopi* (Viereck) (Braconidae: Braconinae: Braconini); *Caliephialtes notandus* (Cresson) (Ichneumonidae: Ephialtinae: Pimplini); *Campoplex polychrosidis* Viereck (Ichneumonidae: Porizontinae: Campoplegini); *Diadegma acuta* (Viereck) (Ichneumonidae: Porizontinae: Porizontini); *Colpognathus helvus* (Cresson) (Ichneumonidae: Ichneumoninae: Alomyini); and *Phaeogenes cynarae* Bragg (Ichneumonidae: Ichneumoninae: Alomyini). Two species of secondary parasitoid were reared as well: *Gelus* sp. (Ichneumonidae: Gelinae: Gelini); and *Catolaccus aeneoviridis* (Girault) (Pteromalidae: Pteromalinae: Pteromalini). The two Alomyine Ichneumonids are apparently specific to the artichoke plume moth (Bragg, D. E. 1971. Pan-Pacific Entomol., 47: 57–62). *Phaeogenes* and *Diadegma* were reared in substantial numbers both years throughout the period of plume moth activity.

Records.—WASHINGTON. GARFIELD Co.: Pataha Crk, 1 km E of Pomeroy, ex *Platytilia carduidactyla*.

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Scientific Note

THE REVIVAL OF RICE-FIELD GRASSHOPPERS AS HUMAN FOOD IN SOUTH KOREA

Grasshoppers have been a common food for people in many parts of the world (Bodenheimer, F. S. 1951. Insects as human food, W. Junk, The Hague). Rice-field grasshoppers (Acrididae, *Oxya* spp.) are eaten in most east Asian countries. In Korea, these grasshoppers are called *metdugi* and were a common food eaten as a side dish at meals, as a lunch box ingredient and as a drinking snack (K. S. Woo, personal communication). The use of rice-field grasshoppers declined during the 1960s and 1970s with increased insecticide use.

I observed Koreans gather, pan-fry and eat *metdugi* during a picnic in October 1989. Samples were subsequently identified as *Oxya velox* (Fabr.). During four years (1989–1992) of visiting the Seoul markets, I did not see any *metdugi*, where they were once common (G. S. Yun, personal communication), and where silk moth pupae (*Bombyx mori* L.), a human food that is a by-product of the Korean silk industry, are almost always present. Some *metdugi* were sold in 1989 in a beer hall in the city of Suwon; a dish of about 20 was 5000 Won (US \$7.57) (K.



Bragg, David E. 1994. "Notes on parasitoids of *Platyptilia carduidactyla* (Riley) (Lepidoptera: Pterophoridae) in transition zone southeastern Washington." *The Pan-Pacific entomologist* 70(4), 322–323.

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