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Dysschema boiduvalii Van der Hoeven & De Vriese, 1840

foto: U. Drechsel

***Protambulyx eurycles* (Herrich-Schaeffer, 1854) new record from Paraguay**

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Abstract: *Protambulyx eurycles* (Herrich-Schaeffer, 1854) is reported as new for the fauna of Paraguay.

Resumen: *Protambulyx eurycles* (Herrich-Schaeffer, 1854) se reporta como nueva para la fauna de Paraguay.

Zusammenfassung: *Protambulyx eurycles* (Herrich-Schaeffer, 1854) wird als neu für die Fauna von Paraguay gemeldet.

Key words: Paraguay, Sphingidae, Smerinthinae, *Protambulyx*.

Introduction

Although the Sphingidae fauna of Paraguay is largely known, additional species are found from time to time, that were previously not known to occur. Two species of the genus *Protambulyx* were known from Paraguay, *P. astygonus* (Boisduval, [1875]) and *P. strigilis* (Linnaeus, 1771), and there are many records from the eastern region for both. None of them seems to penetrate in the Chaco, although forage plants of the family Anacardiaceae occur there. Four other Paraguayan species of the subfamily Smerinthinae from the genera *Adhemarius* and *Orecta* show the same phenomenon, none have been found so far in the Chaco with the exception of *P. strigilis*, which was found in the extreme north of the Chaco, where already Cerrado vegetation predominates. This could be due to the lack or sparse density of their forage plants of the Lauraceae family.

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***Protambulyx eurycles* (Herrich-Schaeffer, 1854)**

CORDILLERA: Pirareta, 25° 29' S 56° 56' W, 3. I. 2012, 1 male.

PARAGUARI: Mbatovi, 25° 35' S 57° 05' W, 17. V. 2014, 3 males, 1 female.

The species has a wide distribution, ranging from South Mexico to Bolivia (Santa Cruz) and Brazil (Mato Grosso). The new discovery in Paraguay extends the distribution range far to the south. The fact that *P. eurycles* could be a migrating species, seems unlikely. All members of the Smerinthinae subfamily do not have a functioning proboscis and do not feed (Miller, 1997). They cannot absorb energy-rich plant liquids, primarily nectar, which serves as a fuel on longer flights. They have no energy supply to carry out long migrations (Danner et al., 1998). The two localities in Paraguay are 20 km distant from each other as the crow flies. The proximity of the two findings suggests that an established population exists. Photographs of the species were already published in www.pybio.org.



Figs. 1 – 4: *Protambulyx eurycles*; 1) male, Pirareta; 2) male, Mbatovi; 3) male, Mbatovi; 4) female, Mbatovi.

Acknowledgements

The author express his most sincere gratitude to Oscar Rodriguez for logistic support and help in field work. I specially thank the owner of the Mbatovi place, Santiago Vourliotis for the permission to realize the studies.

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FRONT COVER PHOTO: *Dysschema boisduvalii* Van der Hoeven & De Vriese, 1840 (Erebidae: Arctiinae), Paraguay, Dep. Alto Parana, Estancia Dimas, 5. VII. 2006

