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Weyrauchia fulmínea (Nast, 1950)

foto: U. Drechsel

Recent records and host plant reports of two species of Pentatomidae from Paraguay (Heteroptera: Pentatominae)

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Abstract: New finds of *Murgantia truncatolata* Brailovsky & Barrera, 1983 and *Runibia perspicua* (Fabricius, 1798) with their associated host plants *Crateva tapia* L. and *Brunfelsia australis* Benth. are reported from Paraguay and shown by photographs.

Resumen: Nuevos hallazgos de *Murgantia truncatolata* Brailovsky y Barrera, 1983 y *Runibia perspicua* (Fabricius, 1798), con sus respectivas plantas forrajeras *Crateva tapia* L. y *Brunfelsia australis* Benth. se informa de Paraguay y se muestra por medio de fotografías.

Zusammenfassung: Neue Funde von *Murgantia truncatolata* Brailovsky & Barrera, 1983 und *Runibia perspicua* (Fabricius, 1798) mit ihren zugehörigen Futterpflanzen *Crateva tapia* L. und *Brunfelsia australis* Benth. aus Paraguay werden gemeldet und anhand von Fotografien vorgestellt.

Key words: Pentatomidae, *Murgantia*, *Runibia*, foodplant, faunistics, neotropical region

Introduction

The genus *Murgantia* Stål, 1862 contains about 20 species (Arnold, 2012), distributed from the southern USA to northern Argentina. The exclusively neotropical genus *Runibia* Stål, 1861 contains six species, distributed from the Caribbean south to Uruguay and Argentina (Zwetsch & Grazia, 2001). One species of each genus has become known from Paraguay.

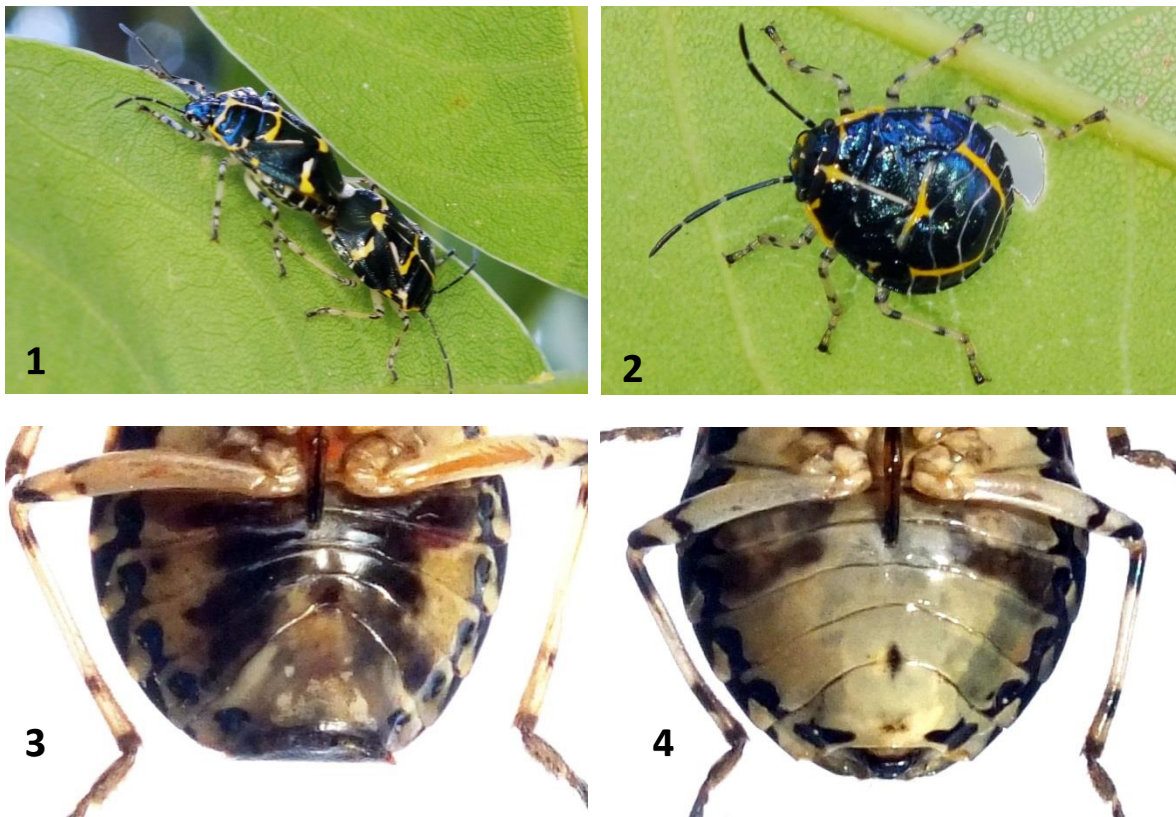
Material and methods

The following abbreviations are used for institutions cited: BMNH – British Museum of Natural History and EMG – Entomologisches Museum Geyer, coll. Arnold.

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***Murgantia truncatulata* Brailovsky & Barrera, 1983**

The type specimens of *M. truncatulata* were collected In Argentina, provinces of Formosa and Chaco, and Bolivia, province of Inquisivi, on which the description of the species is based. The first record from Paraguay was a female specimen, collected in Departamento Presidente Hayes, Puerto Barbero, November 2011, published by Arnold (2012) and deposited in EMG. On February 7, 2015 a copulating couple and several larvae were found in the same Department in the Estancia Pariri and could be photographed (figs. 1 and 2). The bugs were found on young shoots grown from the stump of a recently cut tree, *Crateva tapia* L. a native plant from the caper family Capparaceae. The shoots had a length of about 1.5 m between dense undergrowth. All larvae and adults were sitting on the leaves and stems of the same plant, so that it can be safely assumed as host plant. Since the previously existing paraguayan specimen is a female, the species could not be determined with absolute certainty (Arnold, 2012). There is now also a male and the comparison with the figures in Brailovsky & Barrera (1989) shows that it is clearly *M. truncatulata*.



Figs: 1-4: *Murgantia truncatulata*; 1) copulating couple; 2) larva; 3) abdomen ventral male; 4) abdomen ventral female



Fig. 5: *M. truncatulata* female, Estancia Pariri, S 25° 10' W 57° 45', 7. II. 2015 (EMG)

***Runibia perspicua* (Fabricius, 1798)**

The geographical distribution of this species includes a wide strip along the Atlantic coast of Brazil from Minas Gerais over Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo and Rio Grande do Sul, Uruguay to Buenos Aires in Argentina. Other findings, which are located outside the main distribution range were made in Paraguay (Asunción) and Bolivia (Santa Cruz) (Zwetsch & Grazia, 2001). The male which was collected in Asunción in 1923 is deposited in the BMNH.

In June and again in July 2014 *R. perspicua* was observed sucking on unripe seed pods of *Brunfelsia australis* Benth., a small tree of the Solanaceae family. Observations were made in the Departamento de Paraguarí in the locality Mbatoví. Several adult bugs and larvae of different instars were feeding on the same plant (figs. 6-9). On another visit to the locality in September of the same year, no specimens were found more. Noteworthy was the behavior of the adults. In no case they were flying when approaching a person, they always tried to hide themselves between the leaves or on the underside of leaves.

Thus, the presence of the species in Paraguay was confirmed.



Figs. 6-10: *R. perspicua*; 6,7) adult; 8,9) nymphs; 10) female, Mbatovi, S 25° 35' W 57° 05', 11. VI. 2014 (EMG)

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