

## NOTES ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF *IDIOSTOLUS INSULARIS* BERG, 1883 (HEMIPTERA: HETEROPTERA: IDIOSTOLIDAE)

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### Abstract

Mistakes about the limits in the distribution of *Idiostolus insularis* Berg, 1883 are discussed and corrected. The northern limit for *I. insularis* is established in Río Blanco, Curacautín, Araucanía Region, Chile [38°26'S-71°53'W]. New records for *I. insularis* are provided which present new information on the biology and distribution of this species.

**Key words:** Idiostolidae, *Idiostolus insularis*, distribution, Chile, New record.

### Notas Acerca de la distribución de *Idiostolus insularis* Berg, 1883 Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Idiostolidae)

### Resumen

Se discuten y corrigen errores existentes acerca de los límites de la distribución de *Idiostolus insularis* Berg, 1883, estableciéndose Río Blanco, Curacautín, Región de la Araucanía [38°26'S-71°53'W], como límite norte para esta especie. Se entregan nuevos registros que aportan nueva información acerca de la biología y distribución de esta especie.

**Palabras clave:** Idiostolidae, *Idiostolus insularis*, distribución, Nuevo registro.

Idiostolidae is a family of Heteroptera which shows a classic Gondwanaland distribution (Schaefer & Wilcox, 1969). There are few data about the biology of this family. It is only known that idiostolids are phytophagous insects and are associated with *Nothofagus* (Nothofagaceae) forests (Scudder, 1962; Schaefer & Wilcox, 1969). Idiostolids are believed to be moss and litter dwellers (Schuh & Slater, 1995).

This family comprises four species in three genera; *Idiostolus insularis* Berg, 1883 (Fig. 1) is the only idiostolid species which inhabits South America (Schuh & Slater, 1995; Schaefer & Wilcox, 1969). The objective of this contribution is to solve some confusion about the distribution of *I. insularis*, and provide new records for this species.

Schaefer & Wilcox (1969) cited *I. insularis* from Río Blanco in the old Aconcagua Province [32°45'S-70°18'W], Central Chile. This locality is known as the northernmost record of *I. insularis* in South America, and is very rare because it is so far from the common known localities for this

species. Later, Schaefer & Wilcox (1975) reported material from Villarrica [39°16'S-72°13'W] in the Araucanía Region, and after the previous record, it is the second northernmost locality for *I. insularis*.

As we mentioned, the presence of *I. insularis* in Central Chile is very rare, and it is out of the Valdivian and Magellanic forests where *I. insularis* live. Therefore we believe that the presence of *I. insularis* in Central Chile is due a mislabeling, because of the following reasons:

-In the examined material of Schaefer & Wilcox (1969) several mistakes are found (e.g., I. E. Peña as collector, which probably must be L. E. Peña for the Chilean entomologist and collector Luis E. Peña; localities as Magrillanes, which must be Magallanes, and Frukillar, Llanguihau, which must be Frutillar, Llanquihue). These mistakes appear to be from miscopied data in a relabeling by collection curators.



**Figure 1.** *Idioscolus insularis* (♀, Bayly Island), habitus.

Figura 1. *Idioscolus insularis* (♀, Isla Bayly), habitus.

– The locality gave by Schaefer & Wilcox (1969) from Aconcagua province, “Río Blanco” is a very common name for a Chilean locality– there are in Chile at least 5 localities named “Río Blanco” (Riso Patrón, 1924). The complete data of the specimens is “Aconcagua prov., Río Blanco, Curacautín, Feb. 1964”. Curacautín is a locality of the Araucanía Region; there also exists a sublocality in Curacautín called “Río Blanco”. Therefore it is evident that the label was confused from Araucanía with Aconcagua.

As result, *I. insularis* is not present in Central Chile, and only reaches the Araucanía Region. The northernmost known locality for this species is Río Blanco, Curacautín [38°26'S-71°53'W].

According Scudder (1962) and Schaefer & Wilcox (1969), the southernmost localities for *I. insularis* are Puerto Williams, Isla Navarino [54°55'S-67°37'W] and Isla Bertrand [55°10'S-68°16'W] in the Magallanes Region. Here we add new records which extend the southern distribution of this species somewhat, and report new biological data:

Material Examined: CHILE, Magallanes, Parque Nacional Torres del Paine, Cañadón Doña Rosa, Tyndall Glacier, 17-I-2003, Leg. A. Zúñiga 2♀ 1♂ on ice; Magallanes, Wollaston Islands, Bayly Island [55°40'S-67°36'W], 25-II-1980, Leg. D. Lanfranco, 1♀ (Fig.1). (All material is from the collection of the Instituto de la Patagonia).

The new information here reported, reveals that *Idiostolus insularis* is an insect able to live in very unfavorable zones, with very low temperatures as the Wollaston Islands and next to glaciers. Bayly Island is now the southernmost locality for *I. insularis*, which previously had been Bertrand Island.

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