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First record of *Palonica viridia* (Ball, 1903) (Hemiptera:
Membracidae) in Utah

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First record of *Palonica viridia* (Ball, 1903) (Hemiptera: Membracidae) in Utah

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Abstract. *Palonica viridia* (Hemiptera: Membracidae) is reported from Utah for the first time. Ecological and trapping information is also provided.

Key words. New record, treehopper.

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Introduction

The genus *Palonica* Ball, 1931 contains seven species, four of which occur in the United States (Deitz and Wallace 2012; Wallace 2015). *Palonica nogalana* Ball is found only in Arizona while *P. pyramidata* (Uhler) and *P. tremulata* (Ball) have wide distributions across much of the United States and parts of Canada (Deitz and Wallace 2012). *Palonica viridia* (Ball) ranges west from Arizona, north to British Columbia and east to Texas and New York into Quebec. Presented is the first record of *P. viridia* from Utah, adding to its southwestern range.

Materials and Methods

A single female was collected from a black intercept panel trap baited with reagent isopropyl alcohol placed on a *Populus* sp. (Salicaceae) tree. The sample was collected on July 20, 2017 in Salt Lake County, Utah, USA at 40.655326°N, -111.871964°W by Joe Francese of the USDA APHIS Otis Laboratory (Fig. 1). The trap was placed as part of a study evaluating lure efficacy for velvet longhorned beetle (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae: *Trichoferus campestris* (Faldermann)) (Ray et al. 2019).

Identification was made consulting Ball's 1931 revision of Telamonini (Ball 1931) and 1933 description of the similar *P. nogalana* (Ball 1933) which occurs in Utah, and correspondence with MS Wallace, a recognized authority on Telamonini. The specimen is retained in the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's collection (PADA).

Results

The specimen represents a state record for *P. viridia*, adding to its distribution in the southwest, adjoining records from Colorado, Wyoming, New Mexico, and Arizona (Deitz and Wallace 2012). The tree the trap was hung on was identified as *Populus* sp., which is closely related to one of its recorded hosts, *Populus deltoides* W. Bartram ex Marshall (eastern cottonwood) (Wallace 2014). The trap and lure combination likely had no effect on attracting this individual as only two of the 3,398 examined specimens from the project were Membracidae, similar to nontarget trapping effects seen in the eastern United States (Barringer 2015).

Acknowledgments

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Figure 1. Specimen of *Palonica viridia*, lateral habitus.

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