Dipsocoridae (Heteroptera) found for the first time in Florida

Susan E. Halbert and Julieta Brambila Florida State Collection of Arthropods Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Division of Plant Industry P.O. Box 147100 Gainesville, FL 32614-7100 USA

Dipsocorid bugs were found in samples collected from suction traps (Allison and Pike 1988) in a citrus nursery near LaBelle, Hendry County, Florida. In all, five specimens were collected: 15-22-X-2001 (1 male), 22-29 X 2001 (1 female), 9-16-XI-2001 (2 females), 16-21-XI-2001 (1 female). This is the first record of the family Dipsocoridae in Florida. Specimens are deposited in the Florida State Collection of Arthropods (FSCA).

The bugs key to Cryptostemma sp. in McAtee and Malloch (1925) and to Dipsocoridae in Stys (1995). The species found in Florida is not Cryptostemma usingeri Wygodzinsky or C. pedunculatum McAtee and Malloch because both the male and female have a small cell at the base of the undivided discal cell in the forewing (Wygodzinsky 1955). It is closer to Cryptostemma smithi McAtee and Malloch than to Cryptostemma uhleri McAtee and Malloch because antennal segment I is 3/4 the length of antennal segment II in both sexes. The wing venation appears sexually dimorphic. In the male, the discal and apical cells of the forewing are pedunculate, that is, not separated by a horizontal vein (nor by a longitudinal one). In the female, there is a horizontal vein between the cells.

Other Dipsocoromorpha known from Florida include two species in the family Schizopteridae and one in the family Ceratocombidae (Henry 1988). Schizoptera bispina McAtee and Malloch and Nannocoris arenarius Blatchley, both in the family Schizopteridae, are reported by Blatchley (1926). Ceratocombus vagans McAtee and Malloch, family Ceratocombidae, also was reported from Florida by Blatchley (1926). At least one additional species of Ceratocombidae has been collected in Everglades National Park, and specimens are in the FSCA. Acknowledgments. We thank Dr. James A. Slater, University of Connecticut, for confirming our find, and Dr. Slater and Dr. Thomas J. Henry, USNM, for reviewing the manuscript.

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