

## The first record of *Phidippus bidentatus* (Araneae: Salticidae) in the United States

A male of a neotropical jumping spider, *Phidippus bidentatus* F. O. P.-Cambridge 1901, was collected by John Scott Armstrong and his staff from a boll weevil trap in Cameron County, Texas. The recent revision of the genus *Phidippus* (Edwards 2004) gave the range of this species as central Mexico to northwest Costa Rica. In addition, the specimen has a character, namely the presence of a distinct cheliceral distal dorsal tubercle, that would make it key out in the second couplet of the key, along with *Phidippus audax* (Hentz) and *P. regius* C. L. Koch. However the structure of the male palpus is quite different than either of the latter species (Edwards 2004, Figures 153, 236 and 242). The data for this adult male are:

**USA: Texas:** Cameron County, Russell Plantation near San Benito, 97.550262°W 26.0836625°N, from a boll weevil trap on the turn-row between sugarcane and a rasaca (irrigation ditch from Rio Grande), 9 March 2004. This site is over 400 mi. north of the previous northernmost record in the State of Veracruz, Mexico.

The surrounding area is covered with grass and low herbaceous plants with nearby small trees and a nearby dead tree. For predominant plants in the area, see Table 1. The locality makes it unlikely that it was accidentally introduced.

This spider, with its iridescent pink central abdominal stripe, covering of iridescent pink and

green scales, and bi-colored brown and iridescent blue chelicerae, is an attractive addition to the fauna of the United States.

We would like to thank Scott Armstrong and his crew, as well as the owners of the Russell Plantation, Frank and James Russell, for the opportunity to see this interesting specimen. The specimen is deposited in the Florida State Collection of Arthropods, Gainesville, FL.

### References cited

- Cambridge, F. O. P.** 1901. Arachnida - Araneida and Opiliones, in *Biologia Centrali-Americana*, Zoology, London, 2: 193-312.
- Edwards, G. B.** 2004. Revision of the jumping spiders of the genus *Phidippus* (Araneae: Salticidae). *Occasional Papers of the Florida State Collection of Arthropods* 11:1-156.

—**G. B. Edwards, Florida State Collection of Arthropods, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, P.O. Box 147100, Gainesville, FL 32614-7100; and David B. Richman, The Arthropod Museum, Department of Entomology, Plant Pathology and Weed Science, MSC 3BE, Box 30003, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM 88003**

Table 1. Predominant plants around boll weevil trapline, Russell Plantation, Cameron County, Texas.

| Scientific name  | Common name   |
|--|---------------|
| 1. <i>Ehretia anacua</i> (Teran & Berl.) I.M. Johnston | Anacua        |
| 2. <i>Schaefferia cuneifolia</i> Gray                  | Desert Yaupon |
| 3. <i>Koeberlinia spinosa</i> Zucc.                    | Allthorn      |
| 4. <i>Acacia constricta</i> Gray                       | Mescat Acacia |
| 5. <i>Acacia farnesiana</i> (L.) Willd.                | Huisache      |
| 6. <i>Acacia greggii</i> Gray                          | Catclaw       |
| 7. <i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i> L.                      | Retama        |
| 8. <i>Pithecellobium ebano</i> (Burl.) Muller          | Texas Ebony   |
| 9. <i>Prosopis glandulosa</i> Torr.                    | Mesquite      |
| 10. <i>Celtis laevigata</i> Willd.                     | Palo Blanco   |
| 11. <i>Ricinus communis</i> L.                         | Castorbean    |