

## SCIENTIFIC NOTE

## Record of *Edessa scabriventris* Stål (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae) Associated to *Eugenia uniflora* (Brazilian-Cherry) and *Psidium guajava* (Guava) (Myrtaceae), in North-Northeastern Brazil

MAURICIO S LIMA<sup>1</sup>, JOSÉ A M FERNANDES<sup>2</sup>, IRACILDA M M LIMA<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Mestrando do Curso de Agronomia; <sup>3</sup>Instituto de Ciências Biológicas e da Saúde. Univ Federal de Alagoas, Praça Afrânio Jorge s/n Prado, 57010-020 Maceió, AL; mauriciosilvadelima@gmail.com; iracildalima@gmail.com

<sup>2</sup>Centro de Ciências Biológicas, Univ Federal do Pará, Rua Augusto Correia, 1, Guamá, 66075-110, Belém, PA, Brasil; joseamf@ufpa.br

Edited by Antônio R Panizzi – EMBRAPA

*Neotropical Entomology* 39(4):674-675 (2010)

**ABSTRACT** - This study reports for the first time *Edessa scabriventris* Stål on *Eugenia uniflora* (Brazilian-cherry) and on *Psidium guajava* (guava) (Myrtaceae), fruit trees with economic value. Its geographic distribution is extended with records for the states of Alagoas (Maceió Municipality 35°45'11.16"W; 9°40'18.52"S) and Pará (Belém Municipality 48°28'14.65"W; 1°26'14.83"S), north-northeastern Brazil.

**KEY WORDS:** Geographic distribution, Neotropical Region, host plant

The genus *Edessa* (Fabricius) has approximately 260 described species with a wide range of distribution in the Neotropical Region (Silva *et al* 2006). In South America, some species feed on several economic important plants, including tobacco (Solanaceae), which can wilt and die if heavily infested (Panizzi *et al* 2000).

In Brazil, *Edessa* species are commonly referred on soybean, *Glycine max* (Leguminosae), in the South (Costa & Link 1974) and in Mid-West regions (Medeiros *et al* 1998). Other host plants from Malvaceae, Solanaceae, Cucurbitaceae, Poaceae, Rutaceae are also listed by Silva *et al* (1968). Specimens of *Edessa* sp. were collected feeding on sesame, *Sesamum indicum* (Pedaliaceae) in the Southeast (Perioto *et al* 2004), while in the Northeast only *Edessa mediatubunda* (Fabricius) was recorded on soybean, in the State of Maranhão (Panizzi 2002).

Considering the importance of information related to the biogeography and bioecology of Neotropical species of pentatomids, and the detection of a frequent occurrence of a species of *Edessa* associated to *Eugenia uniflora* (Brazilian-cherry) and *Psidium guajava* (guava) (Myrtaceae), the present communication reports these insect-plant associations and some biological features.

Eggs, nymphs and adults of this *Edessa* species were field-collected in urban and sub-urban areas of Maceió municipality (35°45'11.16"W; 9°40'18.52"S), state of Alagoas, Brazil in Brazilian-cherry trees. Bugs were kept in plastic containers and fed terminal stems with and without green fruits. Dead adults were mounted and deposited at the entomological collection of the Zoology Department, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, and at the Museu Paraense Emilio Goeldi, Brazil.

The species was identified as *Edessa scabriventris* Stål. The prior record of distribution was the state of Rio de Janeiro (Distant 1887). Label data of specimens deposited at the Museu Paraense Emilio Goeldi confirms that this species also feed on *Psidium guajava* (Myrtaceae) (guava), in Belém municipality (48°28'14.65"W; 1°26'14.83"S), state of Pará, Brazil. Most eggs hatched, but nymphs did not reach adult stage, mostly dying right after the second ecdysis. However, 3<sup>rd</sup> instars collected in the field and maintained in laboratory conditions developed to adulthood. In field conditions, immatures and adults feed on stems and green fruits of Brazilian cherry trees, which show damage when mature; the fruit has been widely used by Brazilian industry of natural juices and ice-cream (Silva 1991), and the wood is used as tool handles (Lorenzi 1992).

This record states for the first time two Myrtaceae species as woody host plants for *E. scabriventris*, and extends its distribution to more than 2,000 km northward, in the state of Pará.

### Acknowledgments

The authors thank Prof Jocélia Grazia (Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil), for valuable suggestions in the beginning of this study; Dr Antônio R Panizzi (Embrapa Soja), for bibliography; Jovenil Silva (Embrapa Soja) for suggestions on pentatomid laboratory rearing; Ângelo M M Dantas Jr and Natália L S Santos, for help in insect rearing; and Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico (CNPq) for financial support to the first author.

## References

- Costa C E, Link D (1974). Incidência de percevejos em soja. Rev Cent Cien Rur 4: 397-400.
- Distant W L (1887) Enumeration of the Van Volken Collection of Rhynchota contained in the Brussels Museum. Ann Soc Entomol Belem 31: LVI-LXVII
- Lorenzi H (1992) Árvores brasileiras: manual de identificação e cultivo de plantas arbóreas nativas do Brasil. Plantarum, Nova Odessa, 352p.
- Medeiros M A, Loíácomo M S, Borges M, Schimidt F V G (1998) Incidência natural de parasitóides em ovos de percevejos (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae) encontrados em soja no Distrito Federal. Pesq Agropec Bras 33: 1431-1435.
- Panizzi A R (2002) Stink bugs on soybean in Northeastern Brazil and a new record on the southern green stink bug, *Nezara viridula* (L.) (Heteroptera: Pentatomidae). Neotrop Entomol. 31: 331-332.
- Panizzi A R, McPherson J E, James G D, Javahery M, McPherson M R (2000) Stink bugs (Pentatomidae), p. 421-474. In Schaefer C W, Panizzi A R (eds) Heteroptera of economic importance. CRC, Boca Raton, 828p.
- Perioto N W, Lara R I R, Coutinho D, Milani D (2004) Pentatomídeos (Insecta, Hemiptera) fitófagos associados a gergelim *Sesamum indicum* L. (Pedaliaceae) em Ribeirão Preto, SP, Brasil. Arq Inst Biol 71: 93-94.
- Silva A G d'A, Gonçalves C R, Galvão D M, Gonçalves A J L, Gomes J, Silva M N, Simoni L (1968) Quarto catálogo dos insetos que vivem nas plantas do Brasil, seus parasitos e predadores. Parte II, 1º tomo. Insetos, hospedeiros e inimigos naturais. Ministério da Agricultura, Rio de Janeiro, 622p.
- Silva E J E, Fernandes J A M, Grazia J (2006) Caracterização do grupo *Edessa rufomarginata* e descrição de sete novas espécies (Heteroptera, Pentatomidae, Edessinae). Iheringia, Série Zool. 96: 345 -362.
- Silva S (1991) Frutas Brasil frutas. Empresa das Artes, São Paulo, 164p.

Received 17/III/09. Accepted 24/VII/09.

---