# ADDITIONAL FLORIDA RECORDS OF THE SELDOM-COLLECTED *LASIOMERUS ANDABATA* (HEMIPTERA: NABIDAE)

A. G. WHEELER, JR.
Department of Entomology, Clemson University, Clemson, SC 29634

Information on the distribution and biology of North American nabids is most extensive for species associated with agroecosystems (Henry & Lattin 1988; Lattin 1989; Braman 2000). For example, *Nabis alternatus* Parshley, *N. americoferus* (Carayon), *N. roseipennis* Reuter, and *N. rufusculus* Reuter are well-studied generalist predators that help suppress pests of alfalfa, cotton, soybean, and other crops (e.g., Werner & Butler 1957; Braman 2000). In contrast, relatively little is known about the bionomics of nabids found outside managed systems. An obscure North American species is *Lasiomerus andabata* Kerzhner, known in the United States only from Florida. Torre-Bueno's (1912) record from Brownsville, Tex. (as *N. signatus* Uhler), as the first for North America, apparently refers to the nearly cosmopolitan *N. capsiformis* Germar (Harris 1928).

Kerzhner (1992) described *L. andabata* from Guatemala, Mexico, and the United States (Marion Co., FL), noting that this slender-bodied, usually brachypterous species has been confused with *L. signatus*, known from Central America, South America, and the West Indies, and with *L. spinicrus* Reuter, a Brazilian species. Thus, Blatchley (1926) reported *L. andabata* from Dunedin, FL, as the brachypterous form of *L. spinicrus*; seven adults were sifted from plant debris along the bay front and the border of a pond from 27 November to 17 April. The only other published U.S. record of this seldom-collected nabid is a female (paratype), taken on 5 June 1969, in the Ocala National Forest near Halfmoon Lake (Kerzhner 1992).

Here I provide new Floridian records of *L. andabata* based on specimens in the Florida State Collection of Arthropods, Gainesville (FSCA), and my recent collecting. Specimens that I collected are deposited in the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

Material Examined. USA: Florida: Highlands Co., Rt. 70 near entrance to Hufty Tract, Archbold Biological Station, 9.3 km S of Lake Placid, 17-IV-1998, A. G. Wheeler, 2 ♀♀, 1 ♂; 17-III-1999, A. G. Wheeler, 3 ♀♀, 1 ♂, 1 nymph; Orange Co., Winter Park, 21-VII-1944, H. T. Fernald, 1 ♀ (FSCA); Polk Co., Bartow, Kissengen Springs, 15-II-1949, R. F. Hussey, 1 ♀ (FSCA); Rt. 27, 3.2 km S of Waverly, 18-IV-1998, A. G. Wheeler, 1 adult, sex unknown; St. Lucie Co., White City, 14-VII-1983, K. Hibbard, 1 ♀ (FSCA).

Material in the FSCA was determined as *Nabis spinicrus* Reuter by R. F. Hussey (1944 and 1949 specimens) and F. W. Mead (1983 specimen). The specimens I collected were beaten from the crowns of bushy beardgrass or bushy bluestem, *Andropogon glomeratus* (Walter, Britton, Sterns & Poggenburg; Poaceae). The plants in Highlands County grew along the road in dry, disturbed habitat; those in Polk County were in a wet ditch.

I thank Thomas J. Henry, Systematic Entomology Laboratory, USDA, Washington, D.C., for identifying *L. andabata*; Tom and Tomohide Yasunaga, Hokkaido University of Education, Ainosato, Sapporo, Japan, for companionship in the field; Rebecca Yahr, Department of Botany, Duke University, Durham, NC (formerly with the Archbold Biological Station, Lake Placid, FL), for identifying the grass *Andropogon glomeratus*; and Peter H. Adler, Department of Entomology, Clemson University, for reviewing a draft of the manuscript.

## SUMMARY

The mostly neotropical nabid *Lasiomerus andabata* Kerzhner (Hemiptera: Nabidae), known previously in the United States from two localities in Florida, is recorded from five additional Floridian localities. In Highlands and Polk counties, brachypterous adults and a nymph were beaten from the crowns of *Andropogon glomeratus* (Walter) Britton, Sterns & Poggenburg (Poaceae).

## REFERENCES CITED

BLATCHLEY, W. S. 1926. Heteroptera or True bugs of Eastern North America, with Especial Reference to the Faunas of Indiana and Florida. Nature Publishing Co., Indianapolis, IN. 1116 pp.

BRAMAN, S. K. 2000. Damsel bugs (Nabidae), pp. 639-656. *In* C. W. Schaefer and A. R. Panizzi [eds.] Heteroptera of Economic Importance. CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL. 828 pp.

HARRIS, H. M. 1928. A monographic study of the hemipterous family Nabidae as it occurs in North America. Entomol. Am. 9: 1-97.

HENRY, T. J., AND J. D. LATTIN. 1988. Family Nabidae Costa, 1853. The damsel bugs, pp. 508-520. *In* T. J. Henry and R. C. Froeschner [eds.], Catalog of the Heteroptera, or True Bugs, of Canada and the Continental United States. E. J. Brill, Leiden and New York. 958 pp.

KERZHNER, I. M. 1992. New and little-known Nabidae from North America (Heteroptera). Zoosyst. Ross. 1: 37-45.

LATTIN, J. D. 1989. Bionomics of the Nabidae. Annu. Rev. Entomol. 34: 383-400.

TORRE-BUENO, J. R. DE LA. 1912. Records of Heteroptera from Brownsville, Texas (Hemip.). Entomol. News 23: 120-122.

WERNER, F. G., AND G. D. BUTLER, JR. 1957. The reduviids and nabids associated with Arizona crops. Arizona Agric. Exp. Stn. Tech. Bull. 133: 1-12.