

# First record of the genus *Trichocorixa* (Hemiptera: Corixidae) and of *T. reticulata* in Costa Rica

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## ABSTRACT

The presence in Costa Rica of the genus *Trichocorixa* and of the species *T. reticulata*, not previously-reported for the country, is confirmed.

**KEY WORDS:** Heteroptera, Nepomorpha, Water boatman, Central America, Costa Rica.

## RESUMEN

Se confirma la presencia del género *Trichocorixa* y la especie *T. reticulata* para Costa Rica, ninguno había sido registrado con anterioridad en el país.

**PALABRAS CLAVE:** Heteroptera, Nepomorpha, chinches acuáticos, Centroamérica, Costa Rica.

The genus *Trichocorixa* Kirkaldy, 1908 is restricted to the Neotropical and the Nearctic Regions, distributed from Canada to Argentina. According to Sala & Boix (2005) this genus has been reported in other places outside the American continent, resulting from passive dispersion through marine currents and severe storms, and introduction with exotic fishes. Records of this genus collected in offshore waters are given by Hutchinson (1931) and Gunter & Christmas (1959); this is the most salt-tolerant genus of the family (Tanner, Glenn & Moore, 1999).

This genus and the species *Trichocorixa reticulata* (Guérin-Ménéville, 1857), are herein reported for the first time in Costa Rica. Sailer (1948) records *T. reticulata* in the United States, Mexico, Haiti, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Hawaiian Islands, Virgin Islands (St. Croix), Grenada, Dutch Guiana, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and the Galapagos. Maes (1998) collected this species from a light-trap in León, Nicaragua. Davis (1966) recorded this species for Jamaica. *T. reticulata* has been also reported in China (Shanghai) by Lundbland (1929).

All the specimens in this study were collected using hand sieves from a low current environment with sand-silt bottom and vegetation present on the sides of the brook. The water pH was 7,17 and salinity: 5,6 psu. The material was immediately preserved in ethanol 70%.

**EXAMINED MATERIAL:** *Puntarenas Province:* Chira Island, Gradillas brook, near mouth [10°7'7.71"N, 85°11'13.74"W; 4m.a.s.l.], 21-VIII-2013. Col. F. Herrera & M. González, 20 ♂, 30 ♀, 1 nymph.

The material examined was identified using the information provided by Sailer (1948). Thirty four specimens are deposited in the wet collection of the Zoological Museum of the University of Costa Rica (MZUCR), preserved in ethanol 70%; six in the dry collection of the MZUCR, pinned; and eleven in the collection of the author, preserved in 70% ethanol.

The coastal habitat where it was collected and its insular distribution agrees with the information given by Sailer (1946). With this study, the presence in Costa Rica

of the genus *Trichocorixa* and of the species *T. reticulata*, not previously-reported for the country, is confirmed.

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