FIRST REPORT OF CHRYSOMYA MEGACEPHALA
(Diptera: Calliphoridae) IN NORTHWESTERN ARGENTINA

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The Calliphoridae family comprises around 150 genera and more than 1000 species distributed world wide (Hennig 1973; Pont 1980; Shewell 1987). Chrysomya Robineau-Desvoidy (Diptera: Calliphoridae) is an especially important genus because its species are reported as invaders in South America (Guimaraes et al. 1978), and they are involved in the transmis-

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sion of enteric bacteria, protozoa and helminths (Greenberg 1973). These species can act as dispersers of disease because their special feeding habits, which include human food products and human or animal faeces (Bohart & Gressitt 1951; Zumpt 1965). In subtropical and tropical Africa and Asia the old world screwworm, *Chrysomya bezziana* Villeneuve is an obligate parasite of mammals (Sutherst et al. 1989).

García (1959) reported seven species of Calliphoridae in Argentina, and Mariluis & Schnack (1982) reported new species for the country, increasing to 12 the species included in the Calliphorinae, Chrysomyinae, and Toxotarsinae subfamilies. Later, Mariluis & Schnack (2002) cited 25 species for the country and Mariluis & Mulieri (2003) recorded 13 species in the Tucuman province, Northwestern Argentina, including *Calliphora nigribasis* Macquart, *Calliphora vicina* Robineau-Desvoidy, *Phaenicia cluvia* (Walker), *Phaenicia peruviana* (Robineau-Desvoidy), *Phaenicia serricata* (Meigen), *Chloromyia macellaria* (Fabricius), *Compsomyiops fulvicrura* (Robineau-Desvoidy), *Compsomyiops verena* (Walker), *Chrysomya albiceps* (Wiedemann), *Chrysomya chloropyga* (Wiedemann), *Paralucilia pseudolyreca* (Mello), *Sarconesia chlorogaster* (Wiedemann), and *Sarconesioptis magellanica* (Le Guillou) (Mariluis & Mulieri 2003). *Chrysomya megacephala* (Fabricius) was reported in Argentina for the first time to Tucumán province, Northwestern Argentina. Eight other calliphorid species were collected in the same locations. The voucher specimens were deposited in the collection of the Miguel Lillo Foundation Institute (Instituto-Fundación Miguel Lillo-IMLA).

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

We thank Marcos Foguet for permission to place the traps in the Nueva Esperanza location.

**REFERENCES CITED**


**SUMMARY**

*Chrysomya megacephala* is reported by the first time to Tucumán province, Northwestern Argentina. Eight other calliphorid species were collected in the same locations. The voucher specimens were deposited in the collection of the Miguel Lillo Foundation Institute (Instituto-Fundación Miguel Lillo-IMLA).