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A new prey record and range extension for *Hyperaspis paludicola* Schwarz and a new prey record for *Microweisea misella* (LeConte) (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae)

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Abstract. The miscanthus mealybug, *Miscanthicoccus miscanthi* (Takahashi) (Hemiptera: Pseudococcidae), is newly reported as prey for the lady beetle *Hyperaspis paludicola* Schwarz (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae) at the Regan National Airport, Washington, DC (northern range extension). A new armored scale prey, *Diaspidiotus ancyclus* (Putnam) (Hemiptera: Diaspididae), for the lady beetle *Microweisea misella* (LeConte) (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae) is recorded. A range extension for *Hyperaspis paludicola* is reported.

Introduction

New prey records for two United States species of Coccinellidae are recorded and a range extension noted for *Hyperaspis paludicola* Schwarz. Both species were taxonomically treated by Gordon (1976, 1985), and that publication should be consulted for descriptions, illustrations, and other details. Scale insect identifications were made by D. R. Miller, Systematic Entomology Laboratory, ARS, USDA, Beltsville, MD, coccinellid identifications by the senior author.

Voucher specimens have been deposited in the Natural History Museum, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC.

Armored scale insects known as prey for *Microweisea misella* (LeConte) are listed and *Diaspidiotus ancyclus* (Putnam) (Pseudococcidae) is newly recorded as prey.

Hyperaspis paludicola Schwarz

Hyperaspis paludicola: Gordon 1985: 539.

This is a small, elongate, parallel-sided, dorsoventrally depressed species. It is rarely collected and is known from a few localities in AL, FL, GA, and SC. No prey data are on record, but in 1997 many specimens were reared from the miscanthus mealybug, *Miscanthicoccus miscanthi* (Takahashi) (Pseudococcidae), feeding on the leaf sheaths of Japanese silver grass, *Miscanthus sinensis* Andersson (Gramineae), **new prey record**. About 40 grass stems heavily infested with the mealybug were collected from a median strip in Reagan National Airport, Washington, D.C., in October 1977. They were brought into the lab in a perforated 50 gallon plastic bag. Opened leaf sheaths revealed a mass of mealybugs, white wax, an opaque viscous honeydew, and lady beetle pupae and larvae. The latter were white, elongate, flattened, and covered with powdery white wax. The pupae were light brown and remained in the white, split, last instar larval exuviae. Adults emerged one month later. The site was revisited Oct. 2006, when both mealybugs and lady beetles were still present in the leaf sheaths.

***Microweisea misella* (LeConte)**

Microweisea misella: Gordon 1985: 40.

This is an extremely small (0.98-1.45 mm long), rounded, dark brown scale insect predator found from southeastern Canada to Florida and Texas west to British Columbia and northern California. Scale prey previously recorded are *Lepidosaphes beckii* (Newman), *Melanaspis obscura* (Comstock), *Chionaspis pinifolia* (Fitch), *Pseudaonidia duplex* (Cockerell), and *Diaspidiotus perniciosus* (Comstock) (Miller and Davidson 2005).

In 1998 *M. misella* was laboratory reared from a collection of Putnam scale, *Diaspidiotus ancylus* (Putnam) (Diaspididae), **new prey record**. The original collection was from blueberry at Chatsworth, NJ, Blueberry-Cranberry Experiment Station, on March 28, 1998, by Miller and Davidson.

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