

NOTA:

**Centruroides platnicki Armas, 1981 (Scorpiones: Buthidae): first record from Turks Islands, Bahamas**

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## **CENTRUROIDES PLATNICKI ARMAS, 1981 (SCORPIONES: BUTHIDAE): FIRST RECORD FROM TURKS ISLANDS, BAHAMAS**

Luis F. de Armas

### **Abstract**

The scorpion *Centruroides platnicki* Armas, 1981, was described from Mayaguana (type locality), and Caicos Islands, eastern part of the Bahamas archipelago. It is herein recorded from Turks Islands, easternmost part of that Archipelago. The first data on its habitat are also given.

**Key words:** Scorpiones, Buthidae, *Centruroides*, Bahamas, Turks and Caicos Islands, Taxonomy.

### **Centruroides platnicki Armas, 1981 (Scorpiones: Buthidae): primer registro para las Islas Turcos, Bahamas**

### **Resumen**

El alacrán *Centruroides platnicki* Armas, 1981 fue descrito de la isla Mayaguana (localidad tipo) y de las islas Caicos, que están ubicadas en la porción Este del archipiélago de Bahamas. En este trabajo se registra su presencia en las Islas Turcos, extremo oriental de ese archipiélago, y se aportan los primeros datos sobre el hábitat de dicha especie.

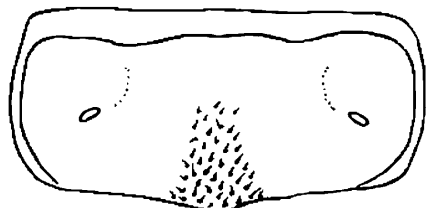
**Palabras claves:** Scorpiones, Buthidae, *Centruroides*, Bahamas, Islas Turcos y Caicos, Taxonomía.

No additional specimens of the buthid scorpion *Centruroides platnicki* Armas, 1981 had been recorded since its description. This species inhabits some little islands in the easternmost part of the Bahamas archipelago: Mayaguana, and Caicos Islands (Long Cay [S South Caicos Island], West Caicos Island, and Cays 4 mi SW North Caicos Island) (Armas, 1981).

I recently had opportunity to examine two specimens (male, and female) of this scorpion from Turks Islands (Salt Cay, between Balfour Town and Northwest Point, 21° 20' 35" N, 71° 12' W), collected by W. E. Steiner and J. M. Swearingen, 8 February 2001, under rocks in sandy scrub (deposited at the National Museum of Natural History [NMNH], Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.). It is the first record of this species from Turks Islands, as well as the first data on its habitat.

Pectinal tooth count is 20/19 in female specimen, and 19/19 in the male. Like the Hispaniolan species *Centruroides nitidus* (Thorell, 1876), female of *C. platnicki* has the posterior margin of sternite V not straight, but convex (Fig. 1). This character was not mentioned in the original description. Measurements are given in Table I.

I thank to Dr. Warren E. Steiner (NMNH) for loan of these specimens. To Dr. Giraldo Alayón García (Museo Nacional de Historia Natural, La Habana) for revision of the manuscript.



**Fig. 1.** *Centruroides platnicki* Armas (female from Salt Cay, Turks Islands). Sternite V, showing convex posterior margin. Scale: 2.00 mm.

**Table I**

**Measurements (mm) of *Centruroides platnicki* Armas, 1981,  
from Salt Cay, Turks Islands, Bahamas archipelago.**

H, deep; L, length; W, width.

Characters	Female	Male
Carapace, L/posterior W	4.85/4.75	4.50/4.25
Chelicera (manus) L/W	1.75/1.25	1.60/1.15
Fixe finger, L	0.60	0.60
Movable finger, L	1.20	1.00
Pedipalp, L	17.95	18.25
Femur, L/W	4.50/1.30	4.50/1.20
Patella, L/W	4.95/2.00	5.00/1.90
Chela, L	8.90	8.75
Hand, L/W/H	3.55/2.35/2.05	3.75/2.25/1.90
Movable finger, L	5.50	5.15
Pectine, L	3.40	3.40
Basal plate, L/W	0.45/0.95	0.45/0.80
Mesosoma, L	14.05	13.45
Metasoma, L	27.25	31.70
I, L/W	3.20/2.70	4.20/2.20
II, L/W	4.45/2.60	5.25/2.15
III, L/W	4.75/2.60	5.75/2.15
IV, L/W	5.05/2.55	6.05/2.25
V, L/W/H	5.30/2.50/2.15	6.15/2.30/2.05
Telson, L	4.50	4.30
Vesicle, L/W/H	2.60/1.95/1.75	2.90/1.95/1.65
Total L	46.15	49.65

### Bibliography

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