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On the presence of *Scutigera coleoptrata* (Linnaeus, 1758) (Chilopoda: Scutigermorpha: Scutigerae) in the Metropolitan Region, Chile

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Abstract: The presence of the house centipede *Scutigera coleoptrata* (Linnaeus, 1758) is reported for the first time from the Metropolitan Region of Chile, on the basis of specimens collected in houses of Ñuñoa and Providencia in Santiago city.

Key words: Scutigermorpha, Scutigerae, *Scutigera coleoptrata*, new records, Chile, Metropolitan Region, Santiago.

Sobre la presencia de *Scutigera coleoptrata* (Linnaeus, 1758) en la Región Metropolitana, Chile

Resumen: Se reporta por primera vez la presencia del ciempiés *Scutigera coleoptrata* (Linnaeus, 1758) en la Región Metropolitana de Chile, en base a ejemplares colectados en casas de Ñuñoa y Providencia, en la ciudad de Santiago.

Palabras clave: Scutigermorpha, Scutigerae, *Scutigera coleoptrata*, nuevos registros, Chile, Región Metropolitana, Santiago.

Scutigermorpha is an order of centipedes nearly worldwide distributed (Edgecombe 2007), which contains 96 species classified in 26 genera (Stoeb & Geoffroy, 2004). This group is easily to recognize from other centipedes by having composed eyes, dorsal spiracles and multisegmented tarsi (Edgecombe & Giribet, 2006).

Scutigermorpha is represented in Chile by 2 species: *Sphendononema chagualensis* Kraus, 1957 and *Scutigera coleoptrata* (Linnaeus, 1758) (Pérez-Schultheiss & Mosqueira, 2009).

The "House Centipede" *Scutigera coleoptrata* is a cosmopolitan species associated to humans (Acosta, 2003). In Chile it was recently cited for first time, on basis of material from Osorno 40°35'S 72°10'W in Los Lagos Region, Southern Chile by Pérez-Schultheiss & Mosqueira (2009). Additionally the authors wrote that probably the species also occurs in Central Chile, without more exact data. No additional data have been published lately, and here the first formal records from the Central Chile are provided:

MATERIAL EXAMINED: Chile, Metropolitan Region: Santiago [33°26' 16"S 70°39'01"W], Ñuñoa, 24-II-2010. 3 ♀♀, 1 ♂, leg. R. Fernández; Santiago, Providencia 2 ♀♀, leg. A. Donoso (all deposited in author's collection).

Specimens were collected in human habitations, and additionally more specimens were commonly observed in houses of the collection localities (Fig. 1).

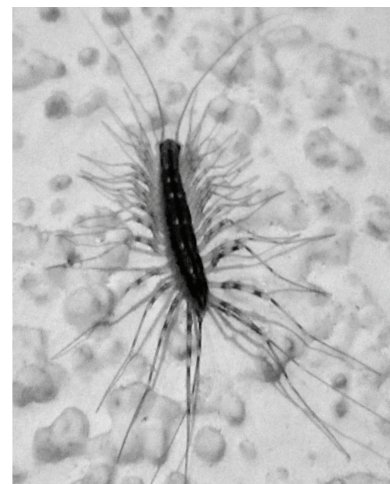
Pérez-Schultheiss & Mosqueira (2009) wrote that the presence of *S. coleoptrata* in Chile is probably from long time ago. It is very possible that this species arrived to Chile in Central Zone, because of the commercial exchange and the people movement; and after it was carried by the man to other localities, reaching the far South.

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Fig.1. *Scutigera coleoptrata*, Specimen in a house of Ñuñoa.

Fig.1. *Scutigera coleoptrata*. Ejemplar en una casa de Ñuñoa.



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