

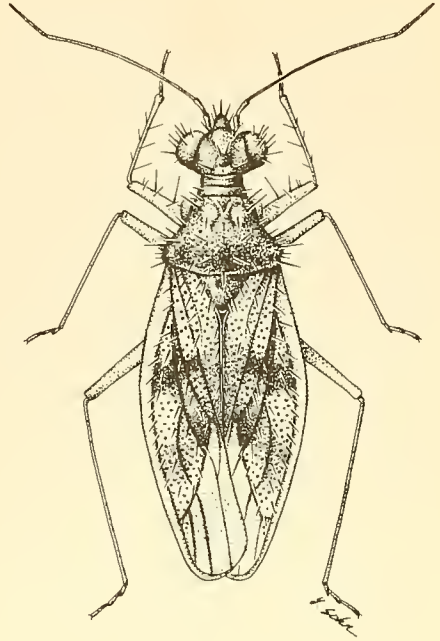
**FIRST SOUTH AMERICAN RECORD FOR THE CIRCUM-MEDITERRANEAN
PATAPIUS SPINOSUS (ROSSI) (HETEROPTERA: LEPTOPODIDAE)**

Among some Heteroptera collected on the slopes of Quilicura, near Santiago, Chile, during August 1979, were four specimens of the Old World species *Patapius spinosus* (Rossi).

This insect, a native of Europe and North Africa, was first reported for the Western Hemisphere by Usinger (1941 Bull. Brooklyn Ent. Soc., 36: 164) who listed a specimen found under tree protectors in an orchard in Sacramento, California, on the west coast of North America. Later Drake (1954 Jour. Kansas Ent. Soc., 27: 111) cited a communication from Usinger that the species was "turning up in increasing numbers" from several California localities. In November of 1971 R.C. Bechtel found specimens under boards at Reno, Nevada, about 300 miles inland. In North America the species is well established and extending its range.

Because the habits of Leptopodidae are not well known, a repeat of the following information published on the California populations might be appropriate: Benedict and Cothran (1973 Ann. Ent. Soc. Amer., 68: 898) reported it from fields of hay alfalfa; Menke (1979 Bull. California Ins. Surv., 21:1) wrote, "It occurs under rocks and debris remote from water, and sometimes on logs near streams".

Collectors in the Santiago area should be on the alert for this species to see if it can establish itself there as successfully as it did in North America. The accompanying sketch (fig. 1) shows the saldid-like aspect and the numerous spines on the head (including the eyes), pronotum, and dorsum of the wings; it measures about 3 mm. in length.



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