COLEOPTERA: CARABIDAE OF SOUTH GEORGIA

By P. J. Darlington, Jr.

Abstract: A single species of Carabidae—Merizodus soledadinus (Guer.-Men.) is reported from South Georgia.

Merizodus soledadinus (Guérin-Méneville)
Trechus soledadinus G.-Men. 1832, Voyage Coquille, Ent. 2: 60.
Merizodus soledadinus: Jeannel, 1962, Biologie de l'Amerique Australe 1, Études sur la Faune du Sol, p. 607 (see for additional references, synonymy, and description).

SOUTH GEORGIA: 7 spns., Grytviken Pen., Shackleton's Cross, 27.XI.1963, from tussock grass, sea level to 150 m, “hand collected”, Harry B. Clagg (BISHOP; 2 spns now in M. C. Z.). Sent with these specimens was a penciled label, “Cumberland East Bay #1, 27-Nov. 1963, bottom layer: SG-75: found under rotting paper sack among tussock grass, elev. 50 ft.”

Notes. The type locality of soledadinus is Soledad Bay, Falkland Is. This species has been found repeatedly on the Falklands and at several localities near the southern tip of South America, including Tierra del Fuego (Jeannel) and the mainland north at least to about 52° S at Rio Rubens (collected by Darlington), and Jeannel states that this species has been introduced on Kerguelen. I have compared the South Georgia specimens with specimens from the Falklands and the southern tip of South America, and find no noteworthy differences. The species varies (as Jeannel notes), but the variation seems to be mainly individual.

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