

ENTOMOLOGY OF THE AUCKLANDS AND OTHER ISLANDS SOUTH OF NEW ZEALAND: NEUROPTERA: HEMEROBIIDAE

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Abstract: *Micromus tasmaniae* (Walker, 1860) is recorded from Auckland Islands and Antipodes Islands.

Although no Neuroptera have been taken on Campbell Island, one species, *Micromus tasmaniae* (Walker, 1860), has been collected on Auckland Is and Antipodes Is, south of New Zealand. This is a widespread species which also occurs throughout New Zealand and on Chatham Is (Wise 1963).

Family HEMEROBIIDAE

Micromus tasmaniae (Walker, 1860)

AUCKLAND IS (Bishop Museum) Auckland I: Ranui, 1, 26.XII.1962, 1, 29-30.XII.1962, J. L. Gressitt. Ocean I: 1-18 m, *Dracophyllum*, 4, 29.XII.1962, 1-18 m, *Metrosideros*, 1, 29.XII.1962, 1-18 m, *Stilbocarpa*, 1, 29.XII.1962, 1-18 m, 2, 29.XII.1962, Gressitt; 6, 29.XII.1962, K. A. J. Wise. Enderby I: Sandy Bay, 1, 16.I.1963, Wise. (Canterbury Museum) Ocean I: in *Stilbocarpa Acaena*, 4, 29.XII.1962, P. M. Johns. Enderby I: 1, 17.I.1963, Johns.

ANTIPODES IS (Entomology Division) Antipodes I: Reef Pt., 3, 10.II.1969, *Poa foliosa*, 2, 6.II.1969, on *Poa litorosa* at night, 1, 14.II.1969, G. Kuschel; Stella Bay, tussock and *Senecio* on cliffs, 1, 20.II.1969, bluff above hut, tussock and fern at night, 1, 20.II.1969, P. M. Johns.

Some small Neuroptera larvae, presumed to be this species, were taken as follows.

AUCKLAND IS (Entomology Division) Auckland I: Ranui Cove, beating *Nothopanax simplex*, 5, 4.I.1963, Johns.

ANTIPODES IS (Entomology Division) Antipodes I: North Plain, 130 m, litter 69/45, 13, 14.II.1969, 100 m, litter 69/49, 1, 19.II.1969, Reef Pt, 1, 4.II.1969, Kuschel.

In addition to an early settlement about 1850-52, visits by sealers, shipwrecks, and the laying of depots for castaways, in the Auckland Is, both Port Ross (Ranui Cove) in the north and Carnley Hrbr in the south were bases for coast-watching groups for several years during World War II (1941-44). At the time of the 1962-63 expedition, *M. tasmaniae* was abundant on Ocean I, in Port Ross, where hay imported from New Zealand during World War II had been kept for a small flock of sheep. This could have been a source of introduction of the lacewings but the abundance there may have resulted from the presence of a suitable food supply, as aphids, which also could have been introduced with the fodder, were also present. Sealers visited the Antipodes Is from 1804 onwards and a castaway depot was stocked for many years after 1865 so introductions could also have been made there. However, natural dispersal by wind could account for the presence of the species on Auckland, Antipodes and Chatham Is.

Acknowledgments: Dr J. L. Gressitt, Bernice P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu, Hawaii, Dr G. Kuschel, Entomology Division, Department Scientific & Industrial Research, Nelson, N.Z., and Mr P. M. Johns, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, N.Z., have kindly provided specimens for examination.

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Wise, K. A. J. 1963. A list of the Neuroptera of New Zealand. *Pacif. Ins.* 5(1): 53-58.

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