SCIENTIFIC NOTE

FIRST RECORD OF STICTHIPPUS CALIFORNICUS (ORTHOPTERA: ACRIDIDAE) OUTSIDE CALIFORNIA, U.S.A.¹

Thomas A. Stidham²

Sticthippus californicus (Scudder), originally described in the genus Hippiscus from Gilroy, Santa Clara County, California (Scudder, 1892), is widespread in California and economically important (Strohecker et al., 1968; Otte, 1984). At present, S. californicus has been reported solely from California (Strohecker et al., 1968; Otte, 1984; Helfer, 1987). On May 31, 2002, in western Nevada, I collected two adult males of S. californicus and observed other individuals approximately 3 miles south of state highway 722, southwest of Eastgate in Churchill County (lat. 39° 16' 15" N, long. 117° 53' 27" W). The two males (now deposited in the Essig Museum at the University of California at Berkeley) were collected with Cratypedes lateritius (Saussure) in an area with abundant sagebrush (Artemisia spinescens Eaton). The two male specimens have red hind tibia, hind wings with a yellow basal area, a bilobed rather than trilobed epiphallus, and other morphological characters consistent with specimens from California (Otte, 1984). The Nevada specimens are darker overall than that illustrated by Otte (1984), but are within the range of variation exhibited by Sticthippus californicus specimens in the Essig Museum.

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² Department of Biology, Texas A&M University, 3258 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-3258. E-mail: furcula@mail.bio.tamu.edu.



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