

Oklahoma Riffle Beetles (Coleoptera: Dryopoidea). V.

New State and County Records, with Notes Upon Ecology

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During the past two years I have devoted little attention to the dryopoids of Oklahoma, for I have been collecting in Brazil, Mexico, the West Indies, and Europe. On August 27, 1965, however, I returned to one of Oklahoma's most productive sites, Pennington Creek in Johnston County, and was amply rewarded by discovering two genera which have not heretofore been reported from the state: *Limnichus* and *Neoelmis*.

The finding of *Limnichus* is no surprise, as the genus is quite widespread. In fact, upon sorting through earlier collections, I found that we had collected it before, but had not identified or reported it. However, the finding of *Neoelmis* is something of a surprise, since the only previous records from the United States have been from a small portion of Texas near Camp Wood (Burke, 1963). I might add that Charles Shoemaker and I collected *Neoelmis* not only in the vicinity of Camp Wood, but at Kerrville and San Marcos, which suggests distribution throughout the Edwards Plateau (Balconian biotic province of Blair, 1950). The presence of *Neoelmis*, *Microcyloepus*, *Heterelmis*, *Hexacyloepus ferrugineus*, and *Lutrochus luteus* (mistakenly listed as *L. laticeps* by Sanderson and Brown, 1959) indicates a distinct relationship between our Arbuckle Mountain fauna and that of the Balconian biotic province of Texas.

The general ecology and habits of *Neoelmis caesa* seem to resemble those of *Hexacyloepus ferrugineus*, while the habits of adult *Limnichus* are somewhat similar to those of *Lutrochus luteus* (see Brown and Shoemaker, 1964b). I have found *Limnichus* at the water's edge on rocks, wood and debris, but have noted no especial association with travertine. *Limnichus* flies quickly and readily, its larvae are unknown.

The abundance of *Helichus* in the panhandle streams mentioned below, along with previous records (Brown and Shoemaker, 1964a), suggests that it may be expected wherever reasonably permanent flowing streams occur anywhere in the state. This is remarkable in view of the fact that until recently there was but a single record of its occurrence within the state.

New county records are as follows:

ELMIDAE

Neoelmis caesa (LeConte)

Johnston Co., Devil's Den, Pennington Creek, Aug. 27, 1965 (1 adult)

LIMNICHIDAE

Limnichus sp.

Bryan Co., Blue River near Kenefic, July 31, 1962 (1 adult)

Johnston Co., Pennington Creek, July 10, 1960 (1 adult); Aug. 27, 1965 (1 adult)

DRYOPIDAE

Helichus suturalis LeConte

Beaver Co., Kiowa Creek near Slapout, Aug. 21, 1964 (84 adults)

Cimarron Co., Cimarron River near Boise City, Aug. 22, 1964 (158 adults)

Cleveland Co., Little River east of Norman, Nov. 24, 1963 (18 adults)

Harper Co., Clear Creek near May, Aug. 21, 1964 (37 adults)

Texas Co., Beaver River near Guymon, Aug. 22, 1964 (33 adults)

LITERATURE CITED

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