

## The first New World representative of *Chorosoma*: a contribution in honour of Michail Josifov

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### Abstract

A new species of *Chorosoma* has been collected in arid regions of the northwestern United States. This is the second species of the genus to be found outside the eastern Palearctic Region, and it is closely related to those other species. The systematic and biogeographical relationships of the new species will be considered elsewhere.

**Key words:** Hemiptera, Beringia, Rhopalidae, *Chorosoma*, Palearctic, United States, distribution, arid habitats.

Except for one Ethiopian species (Linnavuori, 1976), *Chorosoma* (Heteroptera Rhopalidae) until now has been a Palearctic genus (Dolling, 2006). Recently, a new species has been discovered in the northwestern United States; we shall name this species *Chorosoma josifovi* in honour of the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of Michail Josifov, who described *Chorosoma gracile* (1968) among his many other excellent contributions to our knowledge of Heteroptera. The new species resembles the widespread *Chorosoma schillingii* (Schilling) in some features, and other species in some other features. No species of *Chorosoma* appears to have been recorded from far-northeastern Russia (near Beringia) (Martynova, 1975; Vinokurov, 1988), and we plan to work out the biogeographic relationships of the new species.

The new species has been collected in arid to desert regions of Nevada, Oregon, and Idaho (U.S.A.), and feeds on grasses characteristic of these habitats [e.g., *Oryzopsis hymenoides* (Roemer et Schultes) Ricker]. Thus the new species is similar to the Palearctic species of *Chorosoma* with respect to type of habitat and type of host plant (see Read, 1985; Martynova, 1975).

The species of *Chorosoma* are closely related. Hsiao (1963), Martynova (1975), and Putshkov (1986) all suggest that *Chorosoma brevicolle* Hsiao resembles *Chorosoma macilentum* Stål and may in fact be synonymous with it. Josifov (1968) notes the similarity of the male genitalia of *Chorosoma longicolle* Reuter and those of *C. macilentum*. And Linnavuori (1976) writes that his species, *Chorosoma xenocles* Linnavuori, closely resembles *C. schillingii*. As part of our biogeographic analysis, we shall also consider the phylogenetic relationships among the species of *Chorosoma*.

Mention of this new species in this note neither validates the name nor makes it available. A full description will appear elsewhere.

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