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First record of *Conognatha iris iris* Olivier  
(Coleoptera: Buprestidae)  
for Venezuela

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**Abstract.** *Conognatha iris iris* Olivier (Coleoptera: Buprestidae) is recorded for the first time for Venezuela. The record is based on a single female specimen from Caicet hill, Amazonas state. A map of the known distribution of the taxon is provided.

**Key Words.** Stigmoderini, Buprestinae, new record, distribution, Amazonas.

**Resumen.** Se registra por primera vez la presencia de *Conognatha iris iris* Olivier (Coleoptera: Buprestidae) para Venezuela. El registro se basa en un ejemplar hembra proveniente de cerro Caicet, Estado Amazonas. Se presenta un mapa de la distribución conocida para el taxón.

**Palabras Claves.** Stigmoderini, Buprestinae, nuevo registro, distribución, Amazonas.

## Introduction

*Conognatha* Eschscholtz, 1829 includes 82 species and five subspecies classified in two subgenera (Moore and Lander 2010; Portela and Mermudes 2014; Pineda and Barros 2017). *Conognatha iris* was originally described by Olivier (1790) as *Buprestis iris* from Cayenne (French Guiana). An additional subspecies: *C. iris cayennensis* Cobos, 1969 was synonymized by Moore and Lander (2010).

*Conognatha iris vargasi* from Venezuela, first described as *Hiperantha vargasi* Rojas (1855) is recognized as valid subspecies by Moore and Lander (2010). In the same work, *Conognatha quadripunctata* Rothkirch, 1912 and *C. iris variabilis* Hoscheck, 1934 are considered junior synonyms of *C. iris vargasi*.

In this work, we report the first record of *C. iris iris* for Venezuela based on a single female specimen collected in Caicet hill, Amazonas state, Venezuela.

## Materials and Methods

The key of Moore and Lander (2010), the original descriptions of Olivier (1790) and Rojas (1855) were followed for identification. The dorsal habitus image was taken with a Nikon D7000 camera connected to a Micro-NIKKOR 55 mm f/3.5 lens and elaborated using the focus stacking technique with the software Zerene Stacker. The map was created using the software ArcGIS.

## Results

*Conognatha (Conognatha) iris iris* Olivier (Fig. 1) is recorded for Venezuela, **new country record**. One female (deposited at the Colección particular de Cristian Pineda, Valparaíso, Chile (CPCP)), “VENEZUELA, Estado Amazonas, Puerto Ayacucho, Cerro Caicet, 08/11/1996, Leg. R. Mattei, 5°39'04.0"N 67°36'16.9"W, 228 m, on fallen tree”.

An additional specimen of *C. iris iris* was seen flying around a yellow flowering of an unidentified plant in Pintao indigenous community, Amazonas state by Roberto Mattei. The adult feeding and larval host plants are still unknown.

This species was previously known from Brazil (PA, DF), French Guiana, Guyana and Suriname (Fig. 2). The nominal subspecies *C. iris iris* differs from the subspecies *C. iris vargasi* mainly by the pronotum emerald green and elytra with humeral longitudinal band (Moore and Lander 2010).

### Acknowledgments

We thank Roberto Mattei for providing the specimen used in this study. We also thank Eugenio Nearn (Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, USA) and Juan F. Campodonico for reviewing the manuscript.

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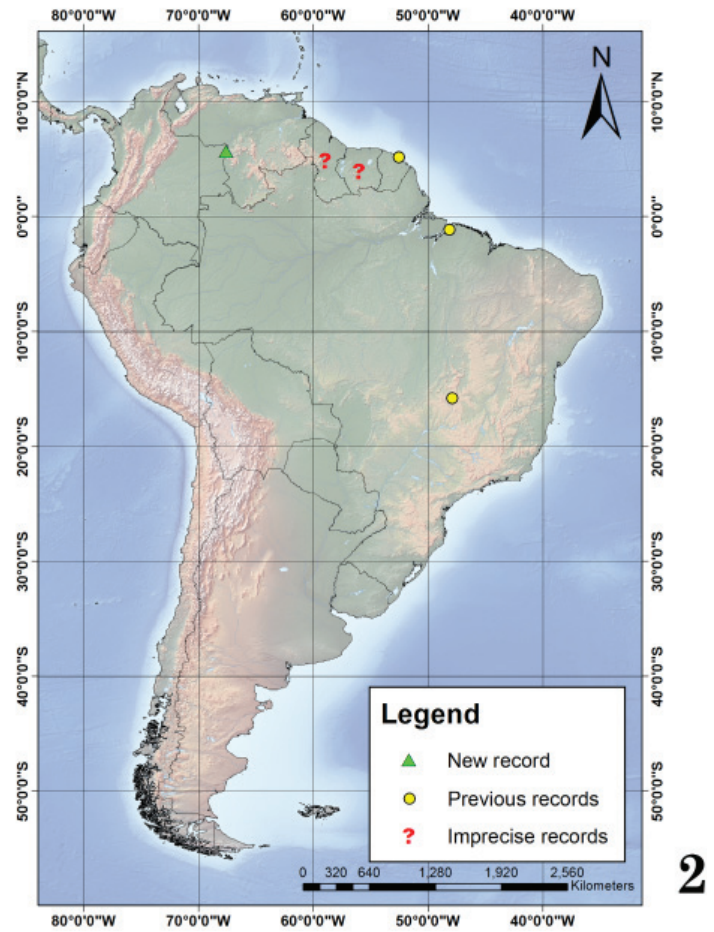
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Figures 1–2. *Conognatha (Conognatha) iris iris* Olivier. 1) Specimen from Venezuela, habitus, dorsal view. Scale bar: 10 mm. 2) Distribution map. The question marks indicate imprecise location records in Guyana and Suriname.

