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**New State Records for the Cicada Parasite Beetle
Sandalus petrophya Knoch (Coleoptera: Rhipiceridae)
in Nebraska and Iowa**

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Abstract

New state records are presented for *Sandalus petrophya* Knoch (Coleoptera: Rhipiceridae) specimens from Nebraska and Iowa along with the currently known distribution of this beetle species.

The cicada parasite beetle also known as the cedar beetle *Sandalus petrophya* Knoch (Coleoptera: Rhipiceridae), is reported from Nebraska for the first time, with three individuals collected near Bennet, Lancaster Co., Nebraska, 31 July 2018, flying around cedars, specimens collected by M.J. Paulsen (Paulsen, pers. comm., July 2018); the two male specimens were 11.5 mm long and the female specimen was 13.5 mm long [photo posted on internet at <http://bugguide.net/node/view/1566554>]. Four more specimens (3 males and one female) were collected at the same location at one juniper tree, 1 August 2018, with no further specimens the following days (Paulsen, pers. comm., August, October 2018); the collecting location is a quarter section of rolling pasture being invaded by cedar trees (Paulsen, pers. comm., October 2018). Kyle Schnepf in a return e-mail to M.J. Paulsen confirmed the new state record (Paulsen, pers. comm., August 2018).

The first three specimens known from Iowa were sorted from a Lindgren funnel trap sample collected near Adel, Dallas Co., Iowa, 29 July to 13 August 2018, oak-hickory woodland with elm, black cherry, hackberry, honey locust, and cedar trees [area was a mowed wooded pasture until the mid-1980s], by the author having just returned from a two-week vacation trip. The two male specimens were 11 mm long and the female specimen was 14 mm long. Kyle Schnepf indicated he had not seen any specimens of this species from Iowa (Schnepf, pers. comm., September 2018). A fourth specimen was later located in the Iowa State University

insect collection (ISIC), Ames: Des Moines, Polk Co., Iowa, 12 August 1942, W. W. Darlington [female, 16 mm long].

Schnepf and Powell (2018) published the most recent article covering the genus *Sandalus* Knoch, 1801, which included a key to the three species of the eastern United States. The cedar beetle *S. petrophya* was previously known from the following states: AL, DC, FL, GA, IL, IN, KY, LA, MD, MO, NC, NJ, NY, OH, PA, TN, VA, and WV (Evans & Steury 2012).

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Literature Cited

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