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First Report of *Enoclerus spinolae* (LeConte) (Coleoptera: Cleridae) from Missouri and Nebraska

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Abstract

New state records are presented for *Enoclerus spinolae* (LeConte) (Coleoptera: Cleridae) specimens from Missouri and Nebraska.

Key words: *Enoclerus spinolae*, Coleoptera, Cleridae, state records, Missouri, Nebraska

The checkered beetle *Enoclerus spinolae* (LeConte) (Coleoptera: Cleridae) is reported from Missouri for the first time with five individuals collected at Star School Hill Prairie Natural Area (south unit). This preserve is a Loess Hills prairie remnant overlooking the Missouri River Valley north of the town of Rock Port (Atchinson County) and is located about two miles (3 km) south of the state border with Iowa. All specimens were collected 30 June 2016 on flowering yucca plants. Four of the specimens were collected by Marlin E. Rice (pers. comm., July 2016). The fifth specimen was collected by M. J. Hatfield who posted a photo online at <http://bugguide.net/node/view/1250952> (pers. comm., July 2016).

The first state record for *E. spinolae* for Nebraska was posted on the internet by Johan Pretorius: <http://bugguide.net/node/view/865393> [copyright 2013 Elytron] (pers. comm., July 2016). This beetle specimen was collected at Scottsbluff, Scotts Bluff Co., Nebraska, 20 July 2013. Subsequently several more Nebraska specimens were located in the University of Nebraska State Museum insect collection, Lincoln (UNSM) and in the personal collection of M. J. Paulsen (MJPC) (pers. comm., July, September 2016). Specimen label data include records for seven Nebraska counties [numbers of specimens in brackets]: Thedford, Thomas Co., Nebraska, August 1953 [1] (UNSM); Wauneta, Chase Co., Nebraska, 15 July 1954 [1] (UNSM); Valentine National Wildlife Refuge, Cherry Co., Nebraska, June 1968 [3] (UNSM); Sandhills Ag Lab, McPherson Co., Nebraska, 8–14 July 1973 [3] (UNSM); Halsey National Forest, Nebraska, July 1969 [9], July 1984 [1] (UNSM), 28 September 2011 [1] (MJPC); Arapaho Prairie, Arthur Co., Nebraska, 29 July 1984 [2], 11 August 1984 [3], 22 July 1985 [3], 17 July 1986 [6],

28 July 1987 [2], August 1987 [1], 29 July 1988 [8] (UNSM), 12 June 2000 [1] (MJPC); Lake McConaughy, Keith Co., Nebraska, 18 June 2000 [1] (MJPC); Sanborn, Dundy Co., Nebraska, 27 June 2004 [1] (MJPC); Merritt Reservoir, Cherry Co., Nebraska, 2 August 2016 [1] (MJPC).

John L. LeConte (1853) originally described this beetle species as *Clerus spinolae* from specimens collected near the Mexican border by John Henry Clark of the U. S. Corps of Topographical Engineers led by Col. James Duncan Graham (Geiser 1936). The species name honors entomologist Maximilian Spinola author of the first world monograph on clerids (LeConte 1853). Charles J. Gahan (1910) transferred all North American species of the genus *Clerus* Geoffrey, 1762 to the New World genus *Enoclerus* Gahan, 1910. Albert B. Wolcott (1947) later synonymized this species name under *Enoclerus abdominalis* (Chevrolat, 1835). Barr (1976) declared this name to be an invalid junior homonym and replaced it with *Enoclerus zonatus* (Klug, 1842) with *E. spinolae* as its junior synonym. Barr and Rifkind (2009) resurrected *Enoclerus spinolae* (LeConte, 1853) to a full species after examining many specimens from many locations (Rifkind, pers. comm., July 2016). This southwestern checkered beetle has been previously reported from Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, Utah, and Mexico (Leng 1920, Wolcott 1947, Barr and Rifkind 2009). *Enoclerus spinolae*, a predaceous beetle species, is frequently found among the blossoms of yuccas (Agavoideae) (Wickham and Wolcott 1912, Boving and Champlain 1921, Davis 1967, Foster and Barr 1972).

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