

# First record of *Glenurus heteropterix* Gerstaecker, 1885 (Neuroptera: Myrmeleontidae) from Colombia

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**ABSTRACT:** The genus *Glenurus* Hagen, 1866 is recorded for the first time in Colombia, with *G. heteropterix* Gerstaecker, 1885 collected in the departments of Santander and Tolima, extending their known distribution range to the Colombian Andes.

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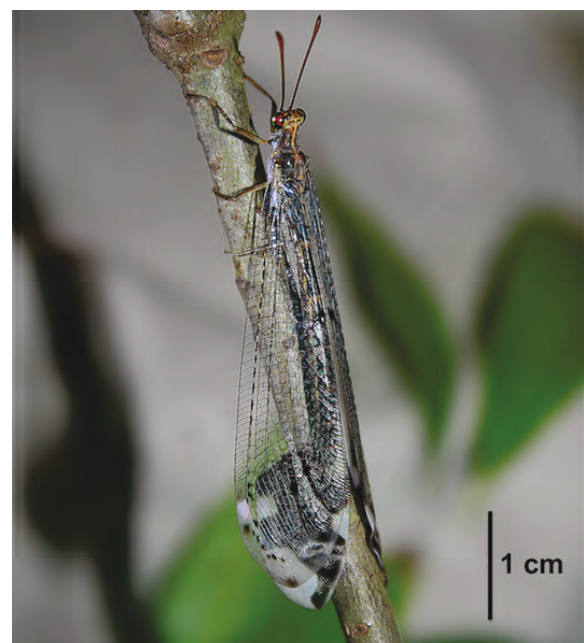
Myrmeleontidae is the largest family in the order Neuroptera, exceeding Chrysopidae in richness, with around 2000 species in the old world and a few hundreds in the neotropics (Henry *et al.* 1992). Members of this family are known as antlions and are recognized as voracious predators of ants and other arthropods. Some species in the tribes Dendroleontini and Myrmeleontini built pitfall traps in sandy substrates (Henry *et al.* 1992). Many species are flight predators or may feed on insects of slow movements (Henry *et al.* 1992; Oswald *et al.* 2002; Stange 2002). Nemoleontini is one of the largest groups in the family in species and genera numbers (Stange 2002). This tribe is distinguished by having one, rarely two or three presectoral crossveins in the hindwings (Stange 1994), ventral region of the distal tarsomere has setae as long as the diameter of basitarsus and the pilula axillaris in males is always absent (Stange 2002).

The genus *Glenurus* Hagen, 1886 is represented by nine species distributed from the United States to Argentina (Stange 2000). This genus is easily recognized by the unusual pattern of white and gray-brown coloration at the apex of the hindwings and usually in the forewings. Such pattern offers camouflage for the individuals in the forests (Stange 2002). Apparently adults are active at night because they are often attracted to light after midnight (Stange 2002; Miller and Stange 2006). Larvae are identified by two mandibular teeth and are often found in holes in trees or decaying logs where they feed on ants, termites and beetle larvae (Stange 2000; 2002; Miller and Stange 2006). *Glenurus heteropterix* Gerstaecker, 1885 is distinguished by the lack of a prominent brown suffusion in the forewing (Figure 1); in addition, the basitarsus of the hindlegs is longer than the distal tarsomere, a condition also found in *G. proi* Navás, 1929 (Stange 2002).

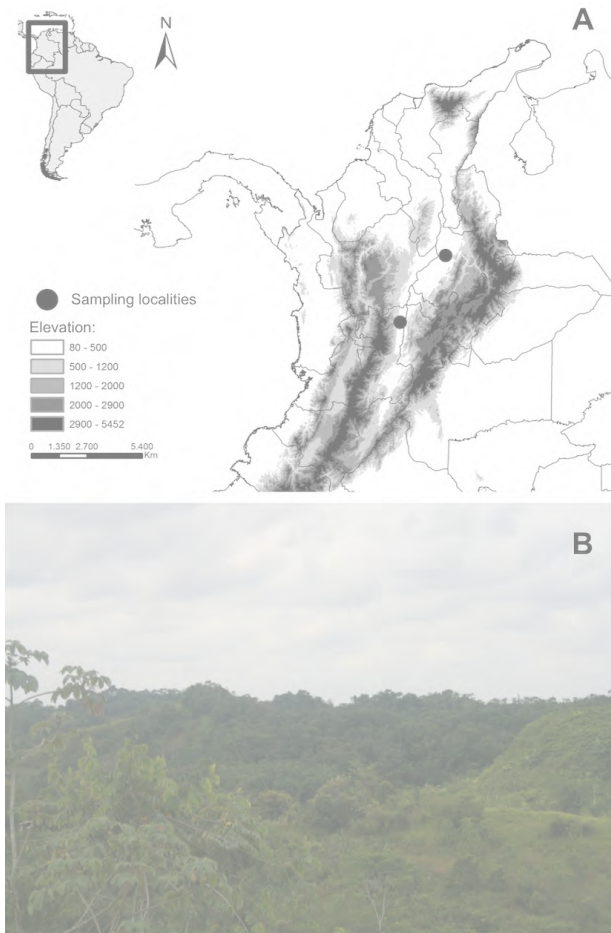
In 2011, during the review of different National Entomological Collections the first author found one specimen of *G. heteropterix* in the Entomological Collection of the Universidad Nacional de Colombia (ICN) collected in Mariquita (Tolima, Colombia). In the same year in a field trip in Barrancabermeja (Santander, Colombia) the second

author collected three individuals of the same species. In this paper *G. heteropterix* is registered for the first time in Colombia in the departments of Tolima and Santander (Figure 2A). In Santander, the three individuals were collected in villages surrounding the town of Barrancabermeja attracted to light before midnight. The collection habitat is a secondary forest surrounded by rubber crops, banana and livestock farms (Figure 2B). This species was known previously from Trinidad, Panama, Ecuador, Venezuela and probably Costa Rica (Stange 2002). The three specimens recorded in Santander have been deposited in the entomological collections of the Universidad Distrital “Francisco José de Caldas” (MUD).

**Material examined.** Colombia: Tolima: Mariquita, 300 m, I-1952, 1♂ (ICN). Santander: Barrancabermeja: Vda. las Lajas, 84 m, 7°04'29"N–73°40'14"W, 08-II-2011, *leg.* C. Arango, 1♂ 2♀ (MUD).



**FIGURE 1.** A specimen of *Glenurus heteropterix* (♀) in Barrancabermeja (Santander – Colombia).



**FIGURE 2.** A) Map of collecting localities of *G. heteropterix* in Colombia and B) Habitat of *G. heteropterix* in Barrancabermeja (Santander – Colombia).

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