SCIENTIFIC NOTE

FIRST RECORD OF THE GENUS *CHELOBASIS* GRAY, 1832 (COLEOPTERA: CHRYSMELIDAE: CASSIDINAE) IN MEXICO (NORTH AMERICA)

**CARLOS GARCÍA-ROBLEDO, ERIN K. KUPREWICZ**  
Instituto de Ecología, A. C., Red de Interacciones Multitróficas, MEXICO  
and Departments of Botany and Entomology  
Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC 20013, U.S.A.  
carlos.garcia@inecol.mx

**LEANDRA BORDIGNON, THAÍSE DE OLIVEIRA BAHIA**  
Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, BRAZIL

**DULCE RODRÍGUEZ-MORALES**  
Instituto de Neuroetología, Universidad Veracruzana, MEXICO

**SAMUEL AGUILAR-ARGÜELLO, CAROLINA HERNÁNDEZ-LARA, LIZETH PUGA-AYALA, CHRISTIAN DEL ÁNGEL-PÍNA, ANTONIO ABELLA-MEDRANO, CRISTIAN A. MARTÍNEZ-ADRIANO**  
Instituto de Ecología, A. C., MEXICO

**OLIVERIO DELGADO-CARRILLO**  
Centro de Investigaciones en Ecosistemas, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, MEXICO

**MICHÉLE GARCÍA-CONEJO, HÉCTOR LEÓN-SOLANO**  
Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad Autónoma del Estado de México, MEXICO

**ALEJANDRO NAVARRETE-JIMÉNEZ**  
Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Unidad Iztapalapa, MEXICO

**ANAÍS BASTIDAS-MARTÍNEZ**  
Instituto Venezolano de Investigaciones Científicas, VENEZUELA

**HELLEN MARTÍNEZ-ROLDÁN**  
Universidad Autónoma de Tlaxcala, MEXICO

**MARGOT CUYOS-PALACIOS, IRAYDA SALINAS-HIJAR**  
Universidad Nacional Agraria La Molina, PERU

**ARMANDO AGUIRRE, AND VICENTE HERNÁNDEZ-ORTÍZ**  
Instituto de Ecología, A.C., Red de Interacciones Multitróficas, MEXICO

The Neotropical genus *Chelobasis* Gray, 1832 (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Cassidinae) includes four known species: *Chelobasis aemula* (Waterhouse) from Ecuador; *Ch. bicolor* Gray from Bolivia to Nicaragua; *Ch. laevicollis* (Waterhouse) from Colombia; and *Ch. perplexa* (Baly) from Ecuador to Costa Rica. *Chelobasis* beetles are also known as the “rolled-leaf” beetles because their larvae and adults feed on the scroll formed by the young leaves of their host plants (Strong and Wang 1977) in the genus *Heliconia* L. (Heliconiaceae) (García-Robledo et al. 2010). The known northern limit of *Chelobasis* is Guatemala, where a single individual of *Ch. perplexa* was collected at the Municipality of Chimaltenango, 14°39′ N, 90°49′ W, ca. 1,800 m elevation (Staines 2009). Here we report the presence of the genus *Chelobasis* in the Sierra de Los Tuxtlas, Mexico.

During June 2014, we surveyed 50 individuals of *Heliconia uexpanapensis* C. Gut. Báez, an understory herb common in the forest and trail sides of Los Tuxtlas Biological Station, a tropical rainforest
located in Veracruz near the Gulf of Mexico (18°35′ N and 95°04′ W).

We collected seven specimens of *Ch. bicolor* (Fig. 1). *Chelobasis* species are usually polymorphic, and individuals of the same species may show colorations ranging from red to orange and yellow (Staines 2009). In this population, all individuals displayed the same yellow-black markings (Fig. 1). The specimens collected were deposited in the entomological collections of the Instituto de Ecologia, A.C., Los Tuxtlas Biological Station, and Smithsonian Institution.

The previously known northern limit of *Ch. bicolor* was Matagalpa, Department of Jinotega, Nicaragua (12°55′ N, 85°55′ W) (Staines 2009). Los Tuxtlas is the northern limit of the tropical rainforest in the Americas and may be the northern limit for *Ch. bicolor*. The new record expands the known latitudinal range of *Chelobasis* by ca. 450 km to the north.

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**REFERENCES CITED**


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