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NEW FLORIDA LADYBEETLE (COLEOPTERA: COCCINELLIDAE)

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Gordon (1985) provided records of 78 species and 2 subspecies of ladybeetles known to occur in Florida. This note places on record an additional, probably adventive species not previously recorded from the state.

More than 20 adults of a small coccinellid emerged from a collection of *Bidens pilosa* L. and *Chromolaena odorata* (L.) foliage infested with *Orthezia insignis* (Brown) (Homoptera: Ortheziidae) made by one of us (FDB) in Miami on 22. VII. 1991. A similar collection of *O. insignis* on *B. pilosa* from the same locality on 30. VIII. 1991 was held for several days and yielded five additional adults of the same species. No larvae or adult coccinellids were noted when the material was placed in rearing containers, but subsequent examination confirmed that the adults developed from larvae present in the ovisacs of *Orthezia* at the time of collection. The small size of this species makes it probable that the eggs contained in a single ovisac of *O. insignis* provide adequate food reserves for the complete development of one larva.

These specimens proved to be *Decadiomus bahamicus* (Casey), the first record of this genus outside of Bermuda, the Bahamas and Caribbean islands. *Decadiomus*, a small neotropical genus with 6 described species, is closely related to *Diomus* Mulsant. Gordon and Hilburn (1990) summarized the limited information available on the hosts and habits of *Decadiomus* spp. In Bermuda, adults of *D. hughesi* Gordon and Hilburn prey on the long-tailed mealybug, *Pseudococcus longispinus* (Targioni-Tozzetti) (Homoptera: Pseudococcidae), cottony cushion scale, *Icerya purchasi* Maskell (Homoptera: Margarodidae), green scale, *Coccus viridis* (Green) (Homoptera: Coccidae), the minute cypress scale, *Carulaspis minima* (Targioni-Tozzetti) (Homoptera: Diaspididae), and *Pseudaulacaspis pentagona* (Targioni-Tozzetti) (Homoptera: Diaspididae). The only other host record for a member of this genus is that of *D. pictus* Casey feeding on cottony cushion scale in Puerto Rico (Chapin 1933). Hence, in addition to extending the known geographic range of this genus and species, the discovery of *D. bahamicus* preying on *O. insignis* in Miami provides a new host record. If this coccinellid is a specialist egg predator of *Orthezia* spp. its introduction into Brazil, where *Orthezia* spp. are serious pests of citrus and ornamentals, should be considered. This is Florida Agric. Exp. Stn. Journal Series No. R-01943.

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