

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
HERITAGE DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Invertebrate Abstract

Element Code: ILARAE1010

Data Sensitivity: No

CLASSIFICATION, NOMENCLATURE, DESCRIPTION, RANGE

NAME: *Chitrellina chiricahuae*
COMMON NAME: A Cave Obligate Pseudoscorpion
SYNONYMS:
FAMILY: Syarinidae

AUTHOR, PLACE OF PUBLICATION: W.B. Muchmore, Southwestern Naturalist 41: 145-158. 1996.

TYPE LOCALITY:

TYPE SPECIMEN:

TAXONOMIC UNIQUENESS: There are over 350 North American species of *Chitrellina*, and about 2,500 species known worldwide.

DESCRIPTION: Pseudoscorpions are small (generally 5mm or less), flattened, oval-bodied shaped arachnids. Like true scorpions, they have enlarged pincer-like pedipalps, but they do not have a tail or a stinger.

AIDS TO IDENTIFICATION:

ILLUSTRATIONS:

TOTAL RANGE: Arizona.

RANGE WITHIN ARIZONA: See "Total Range."

SPECIES BIOLOGY AND POPULATION TRENDS

BIOLOGY: Many pseudoscorpions have poison glands in their pedipalps, which are used to subdue insect prey and small invertebrates. They also have silk glands, but unlike spiders, which have them at the tip of the abdomen, the duct openings are located on the jaws or chelicerae. They use this silk to spin cocoons, in which they over winter and molt. They can maneuver with great ease, moving forward, backward, and sideways. All species

typically have highly localized distributions, low dispersal and cannot survive outside the cave. Pseudoscorpions do not fluoresce under ultraviolet light.

REPRODUCTION: In most pseudoscorpions, the female’s brood pouch remains attached to her abdomen, and hatchlings stay in the pouch feeding on a milk-like liquid from the female’s ovaries. Often young require several years to mature to adults. Some species can live up to 4 years.

FOOD HABITS: Invertebrates.

HABITAT: Cave, subterrestrial, subterranean obligate.

ELEVATION: Unknown.

PLANT COMMUNITY: Unknown.

POPULATION TRENDS: Unknown.

SPECIES PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT STATUS: None
STATE STATUS: None
OTHER STATUS: None

MANAGEMENT FACTORS:

PROTECTIVE MEASURES TAKEN:

SUGGESTED PROJECTS: Life history studies, population surveys, and range distribution studies need to be performed.

LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP:

SOURCES OF FURTHER INFORMATION

REFERENCE:

Borror, D. J. & R. E. White. 1970. A Field Guide to Insects, America north of Mexico. Houghton Mifflin Company. Boston, Massachusetts. Pp. 54.
Milne, L. & M. Milne. 1980. National Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Insects and Spiders. Alfred. A. Knopf. New York, New York. Pp. 917.

Muchmore, W.B. 1996. A Remarkable New Genus and Species of Pseudoscorpionida (Syrarinidae) from a Cave in Arizona. *Southwestern Naturalist* 41: 145-158.

NatureServe. 2003. An online encyclopedia of life [web application]. Version 1.8. Arlington, Virginia, USA: NatureServe. Available: <http://www.natureserve.org/explorer>. (Accessed: March 16, 2004).

MAJOR KNOWLEDGEABLE INDIVIDUALS:

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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