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MICROVELIA RASILIS DRAKE IN ARIZONA: A SPECIES NEW  
TO THE UNITED STATES (HETEROPTERA: VELIIDAE)

John T. Polhemus<sup>1</sup> and Milton W. Sanderson<sup>2</sup>

ABSTRACT.—*Microvelia rasilis* Drake was taken in Montezuma Well, Yavapai Co., Arizona, along with *Microvelia hinei* Drake and *Hydrometra aemula* Drake (Heteroptera: Hydrometridae). These are all new to this locality; however, the latter two species are previously known from Arizona.

Recently we collected some *Microvelia* from Montezuma Well, Yavapai Co., Arizona, expecting that they would be *M. hinei* Drake 1920. Subsequent examination revealed two species, *M. hinei* and *M. rasilis* Drake 1951. In his revision of the genus, Cecil Smith (1980, A taxonomic revision of the genus *Microvelia* Westwood [Heteroptera: Veliidae] of North America including Mexico, unpublished dissertation, University of Georgia, Athens, xv + 372 pp.) treated *rasilis* as a species only provisionally distinct from *hinei*. However, in the sample from Montezuma Well the two are distinct and easily separable by Smith's key characters. In *hinei* the dorsum of the thorax appears two-segmented with the mesonotum completely covered by the pronotum, the last two abdominal tergites have narrow, longitudinal median shining areas, the coloration is yellowish with rather extensive, dark markings on the thorax and abdomen, and the size is distinctly smaller than *rasilis*. In *rasilis* the mesonotum is narrowly but distinctly exposed, the abdominal tergites are without median shining areas, the coloration is mostly light yellowish, and the size is distinctly larger.

*Microvelia hinei* is a common, quite variable species widely distributed in the United States and Mexico, reaching Argentina to the south, and previously known from several lo-

cations in Arizona (Smith 1980). On the other hand, *M. rasilis* is quite rare, known only from a few specimens, which led Smith to question its specific distinctness from *hinei*. The presence of the two at one locality removes that doubt. The closest previous collection locality for *rasilis* was Telonzo, Michoacán, Mexico, 12-IV-1975, CL741, by J. T. Polhemus in a spring-fed pool among water hyacinths; this locality is about 1,900 km south of Montezuma Well. Other specimens in the Polhemus collection are from the Mexican states of Mexico and Puebla.

Collection data for the Montezuma Well specimens are: *M. hinei*: 2 ♂, 1 ♀, 8-VII-1986, MWS; 7 ♀, 21-V-1987, MWS and JTP; 2 ♂, 8 ♀, 8-VI-1987, MWS. *M. rasilis*: 2 ♀, 21-V-1987, JTP; 1 ♀, 8-VI-1987, MWS.

The Montezuma Well collection of 21-V-1987 also includes *Hydrometra aemula* Drake 1956, a species distributed in western Mexico and Arizona, but not previously known from this locality.

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