

## RESEARCH NOTE

### *PLATYBUNUS TRIANGULARIS* AND *PAROLIGOLOPHUS AGRESTIS*: TWO PHALANGIDS INTRODUCED TO NORTH AMERICA (ARACHNIDA, OPILIONES)

*Platybunus triangularis* (Herbst) 1799, and *Paroligolophus agrestis* (Meade) 1855 (family Phalangidae) have been collected from locations on the west coast of North America. Until now these species have been reported only from Europe (Roewer, 1923; Spoek, 1963). Their taxonomic descriptions closely follow those given by Spoek (1963), and so are not repeated here. The identifications have been verified by Dr. G. L. Spoek.

Numerous specimens of both series of these species have been collected from British Columbia and Washington. The localities are as follows: *P. triangularis* (British Columbia: Burnaby, Coquitlam, Haney, Pitt Meadows, Vancouver; Washington: Seattle); *P. agrestis* (British Columbia: Burnaby, Haney, Parksville, Richmond, Vancouver; Washington: Seattle). Mature specimens of *P. triangularis* were collected late March to July, and of *P. agrestis* late August to late October (data from 1963 to 1973). These periods of maturity coincide with those reported for the species in England (Todd, 1949).

These species appear to be introduced. Banks (1894, 1901, 1911), who made comprehensive studies of the west coast phalangids, did not list them. Although small, *P. agrestis* is commonly found near human habitations and so, if present, should have been collected. The occurrence of these species in North America, which seems to be limited to the seaports of Seattle and Vancouver, also supports this hypothesis. The only other phalangid definitely known to be introduced to North America is *Trogulus tricarinatus* (L.) 1758, which was reported from Rochester, New York (Muchmore, 1963).

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