**SCIENTIFIC NOTE**

**NEW ORNAMENTAL HOST RECORD FOR THE CACTUS WEEVIL, CACTOPHAGUS SPINOLAЕ (GYLLENHAL) (Coleoptera: Curculionidae) IN MORELOS, MEXICO**

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The cactus weevil, *Cactophagus spinolae* (Gyllenhal) (Coleoptera: Curculionidae), commonly attacks various species of Cactaceae (*Carnegiea* sp., *Cereus* sp., *Cylindropuntia* sp., *Ferocactus* sp., *Hylocereus* spp., *Opuntia* spp., and *Stenocereus* spp.) and Asparagaceae (*Agave* sp.) (Anderson 1948; Vaurie 1967; Ramírez-Delgadillo et al. 2011; Bravo-Avilez et al. 2014). Because of newly cultivated species of cacti and the continuing transport of wild species, the distribution of this weevil species and the number of its host plants could be expected to expand.

In July of 2015, in a backyard in Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico (18.9812°, −99.2444°), a mating pair of *C. spinolae* was found on an individual of “reina de la noche” or “pitayita nocturna de espolones”, *Selenicereus hamatus* (Scheidw.) Britton & Rose (Cactaceae). This cactus is valued by collectors for its large size and beauty of its flowers. *Selenicereus hamatus* is a climbing cactus with woody and cylindrical stems (2.5–3.0 cm diameter) (García 2008). It is naturally distributed in the Mexican states of Oaxaca, Puebla, and Veracruz (Bravo-Hollis 1978; Hernandez and Godinez 1994). However, it is now found throughout the country due to commercialization as an ornamental species.

Further inspection of two *S. hamatus* specimens revealed symptoms of potential inner damage in six stems and one fruit. Dissection of plant tissues revealed curculionid larvae (Fig. 1). Five larvae were reared to adult emergence, and two were preserved. Additionally, on 10 November, an adult specimen was collected feeding in one of the *S. hamatus* (Fig. 2), confirming its capacity for mating and feeding on this cactus. All specimens were determined with the taxonomic key of Vaurie (1967).

**Figs. 1–3.** Cactus weevil on *Selenicereus hamatus*. 1) Larva in fruit; 2) Larva in stem; 3) Adult feeding on stem.