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FIRST REPORT OF CHAULIOGNATHUS MARGINATUS (COLEOPTERA: CANTHARIDAE) FROM WISCONSIN

Andrew H. Williams¹

ABSTRACT

This is the first report of *Chauliognathus marginatus* from Wisconsin. Beetles were collected at two Rock Co. sites in 1999 and 2001, and at a Grant Co. site in 2005 and 2006.

Chauliognathus marginatus (Fabricius) was collected in Wisconsin on 25 June 1999, 10 miles north of the Illinois border in Rock County, where I found one beetle nectaring on flowers of Asclepias syriaca² and a second on flowers of Napaea dioica a few yards away. On 22 June 2001, Michele Price collected another beetle³ one mile north of Illinois in Rock Co.

I next found *C. marginatus* at Eagle Valley Nature Preserve on the Mississippi River in Grant Co. This large property is 22-24 miles north of Illinois, and Iowa is visible across the river. A single beetle was nectaring on flowers of *A. syriaca* on 14 July 2005. In 2006, *C. marginatus* was found at Eagle Valley Nature Preserve several times, in different places. One beetle was nectaring on flowers of *A. syriaca* on 3 July; a second was doing so on 10 July. On 24 July, five were on flowers of *Pycnanthemum tenuifolium*, including a mating pair, and three were on flowers of *Eryngium yuccifolium*, including a mating pair. On 3 August, 15 beetles were found on flowers of *E. yuccifolium*, including two mating pairs.

This beetle has long been known to live in neighboring Illinois (Walsh 1868) and Iowa (Wickham 1911). To find individuals of this conspicuous insect does not mean the species has taken up residence here in Wisconsin. However, to find numbers of individuals repeatedly at one site in two consecutive years, associating with each other and mating, indicates that *C. marginatus* has taken up residence here, at least temporarily.

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²Plant nomenclature herein follows Gleason and Cronquist (1991).

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³The Price specimen is in the collection of Alistair Ramsdale; all others are deposited in the University of Wisconsin Insect Research Collection.