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FIRST RECORD OF *HARPALUS OCHROPUS* KIRBY (COLEOPTERA: CARABIDAE) FROM MINNESOTA AND THE CONTERMINOUS UNITED STATESFoster Forbes Purrington¹ and Richard M. Maxey²

The epigeal ground beetle *Harpalus ochropus* Kirby (Coleoptera: Carabidae) has been reported from Alaska and across Canada from British Columbia into Quebec (Bousquet and Laroche 1993). It is local and rarely collected. Gandhi et al. (2005) surveyed for carabids extensively for several years along the Gunflint Trail and adjacent Boundary Waters Canoe Area in northeastern Minnesota. Their reported New Records for the entire state total 100, but they did not find *H. ochropus*. Lindroth (1968) obtained three specimens on sandy open moraine at Nipigon, Ontario, on the north shore of Lake Superior, which he designated the type locality. For his revision of the genus, Noonan (1991) saw only 13 specimens in addition to the male holotype (in the British Museum of Natural History, London).

We found a single male *H. ochropus* in Superior National Forest on the Gunflint Trail four miles west of Gunflint, Cook County, Minnesota, 7.IV.2003. Our collection of this rare ground beetle represents the first record from the lower 48 contiguous United States as well as its first collection in Minnesota. It is held in the personal collection of the first author.

The collection area in northeast Minnesota is in a transitional zone between the boreal spruce-balsam forest and pine-hemlock forest types (Shelford 1963). It is characterized by scattered black spruce (*Picea mariana* [Miller] BSP.), balsam fir (*Abies balsamea* [L.] Miller) and quaking aspen (*Populus tremuloides* Michaux) with occasional paper birch (*Betula papyrifera* Marsh.) and sugar maple (*Acer saccharum* Marsh.).

The somewhat smaller *H. ochropus* adults resemble those of (sympatric) *H. herbivagus* Say but microsculpture on frons and pronotum is less pronounced; the pronotal sides and posterior angles are less rounded. Moreover, the spines of the internal sac fields in the *H. herbivagus* aedeagus are much larger than those of *H. ochropus* (Noonan 1991).

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