

A NOTE ON *PHENES RAPTOR* RAMB. (ANI-SOPTERA: PETALURIDAE)

On December 26th, 1991, I observed a male aeshnid attempting to mate with a female *P. raptor*, which was struggling on the surface of a pond at Las Cascadas, Los Lagos, Chile. The pond was shallow and I was able to wade out and collect the *P. raptor*, which was half drowned.

The insect was very dark coloured and had the characteristic black marks on the face and the yellowish hair of *P. r. raptor*, the southern subspecies (see G. JURZITZA, 1989, *Ent. Z., Frankfurt/Main* 99: 161-168 and R. Andress (pers. comm.).

The pond was man-made and consisted mainly of flood water. It was in a patch of semi-natural habitat within the farmland which lies between the Osomo Volcano and the east shore of Lago Llaniquihue. The pond was about 66 m long and about 14 m wide. It was sheltered on three sides by thick vegetation (mainly *Gunnera* and bamboo) but also by pines and one *Nothofagus* tree. It bordered secondary *Nothofagus* woodland. Adjoining it were a more exposed man-made pond, small seepages in sandy soil and the fast flowing Rio Blanco Arenal. I searched for exuviae and larvae in all the aquatic habitats and among dead wood and litter in the wood, but found none. The leaf litter and dead wood looked too dry for a semi-terrestrial larva, if *Phenes* has such a larva (G. JURZITZA, 1989, *Soc. int. odonatol., rapid Comm. [Suppl.]* 9: iv+32 pp.).

*Aeshna diffinis* Ramb., *Erythrodiplax connata* Burm. and *Ischnura fluviatilis* Sel. were found by the pond where I saw the *P. raptor*. In addition, *Rialla villosa* (Ramb.) and *Sympetrum villosum* Ris were observed at the more exposed pond

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It is possible that the *P. raptor* female originally attempted to oviposit in the pond; but it is also possible that it was attacked by a bird or dragonfly while feeding in the shelter of the trees and happened to fall into water.

I searched for larvae, exuviae and adults of *P. raptor* in several other places within the Chilean Lake District between December 13th and 27th, but failed to find any. It was not surprising that I saw no adults as there was very little sunshine during the whole of that period.

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