

First record of *Chlorostrymon kuscheli* (Ureta, 1949) (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae) in Peru

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Abstract: We provide the first record of *Chlorostrymon kuscheli* (Ureta, 1949) for Peru. One male specimen collected in October, 2008 in the Valle Chilina, Arequipa, Peru.

Key words: *Chlorostrymon kuscheli*, new record, Peru

The genus *Chlorostrymon* Clench, 1961 currently comprises six species (Robbins 2004). The genus is widespread in America from the extreme southern United States (southern areas in Florida and Texas to Baja California and neighboring areas), Greater and Lesser Antilles and Mexico, through South America to northern and central Chile (Johnson 1989). *Chlorostrymon kuscheli* was described by Ureta (1949) as "*Thecla*" *kuscheli* based on a series of specimens collected from northern Chile. Johnson (1989) revised the genus *Chlorostrymon* and placed this species in the genus.

According to available distributional data, *C. kuscheli* is restricted to dry and open Andean areas in northern Chile (Ureta 1949; Johnson 1989; 1990; Peña and Ugarte 1996). The only reliable records in Chile belong to a series of specimens from Larancagua, province of Arica (Ureta 1949; Johnson 1989, 1990), collected by Dr. Emilio Ureta between 1940 and 1948, and deposited in the Museo Nacional de Historia Natural de Chile.

The first record of *C. kuscheli* in Peru, reported herein, is based on one male specimen collected by MD in October 2008 (Figure 1), in the Valle Chilina, Arequipa, Peru (16°21'41" S, 071°32'14" W), at an altitude of 2,500 m. The area is close to the boundaries of Arequipa city and is a transitional zone between agricultural landscape and urban areas. This specimen was collected in rapid flight near the Chili River, which crosses the city. The predominant vegetation is typical of river bank vegetation of coastal valleys in southwestern Peru. The specimen is deposited in the Museo de Historia Natural de la Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos (MUSM), Lima, Peru.

The lack of faunal information for vast areas of southern Peru, close to the border with Chile, hinders studies based on the geographic distribution and area continuity among butterfly species shared with Chile.

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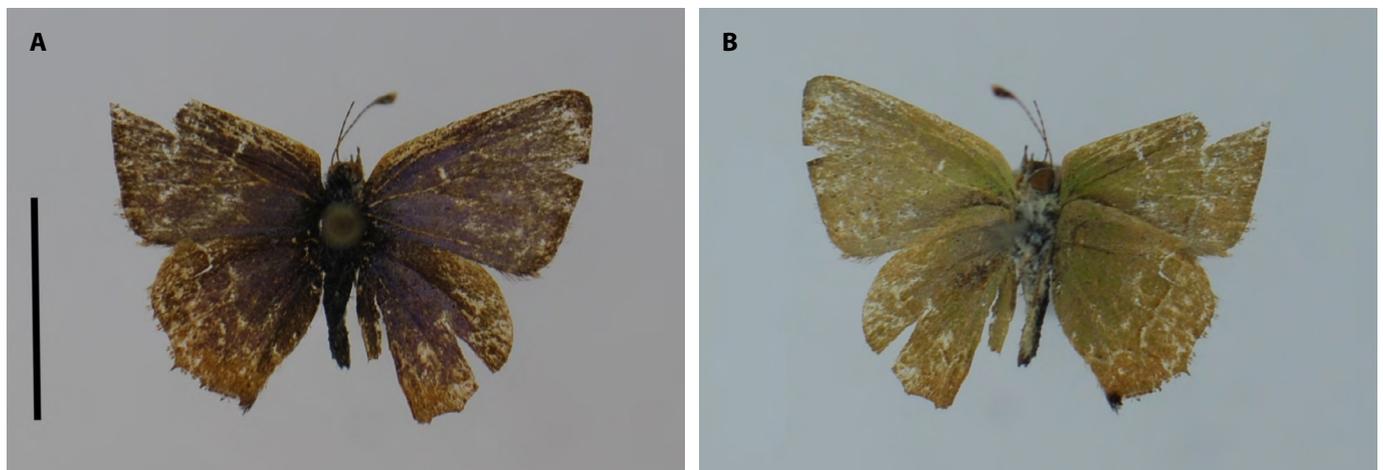


Figure 1. Male adult of *Chlorostrymon kuscheli* collected in the Valle Chilina, Arequipa, Peru (16°21'41" S, 071°32'14" W) deposited at MUSM. **A:** dorsal view. **B:** ventral view. Scale bar = 10 mm.

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