

Accepted Manuscript

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Authors: Edmundo González-Santillán, Lourival D. Possani



PII: S0001-706X(18)30622-3
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.actatropica.2018.08.002>
Reference: ACTROP 4738

To appear in: *Acta Tropica*

Received date: 18-5-2018
Revised date: 31-7-2018
Accepted date: 3-8-2018

Please cite this article as: González-Santillán E, Possani LD, North American scorpion species of public health importance with a reappraisal of historical epidemiology, *Acta Tropica* (2018), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.actatropica.2018.08.002>

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North American Scorpion Species of Public Health Importance with a Reappraisal of Historical Epidemiology

Running title: North America's dangerous scorpions and their epidemiology

Edmundo González-Santillán^{a, b} and Lourival D. Possani^a

^a Departamento de Medicina Molecular y Bioprocesos, Instituto de Biotecnología, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México.

^b Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México

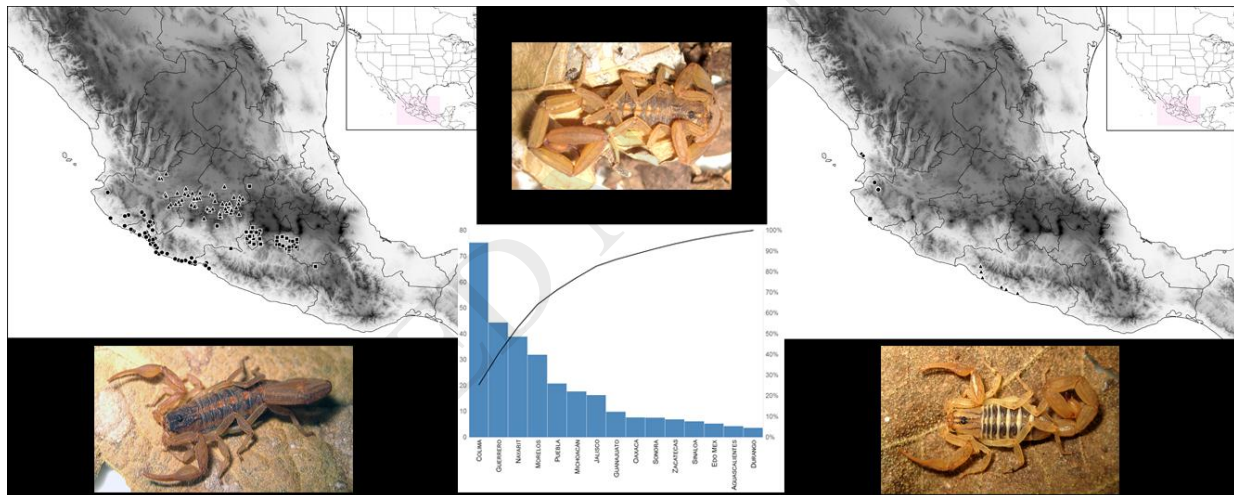
Corresponding author: Edmundo González-Santillán¹, Facultad de Ciencias, UNAM Av.

Universidad 3000, Circuito Exterior S/N Delegación Coyoacán, C.P. 04510, Ciudad

Universitaria, CDMX, México, e-mail: egs@ciencias.unam.mx

¹Current address

Graphical Abstract



Highlights

- The genus *Centruroides*, with 21 scorpion species of medical importance, is distributed in the Pacific coast and central Mexico and southwestern states of the USA.
- Mexico is considered a hotspot for scorpionism.
- Medically important scorpion species diversity, distribution and toxicity knowledge is incomplete.
- Historical data on epidemiology suggest that the Pacific coast of Mexico have presented the highest rate of mortality and that morbidity in other states remains very high.
- Epidemiological parameters are similar among various studies conducted in Mexico, but symptomatology varies in accordance to the scorpion species.

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