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Daniel R. Brooks  
*University of Mississippi*, dnlbrooks@gmail.com

Nancy J. Welsch  
*University of California - Berkeley*

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During September, 1974, in the course of examining aquatic snails for larval trematode infections, specimens of Helisoma trivolvis (Say) were collected and found to contain one or two specimens of the leech Marvinmeyeria lucida (Moore, 1954) Soos, 1969 between the shell and mantle. The leeches were identified on the basis of comparison with the original description and with the specific diagnosis given by Soos (1969, Acta Zool. Acad. Scient. 15:397-454). Specimens were observed live with the aid of a stereoscope or compound microscope, then flattened with slight coverslip pressure, fixed with aceto-formo-alcohol (AFA), and stored in 70% ethanol. They were then stained with Mayer’s hematoxylin and mounted in Canada balsam for study as whole mounts. Voucher specimens have been deposited in the University of Nebraska State Museum Division of Parasitology.

Marvinmeyeria lucida was described from specimens collected in Manitoba, Canada as free-living among plant debris in shallow water (Moore, in Meyer and Moore, 1954; Wassmann, J. Biol. 12:63-96). Moore (1966, Nat. Hist. Pap. Nat’l. Mus. Can. 32:1-11) stated that small snails constitute the principal food source of M. lucida in Alberta, Canada and listed Physa heterostropha (Say), Menetus exacuous Call, and Lymnaea marginata (Say) as prey. When leeches were isolated in aquaria containing only snails, they readily ate the snails, showing a definite preference for Physa heterostropha.

Scudder and Mann (1968, Syesis. 1:203-209) reported M. lucida from temporary ponds in British Columbia, Canada. Specimens were said to be free-living among plant debris. Sawyer (1968, Ohio J. Sci. 68:226-228) reported M. lucida from southern Michigan and stated that in his rare encounters with the leech species, he usually found them in association with snails of the genera Physa and Lymnaea, but never observed them feeding upon the snails. Sawyer (1972, Ill.


