

A new species of *Simrothula* (Gastropoda, Soleolifera, Veronicellidae) from Northern Brazil

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Abstract

Simrothula paraensis sp. nov. is proposed based on specimens from Serra de Carajás, State of Pará, northern Brazil. The morphology, anatomy, jaw and radula are described and illustrated. *S. paraensis* differs from the other *Simrothula* species by having an expansion on one side of the penis glans, near the distal extremity of the penis base, a longer bursa copulatrix duct and a stronger developed accessory gland. The species is compared with the other species of the genus *Simrothula*, and *S. prismatica* is synonymized with *S. fuhrmanni*. This is the first record of *Simrothula* from Brazil.

Key words: Veronicellidae, *Simrothula*, morphology, anatomy, land slug, Neotropical region

Introduction

Veronicellidae Gray 1840 is a group of land slugs belonging to the Soleolifera Simroth, 1890, the only pulmonate taxon other than the well known and much more numerous Stylommatophora with terrestrial shell less members. They are distributed throughout of the tropical and subtropical regions in primary and secondary forests (Thomé 1993; Barker 2001). They are nocturnal and herbivorous, being found daytime resting under logs and stones. Some species are extremely damaging to agricultural crops, and others are intermediate hosts of human parasites (Thomé 1993).

According to Thomé (1975) there are 18 genera in the Neotropical region, among which is *Simrothula* Thomé, 1975. This genus contained three species: *S. columbiana*, *S. prismatica* and *S. fuhrmanni*. All were originally described by Simroth (1914) based on