



Two new Brazilian species of *Paracerura* Deharveng & Oliveira (Collembola: Isotomidae)

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Abstract

Paracerura airesi **sp. nov.** (Paraná River, State of Tocantins) and *P. serrana* **sp. nov.** (Aiuroca Valley, State of Minas Gerais) are described and illustrated. Diagnosis of the genus *Paracerura* and a comparative table of four known species of the genus are given.

Key words: Taxonomy, *Paracerura airesi* **sp. nov.**, *P. serrana* **sp. nov.**, *P. virgata*, *P. itatiaiensis*

Introduction

The *Paracerura* genus was described by Deharveng & Oliveira (1994) to incorporate the type species *Paracerura virgata*, and *Setocerura itatiaensis* Arlé, 1959, respectively from the North and Southeast Brazilian regions. According to the authors, *Paracerura* can be essentially recognized by the elliptical postantennal organ with chitinous borders, distant from the ocular area by about twice the size of the proximal eye, conspicuous pigmentation, medium size, habitus similar to *Isotomurus* genus, separated abdominal segments, without trichobothria, body cover with smooth and thin seta, pointed tenent hair, manubrium with anterior and posterior setae, dens crenulated, retinaculum and mucro quadridentate. In that work, the authors redefined *Setocerura* Salmon, 1941 and transferred the species *S. itatiaensis* described from “Brejo da Lapa”, at 2000 m alt., “Parque Nacional de Itatiaia” (Southeast Region) to the new genus *Paracerura*.

The continuous study of collembolan material from different ecosystems and Brazilian localities revealed several new species of *Paracerura*, two of which are herein described and illustrated. The first, *Paracerura airesi* **sp. nov.**, was collected in marginal vegetation of Paraná River, State of Tocantins (North Region), and the second, *P. serrana* **sp. nov.**, was found in Aiuroca Valley at 1600 m alt., in “Parque Nacional de Itatiaia”, State of Minas Gerais (Southeast Region). Other new species are still in study, two from “Parque Nacional da Tijuca” and Teresópolis (State of Rio de Janeiro) and a third one from Sooretama (State of Espírito Santo). The discovery of those species allows us to enlarge the geographical distribution and the genus diagnosis, since the study of this material showed some features not referred in the original description of *Paracerura*.

In the Table 1 we compare four known species of *Paracerura*. All the material herein studied is deposited in the Collembola Collection at Museu Nacional/UFRJ (Brazil, Rio de Janeiro), under abbreviation CM/MNRJ.

Abbreviation: UFRJ—Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, CM/MNRJ—Cleide Mendonça/Museu Nacional do Rio de Janeiro, accp—accessory p-row sensillum, as—anterosubmedial sensillum.