



## The nymph of *Anacroneuria debilis* (Pictet, 1841) (Plecoptera: Perlidae)

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### Abstract

The nymph of *Anacroneuria debilis* (Pictet, 1841) is described, being the first immature of this genus described in Brazil. It can be distinguished from other described *Anacroneuria* nymphs by: (1) the presences of a row of fine, long bristles along the tibia; (2) by the absence of long bristles on the frons; (3) due to its distinctive color pattern; and (4) by the presences of rows of bristles on the basal third of the cercus.

**Key words:** Description, Immatures, Neotropical Plecoptera, Pedra Branca State Park, Rio de Janeiro

### Resumo

A ninfa de *Anacroneuria debilis* (Pictet, 1841) é descrita. Esta é primeira descrição de ninfa desse gênero no Brasil. Esta pode ser distinguida de outras por: (1) presença de fileira de finas e longas cerdas ao longo da tíbia; (2) ausência de longas cerdas na frente; (3) padrão de coloração característico; e (4) Fileiras de cerdas nos cercos.

**Palavras chave:** Descrição; Imaturos; Plecoptera Neotropical; Parque Estadual da Pedra Branca; Rio de Janeiro

### Introduction

*Anacroneuria* Klapalek, 1909 is a large and taxonomically difficult genus of Plecoptera with 332 species occurring in the Neotropical and Nearctic regions (Froehlich 2010, Stark 2009). Froehlich (2002) mentioned the difficulty in the taxonomy because many types are lost and the descriptions are insufficient. Currently, only 12 nymphs of this genus are known, representing 4% of the described species. Difficulty in rearing these predatory immatures has contributed to paucity of descriptions of nymphs. Maldonado *et al.* (2002) and Stark (1995) described nymphs from Venezuela: *A. blanca* Stark, 1995, *A. caraca* Stark, 1995, *A. cruza* Stark, 1995, *A. muesa* Stark, 1995, *A. paleta* Stark, 1995, *A. segnini* Stark & Maldonado, 2002, and *A. shamadari* Stark, 1995. Stark (1998) described both adults and nymphs of *A. maritza* and *A. uatsi* from Costa Rica, and *A. aroucana* Kimmins, 1948 from Trinidad and Tobago (Stark 1994). From Mexico and Guatemala, Stark & Kondratieff (2004) described nymphs of *A. baumannii* Stark & Kondratieff, 2004 and *A. quadriloba* Jewett, 1958.

*Anacroneuria debilis* was described by Pictet (1841) from Santa Catarina State, as *Perla (Perla) debilis*. Zwick (1972) redescribed and transferred it to *Anacroneuria*. This species occurs in south and southeastern Brazil (Espírito Santo, Rio de Janeiro, Paraná, and Santa Catarina states), southeastern Paraguay, and northeastern Argentina (Misiones and Entre Rios) (Froehlich 2002, Froehlich, 2010, Nessimian *et al.* 2010). We describe the nymph of *A. debilis* based reared material.