



New Sycoracinae (Diptera, Psychodidae) from southern Brazil

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Abstract

Two new species of *Sycorax* from the Atlantic Rain Forest of Espírito Santo, *Sycorax canaanensis* Santos, Bravo & Falqueto **sp. nov.** and *Sycorax tuberculata* Santos, Bravo & Falqueto **sp. nov.** are described and illustrated. Male specimens were collected with CDC light traps in the Biological Reserve of Augusto Ruschi, municipality of Santa Teresa, state of Espírito Santo, Brazil. This finding raises the number of described Western Hemisphere *Sycorax* species to 15.

Key words: Moth fly, new species, *Sycorax*, Brazilian Atlantic Forest

Introduction

Sycoracinae is a small subfamily of Psychodidae with 43 extant and four fossil species described (Ježek, 1999, Bravo 2003, 2007; Bejarano *et al.* 2008; Bravo & Salazar-Valenzuela 2009; Santos & Bravo 2009; Santos *et al.* 2009; Bravo *et al.* 2010; Santos *et al.* 2011; Petrulevičius *et al.* 2011; Curler & Jacobson 2012). Most specialists recognize three genera in Sycoracinae (Duckhouse 1972, Santos *et al.* 2009): the monospecific *Aposycorax* Duckhouse, 1972, *Parasycorax* Duckhouse, 1972 (three species) and *Sycorax* Haliday in Curtis, 1839 (39 extant and four fossil species). In the Western Hemisphere, 13 species of *Sycorax* are known, all from South America. In this paper, two new species of South American *Sycorax* are described from the Brazilian Atlantic Forest.

Materials and methods

The specimens studied were collected with CDC light traps during a field trip to Reserva Biológica Augusto Ruschi, a fragment of Atlantic forest in Southeast Brazil. Moisture is abundant in this area, with one or two dry months and the remainder humid or partially humid with a mean annual temperature between 14.3 and 26.2°C. The landscape is characterized by mountainous, dense rainforest with steep slopes and small valleys between the mountains and an elevation varying from 550 to 1.100 m. The predominant soil type is red-yellow dystrophic latossolic. Biodiversity in this area is greater than other areas of Atlantic forest (Thomaz & Monteiro 1997, Mendes & Padovam 2000, Passamani *et al.* 2000).

All specimens were treated with 10% KOH, mounted in Canada balsam and measured in mm. Morphological terminology for Diptera follows that of Cumming & Wood (2009). Terminology for the wings follows that of Duckhouse (1972). Specimens were deposited in the *Coleção Entomológica Prof. Johann Becker do Museu de Zoologia da Universidade Estadual de Feira de Santana*, Feira de Santana, Bahia State, Brazil.