

***Draconema brasiliensis* and *Draconema fluminensis* (Chromadorida, Draconematidae): two new species of free living nematodes from a rocky shore affected by upwelling on the Brazilian coast**

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Abstract

Two new species of Draconematidae from a rocky shore affected by upwelling on the Brazilian coast are described. *Draconema brasiliensis* sp. n. and *Draconema fluminensis* sp. n. are the first species within the *Draconema* genus with more than 14 post-rostral enlarged annules (15–16 in the new species). Both species are close to *D. cephalatum* in many measurements but despite some similarities they have longer gubernaculum, *D. fluminensis* presents 7 pairs of setae on the non-annulated region of the tail (*D. cephalatum* presents only 6) and *D. brasiliensis* has a longer tail. On the rocky shores prospected, only the two species were found within Draconematidae.

Key words: *Draconema*, marine nematodes, rocky shore, upwelling, Brazil

Introduction

Free-living marine nematodes from the family Draconematidae are easy to identify even at low magnification due to the large pharyngeal region. This family was extensively revised by Allen and Noffsinger (1978) and more recently by Decraemer *et al* (1997). The first authors considered the group at superfamily level (Draconematoidea) and divided in two families: Draconematidae and Prochaetosomatidae while the second group of authors followed Lorenzen (1994) considering Draconematidae as a single family with two subfamilies: Draconematinae and Prochaetosomatinae. The last one is currently accepted by most of the nematologists.

Presently the Draconematidae is composed by 70 species grouped in 14 genera from which *Draconema* was the first one described by Cobb, in 1913. The genus, after the last