



Article

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***Skiallagma baueri* Förster 1906, a geographically misplaced damselfly, is a junior synonym of *Xiphiagrion cyanomelas* Selys 1876 (Odonata: Coenagrionidae)**

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Abstract

Based on comparison of specimens and descriptions, *Skiallagma baueri* Förster, 1906, described from São Paulo State, Brazil and known only from its type series, is found to be a junior synonym of *Xiphiagrion cyanomelas* Selys, 1876, a species from the Philippines and Southeast Asia.

Key words: Odonata, damselfly, Coenagrionidae, taxonomy, synonymy, South America, Southeast Asia

Resumen

Sobre la base de comparación de ejemplares y descripciones, se encuentra que *Skiallagma baueri* Förster, 1906, descrita de São Paulo, Brasil y conocida hasta ahora solo de sus tipos, es un sinónimo junior de *Xiphiagrion cyanomelas* Selys, 1876, una especie de las Filipinas y región Indonesia.

Introduction

The genus *Skiallagma* was described by Förster (1906) to accommodate his new species *S. baueri*. This species was described without any accompanying illustrations from two males from São Paulo State, Brazil and has never been recorded again. According to the original description, the specimens were given to Förster by his friend F. W. Bauer, then director of the German Middle school in São Paulo.

The only other species which has been placed in the genus is *Skiallagma simulacrum* Calvert, 1909. Illustrations by N. D. Santos of the dorsal and lateral views of the appendages of a complete syntype male of *S. simulacrum* were published by Machado (1980) who placed the species in his newly erected genus *Helveciagrion*, now considered a junior synonym of *Telebasis* (Garrison 2009). Machado (1980) correctly noted that members of his new genus were completely different from those of *Skiallagma*. The removal of *S. simulacrum* to *Telebasis* made *Skiallagma* again a monotypic genus.

As explained by Garrison *et al.* (2003), the late E. B. Williamson purchased Förster's collection, which is currently housed in the UMMZ. This proved valuable since several species described by Förster were not illustrated and there have been questions as to labeling of some of his material (Lieftinck 1937). I illustrated one of the two syntypes males of *Skiallagma baueri*, and several of these drawings were published by Lencioni (2006) in his treatise of the damselflies of Brazil. Garrison *et al.* (2010) later provided further details of one male syntype, including better and more detailed illustrations of the genital ligula and medial view of the right cercus (the left cercus was missing at the time of present re-examination of this male), and placed this species in a key to New World genera of Coenagrionidae.