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Two new species and two detailed chaetotaxy descriptions of *Seira* (Collembola: Entomobryidae) from Brazil

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Abstract

Two new species, *Seira coroatensis* sp. nov. and *Seira diamantinae* sp. nov., from different areas of Caatinga Biome, Northeastern Brazil, are described and illustrated in this paper. *Seira coroatensis* sp. nov. share some similarities with *Seira mendoncae* Bellini & Zeppelini and *Seira ritae* Bellini & Zeppelini, but presents a very distinct pattern of setae on dorsal head and mesothorax. In the other hand, *Seira diamantinae* sp. nov. is the fifth neotropical species described bearing modified blunt macrosetae on distal manubrium and proximal dens. The detailed dorsal chaetotaxy of *S. paraibensis* Bellini & Zeppelini and *S. glabra* Godeiro & Bellini are presented with some notes regarding the original descriptions of the species.

Key words: Caatinga biome, *Lepidocyrtinus*, Northeastern Brazil, Seirini, taxonomy

Introduction

Seira is the dominant form of epiedaphic springtails over most forested and open arid habitats in northeastern Brazil (Bellini & Zeppelini 2004, 2009b, Zeppelini *et al.* 2008, Abrantes *et al.* 2010, 2012, Ferreira *et al.* 2013). The majority of neotropical species present a very similar habitus and color pattern when fixed in ethanol (yellowish to brownish body with lateral areas of mesothorax and Abd. IV dark pigmented), which makes the identification of species rely on the analysis of other morphological components, especially the dorsal chaetotaxy (Christiansen & Bellinger 2000).

As shown by Soto-Adames (2008), at the same time the dorsal chaetotaxy presents an overall similar pattern among different *Seira* species; many setae on body have different shapes (micro, meso or macrosetae, for instance) and states (they can be present or absent) in different species, turning the dorsal head and body chaetotaxy the most reliable and detailed feature to describe and separate species in the genus, as in many other taxa of springtails.

Herein in we describe two new species of *Seira*, from Rio Grande do Norte and Bahia States, northeast region of Brazil. Also we present the detailed chaetotaxy of *S. paraibensis* Bellini & Zeppelini, 2009 (Bellini & Zeppelini 2009a) and *S. glabra* Godeiro & Bellini, 2013. Specimens were collected with entomological aspirators, fixed in ethanol, cleared with hydrochloric acid, potassium dichromate and mounted in glass slides in Hoyer medium (following Bellinger *et al.* 1996–2015). The detailed chaetotaxic schemes follow Soto-Adames (2008) and Szeptycki (1979). The resumed dorsal macrochaetal schemes resemble Jacquemart (1974), as presented by Christiansen & Bellinger (2000).

Abbreviations and symbols. Abd.—abdominal segment, Ant.—antennal segment, Th.—thoracic segment. DBEZ/UFRN—Department of Botany, Ecology and Zoology of Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil (Departamento de Botânica, Ecologia e Zoologia da Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Norte, Brasil). In detailed chaetotaxy schemes: large empty circles refer to macrosetae; black large circles to mesosetae; small black circles to microsetae; large empty circles with a small black circle inside to micro-macrosetae; large black circles