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A new species of *Telenomus* Haliday (Hymenoptera: Platygasteridae) egg parasitoid of *Parides ascanius* (Cramer) (Lepidoptera: Papilionidae), a threatened species from Brazil

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Abstract

Telenomus parides Loiácono et Margaría **sp. nov.**, is described and illustrated based on specimens reared from the eggs of *Parides ascanius* (Cramer). *Parides ascanius* is a threatened papilionid, which is endemic to the restingas of the Atlantic Forest of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The new *Telenomus* species is gregarious endoparasitoid and belongs to the *Telenomus californicus* species complex.

Key words: Platygasterid, natural enemy, lepidopteran, Neotropical

Resumo

Telenomus parides Loiácono et Margaría **sp. nov.**, é descrita e ilustrada baseada em espécimes criados a partir de ovos de *Parides ascanius* (Cramer). *Parides ascanius* é uma borboleta da família Papilionidae, que é endêmica das restingas da Mata Atlântica do Rio de Janeiro, Brasil. A nova espécie de *Telenomus* é um endoparasitóide gregário e pertence ao complexo de espécies de *Telenomus californicus*.

Introduction

The fluminense swallowtail, *Parides ascanius* (Cramer) (Lepidoptera: Papilionidae: Troidini) is a threatened Neotropical papilionid species that is listed in the IUCN Red Data Book since 1983 (Wells *et al.* 1983; IUCN 2015) and threatened by the Brazilian government since 1973 (IBDF 1973; MMA 2014; Brown & Freitas 2008). This primitive, aposematic and relict species is endemic to the Atlantic Forest of Southeastern Brazil and can be found in the coastal and subcoastal lowland swampy vegetation, mainly restinga. Females lay isolated eggs year-round directly in the canopy of pipevine, *Aristolochia macroura* (Aristolochiaceae) or neighboring trees (Tyler *et al.* 1994; New *et al.* 1995; Brown 1996; Herkenhoff *et al.* 2013). Six generations of the fluminense swallowtail develop per year similarly to other Brazilian *Parides* species (D'Almeida 1966; Otero & Brown 1986).

Tavares *et al.* (2006) published the first record of parasitoids reared from *P. ascanius* but none of them were egg parasitoids. Otero & Brown (1986) have reported one parasitized egg of *Parides ascanius* but did not provide any taxonomic information about the parasitoid. Johnson (1984) broadly established eleven host specific groups of *Telenomus* Haliday: *T. tabanivorus* (Ashmead), from Diptera, *T. californicus* Ashmead, *T. arzamae* Riley and *T.*