

***Simulium (Inaequalium) margaritatum*, a new species of black fly (Diptera: Simuliidae) from the central region of Bahia State, Brazil**

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Abstract

A new species of black fly, *Simulium (Inaequalium) margaritatum*, is described based on the male, female, pupa, and larva. This new species was collected in small streams in the Chapada Diamantina National Park and surrounding area in the state of Bahia, Brazil.

Key words: aquatic insects, black flies, *Inaequalium*, Neotropical Region, taxonomy, Parque Nacional Chapada Diamantina

Introduction

Simulium (Inaequalium) Coscarón & Wygodzinsky is a subgenus of black flies that includes 19 species, 17 of which occur in Brazil (Crosskey & Howard 2004; Pessoa *et al.* 2005). There are two species groups (*inaequale* and *botulibranchium*); thirteen species are included in the first group and three in the second; one species, *Simulium lurybayae* Smart, was not included in either of these groups (Coscarón 1987, 1991; Coscarón & Coscarón-Arias 1997). Strieder & Py-Daniel (2002) corroborated these two species groups but placed *Simulium travassosi* D'Andretta & D'Andretta, formerly in the *inaequale* species group, in the *botulibranchium* group. However, Crosskey & Howard (2004) maintained *S. travassosi* in the *inaequale* species group, listed *S. lurybayae* in the *botulibranchium* species group, and did not include *Simulium pseudoexiguum* Nunes de Mello & Barbosa de Almeida in any species group. Recently, a new species was described from the state of