



Three new species of *Hemiosus* Sharp (Coleoptera: Hydrophilidae) and new state records of *Hemiosus fittkaui* Oliva and *H. moreirai* d'Orchymont from Brazil

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Abstract

Three new species of *Hemiosus* (Coleoptera: Hydrophilidae) from Southeastern Brazil are described and illustrated: *H. ater* **sp. nov.**, *H. frades* **sp. nov.**, and *H. santosi* **sp. nov.** *Hemiosus fittkaui* Oliva and *H. moreirai* d'Orchymont are recorded for the first time from Bahia and São Paulo states in Brazil respectively.

Key words: Neotropical Region, Brazil, Hydrophilidae, Berosini, *Hemiosus*, new species

Resumo

Três novas espécies de *Hemiosus* (Coleoptera: Hydrophilidae) do Sudeste do Brasil são descritas e ilustradas: *H. ater* **sp. nov.**, *H. frades* **sp. nov.**, and *H. santosi* **sp. nov.** *Hemiosus fittkaui* Oliva and *H. moreirai* d'Orchymont são registrados pela primeira vez para os estados da Bahia e São Paulo, respectivamente.

Palavras-chave: Neotropical, Brasil, Hydrophilidae, Berosini, *Hemiosus*, espécies novas

Introduction

The water scavenger beetle genus *Hemiosus* Sharp (Coleoptera: Hydrophilidae: Berosini) is restricted to the New World with most species found in South America. A few species reach into the southern Nearctic region, with *H. exilis* (LeConte) occurring as far north as Arizona and Texas in the United States (Short & Torres 2006). The genus is composed of 32 species, including 14 recorded from Brazil (Hansen 1999; Short & Hebauer 2006; Short 2007). Members of *Hemiosus* are small aquatic beetles, about 2–4 mm in length, with an elongated and oval body form in dorsal view, and dorsally convex in lateral view. Additional distinguishing characteristics include: prominent eyes; short maxillary palpi (shorter than the width of the head), apical segment longer than penultimate; 7-segmented antennae; scutellum length approximately twice basal width; elytra with ten longitudinal punctuated striae, plus a short scutellary one between first and second; prominent humeral hump; middle part of the mesosternum strongly raised into a mesosternal process; metasternum with a posteromedian process which is weakly raised, depressed in the middle part with glabrous depressions; five apparent ventrites, the first one with a median and two lateral carinae, and the fifth one with a shallow apical notch; femora with extremely fine and dense hydrophobic pubescence except apically; linear foretibiae; middle and hind tibiae with swimming hairs, like tarsi; color pattern usually testaceous, with melanic areas, on dorsum, usually with metallic sheen (Hansen 1991; Oliva 1991, 1994).

Species of the genus are usually associated with sandy bottoms of rivers and streams. Some of them partially bury themselves in sediment along river margins and sandbanks or nearby puddles (Oliva 1994).