



A new species of *Helgreelia* Gaimari (Diptera: Odiniidae) from Brazil, with a key to the Neotropical species of Odiniidae

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Abstract

The genus *Helgreelia* Gaimari was previously known only from two species described from Costa Rica. *Helgreelia gaimarii* n. sp. is described from Brazil based on male and female specimens collected in the Amazon Basin with butterfly traps. A key to the described Neotropical species of Odiniidae is provided.

Key words: Acalyptratae, Schizophora, Diptera, Odiniidae, Neotropical Region

Resumo

O gênero *Helgreelia* Gaimari, 2007 apresentava somente duas espécies descritas para a Costa Rica. *Helgreelia gaimarii* n. sp. é descrita para o Brasil baseada em machos e fêmeas coletados na Amazônia com armadilhas para borboletas. Uma chave para as espécies neotropicais de Odiniidae é apresentada.

Palavras-chave: Acalyptratae, Schizophora, Diptera, Odiniidae, Região Neotropical

Introduction

The family Odiniidae is comprised of small to medium-sized (3–6 mm), compact, strongly bristled flies, which are usually dark brown or dull gray in color (Prado 1975, McAlpine 1987). The family consists of about 60 described species that belong to two subfamilies (Odiniinae and Tragiopinae) in all zoogeographical regions.

Odiniid flies are poorly known in the Neotropical Region. The first great treatment of the Neotropical fauna was the revision of Prado (1973), who provided a key to genera, and described a new genus and several new species. Prado (1975) also catalogued the Neotropical odiniid fauna, then comprising six genera and 21 species. Gaimari (2007) studied the Central American fauna, describing three new genera and four new species from Costa Rica.

The Brazilian fauna is currently comprised of 11 species in six genera, with only four species in three genera known from the Brazilian Amazon (Prado 1975, Prado & Papavero 2002). Analyzing unidentified specimens of Odiniidae collected with butterfly traps, we found some specimens of the recently described genus *Helgreelia* Gaimari, otherwise known only from Costa Rica. These differ from the two Costa Rican species mainly in the shape of the aedeagus and color pattern of the abdomen. In this paper we described a new species of *Helgreelia* from Brazilian Amazon.