

New species of *Hopperia* (Nematoda, Comesomatidae) and *Metachromadora* (Nematoda, Desmodoridae) from Patagonia, Chubut, Argentina

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Abstract

One new **Comesomatidae** species and one new **Desmodoridae** species from the Gulfs of San José and San Matías, Chubut province are described: *Hopperia patagonica* **sp. n.** is characterized by the shape of odontia on anterior end (one big and two smaller teeth on each); odontia length in relation to the amphid length; values of b and R3, short body length (L: 1370–1500 µm) and the de Man's ratios (b: 10.3–11.7). *Metachromadora zaixsi* **sp. n.** is characterized by the absence of pre-cloacal supplements, the presence of four cephalic setae and the de Man's ratios (b: 4.7–7.2). Keys are provided for both species.

Key words: Comesomatidae, Desmodoridae, Marine Nematoda, Patagonian coasts, *Hopperia*, *Metachromadora*, systematics

Introduction

Hopperia Vitiello 1969 has been reviewed by Jensen (1979), Lorenzen (1981), Platt (1985), Platt & Warwick (1988), Jensen (1992), Hope & Zhang (1995) and Chen & Vincx (1998). Jensen (1992) has contributed with a pictorial key and Hope & Zhang (1995) and Chen & Vincx (1998) with written keys.

Chen & Vincx (1998), in their key of the genus *Hopperia* recognize seven nominal species. Three of them *Hopperia americana* Pastor de Ward 1984; *Hopperia beaglense* Chen & Vincx 1998 and *Hopperia arntzi* Chen & Vincx 1998 have been found on muddy areas around Patagonia.

In this paper, I describe one new species, *Hopperia patagonica* **sp. n.** and add some modifications to the last *Hopperia* keys given by Hope & Zhang (1995) and Chen & Vincx (1998).