

New records of six species of subgenus *Sophophora* (*Drosophila*, *Drosophilidae*) collected in Brazil

JONAS S. DÖGE¹, MARCO S. GOTTSCHALK^{1,2}, DANIELA C. DE TONI^{1,2}, LUÍS E. M. BIZZO¹, SABRINA C. F. OLIVEIRA¹, VERA L. S. VALENTE² & PAULO R. P. HOFMANN¹*

¹ Laboratório de Drosofilídeos, Departamento de Biologia Celular, Embriologia e Genética, Centro de Ciências Biológicas, Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, 88036-400 Florianópolis-SC, Brazil. E-mail: prph@ccb.ufsc.br

² Departamento de Genética, Instituto de Biociências, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul

Abstract

The *Drosophilidae* Family of flies is cosmopolitan and is distributed in many types of ecosystems. The knowledge about the distribution of these species in Brazil has grown since the 1940s. However, the large extension of the Brazilian territory and the complexity of its ecosystems accounts for the fact of that this research field is still underexploited. The present study brings together survey data from 12 collection sites in Santa Catarina State, southern Brazil. The flies were collected over fermented banana baits, or over their natural trophic resources. This study expands the knowledge of the geographical distribution of *Drosophila ananassae* Doleschall, *D. aff. elliptica*, *D. neosal-tans* Pavan & Magalhães, *D. pulchella* Sturtevant, *D. bocainensis* Pavan & Cunha and *D. bocainoides* Carson, all from the subgenus *Sophophora*.

Key words: *Drosophilidae*, *Drosophila*, *Sophophora*, new records, geographic distribution, Brazil

Introduction

The genus *Drosophila* has been used as a model organism in genetic and evolutionary research. Studies on their ecology have provided answers for the sustainable development of the planet (Tidon *et al.*, 2003). According to these authors, *Drosophila* flies are appropriate for this kind of study by virtue of their wide distribution — both in number of species and individuals — and because they are easily captured and have a short life cycle.

Representatives of these insects can be found practically all over the planet, living in several kinds of ecosystems; some species are endemic to given regions while others are