

Two new species of *Actinote* (Lepidoptera, Nymphalidae) from Southeastern Brazil

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Abstract

Two new species of *Actinote* (Nymphalidae, Heliconiinae, Acraeini) are described from southeastern Brazil. *Actinote eberti* **sp. nov.** occurs in the Serra da Mantiqueira region and resembles members of the *Actinote* black-yellow mimicry group. *Actinote pratensis* **sp. nov.** is found in widely scattered points in the rich-soil central São Paulo transition between montane and semideciduous atlantic forest, and belongs to the orange-yellow mimicry group.

Key words: Acraeini, Atlantic Forest, butterfly, genitalia, Heliconiinae, Neotropics

“And by the way, have you forgotten to say, where you live, what’s your name, what you do.”
— Antonio Carlos Jobim

Introduction

Members of the heliconiine tribe Acraeini are characterized by distinctive morphology of the larvae, wing veins and scales, forelegs, and male and female abdomen and genitalia (Ehrlich 1958, Van Son 1963, Penz & Djunijanti 2003, Freitas & Brown 2004). The tribe currently includes *Pardopsis* Trimen, *Acraea* Fabricius, and *Actinote* Hübner. Phylogenetic studies suggest that *Actinote* constitutes a monophyletic subset of *Acraea* (Pierre 1987, Penz & Djunijanti 2003), hence the generic status of both *Acraea* and *Actinote* are questionable. Although *Actinote* is easily identifiable, there have been no attempts to pro-