

***Simulium (Chirostilbia) jefersoni*, a new species of black fly (Diptera: Simuliidae) from the state of Bahia, Brazil**

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Abstract

Simulium jefersoni n. sp. is described based on adults, pupae, and larvae collected in Chapada Diamantina National Park and the surrounding area, in the state of Bahia, Brazil. Its affinities with other species, distribution, and biology in Brazil are presented. The immature stages of *S. jefersoni* n. sp. were found in 44% of the 68 streams sampled in the study area. Females did not bite humans in the field.

Key words: *Chirostilbia*, black fly, aquatic insects, Neotropical Region, taxonomy, Parque Nacional Chapada Diamantina

Introduction

The subgenus *Chirostilbia* Enderlein includes 14 species, most of which are found in South America (Crosskey & Howard 1997, 2004; Hamada & Pepinelli 2004). Some species in this subgenus, such as *Simulium pertinax* Kollar, bite humans voraciously in parts of Brazil, causing adverse effects on tourism in the southern coastal region of the country (Araújo-Coutinho *et al.* 1988).

Coscarón (1982) first proposed the *S. subpallidum* species group in *Chirostilbia*; he later recognized two species groups: the *subpallidum* and *pertinax* species groups, containing 3 and 11 species, respectively (Coscarón 1987, 1991). In addition, Py-Daniel &