

The Neotropical caddisfly genus *Canoptila* (Trichoptera: Glossosomatidae)

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ABSTRACT

The caddisfly genus *Canoptila* Mosely (Glossosomatidae: Protoptilinae), endemic to southeastern Brazil, is diagnosed and discussed in the context of other protoptiline genera, and a brief summary of its taxonomic history is provided. A new species, *Canoptila williami*, is described and illustrated, including a female, the first known for the genus. Additionally, the type species, *Canoptila bifida* Mosely, is redescribed and illustrated. There are three possible synapomorphies supporting the monophyly of *Canoptila*: 1) the presence of long spine-like posterolateral processes on tergum X; 2) the highly membranous digitate parameres on the endotheca; and 3) the unique combination of both forewing and hind wing venational characters.

Key words: Trichoptera, Glossosomatidae, Protoptilinae, *Canoptila*, new species, caddisfly, male genitalia, female genitalia, Neotropics, Atlantic Forest, southeastern Brazil

INTRODUCTION

The Atlantic Forest of southeastern Brazil is well known for its highly endemic flora and fauna, and has been designated a biodiversity hotspot (da Fonseca 1985; Myers *et al.* 2000). The forest, consisting of tropical evergreen and semideciduous mesophytic broadleaf species, originally covered most of the slopes of the coastal mountains and extended from well inland to the coastline (Fig. 6) (da Fonseca 1985). Today it is the most heavily populated region in Brazil and experts estimate that anywhere between less than 1–7.5% of original primary forest remains (da Fonseca 1985; Myers *et al.* 2000). Despite this extreme deforestation, many new species and even new genera are still being discovered in the region; approximately 300 new species of caddisflies from the region await description at the University of Minnesota Insect Collection.

Based on current distribution records, 5 endemic caddisfly genera are known from the