

## Description of the larvae of *Castoraeschna colorata* (Martin, 1908) and *C. longfieldae* (Kimmins, 1929) (Insecta: Odonata: Aeshnidae), with a key to the known larvae of the genus

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### Abstract

The ultimate instar larvae of *C. colorata* and *C. longfieldae* are described and illustrated based on reared specimens from Parque Nacional das Emas, GO, and Chapada dos Guimarães, MT, Brazil, respectively. A comparative table and an identification key for all described larvae of *Castoraeschna* are also presented.

**Key words:** Odonata, Aeshnidae, *Castoraeschna*, *C. colorata*, *C. longfieldae*, larvae, taxonomy, South America

### Introduction

The Neotropical genus *Castoraeschna* Calvert comprises eight species: *C. castor* (Brauer), *C. colorata* (Martin), *C. coronata* (Ris), *C. decurvata* Dunkle & Cook, *C. januarina* (Hagen), *C. longfieldae* (Kimmins), *C. margarethae* Jurzitza and *C. tepuica* De Marmels. These dragonflies are usually associated with forested highlands, where small lotic environments needed for the development of their larvae are found. The large adults are sun-loving dragonflies and are often seen flying over the borders of streams and other lotic environments (Santos, 1970).

*Castoraeschna castor*, *C. decurvata* and *C. tepuica* are the only members of the genus thus far described as larvae (Santos, 1970; Rodrigues-Capítulo & Jurzitza, 1989 and De Marmels, 1990, respectively). Based on the literature, it is difficult to identify these larvae specifically. Although Rodrigues-Capítulo & Jurzitza (1989) diagnosed larvae of *C. castor* and *C. decurvata* using three characters, only the variation on the angle formed by the