



## Taxonomy of the genus *Parasycorax* Duckhouse (Diptera, Psychodidae, Sycoracinae), with description of a new species from Brazil

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### Abstract

The genus *Parasycorax* Duckhouse, 1972 is reviewed and a key is provided for the four known species: *Parasycorax satchelli* (Barretto, 1956) from Brazil, *P. filipinae* (Quate, 1965) from Philippines, *Parasycorax utriensis* (Bejarano, Duque & Vélez, 2008) comb. n. from Colombia, and *Parasycorax bidentis* Santos, Ferreira & Bravo **sp. n.** from Brazil. A diagnosis of the type species of the genus is updated with observations of the specimens collected in Espírito Santo State, Brazil.

**Key words:** Diptera, Psychodidae, Sycoracinae, *Parasycorax*, new species, Neotropical Region, Brazil, key

### Introduction

Sycoracinae is a small subfamily of Psychodidae with 33 described species - ten of them from the Neotropical region (Ježek 1999, Bravo 2003, 2007; Bejarano *et al.* 2008). There is no consensus concerning the generic classification of Sycoracinae among the taxonomists of Psychodidae at the present moment. Ježek (1999) recognized only one genus in the subfamily (*Sycorax* Curtis, 1839), whereas Duckhouse (1972) recognized three genera: *Sycorax*, the largest genus, *Aposycorax* Duckhouse, 1972 for the Chilean species *Aposycorax chilensis* (Tonnoir, 1929), and *Parasycorax* Duckhouse, 1972 for the Brazilian species *P. satchelli* Barretto, 1956 and the Philippine species *Parasycorax filipinae* (Quate, 1965). During routine entomological vigilance studies to control leishmaniasis in two municipalities of Espírito Santo State, Brazil, specimens of two species of Sycoracinae were collected: *P. satchelli*, and a new related species that is described here.

### Materials and methods

The specimens of *Parasycorax* were collected with CDC light traps. All specimens were cleared with 10% KOH. The holotype male of the new species and three specimens of *P. satchelli* were mounted in Berlese's medium according to the methodology of Barretto & Coutinho (1940). The remaining specimens of *P. satchelli* were mounted in Canada balsam. Morphological terminology of Diptera follows that of McAlpine (1981). The specific morphological terminology for Psychodidae follows that of Duckhouse (1990). The term spine is used in this work to refer the long and thick bristles of the gonostylus. The specimens were deposited in the *Coleção Entomológica Prof. Johann Becker do Museu de Zoologia da Universidade Estadual de Feira de Santana*, Brazil (MZUEFS).