



Redescription of *Argia concinna* (Rambur), with a description of *Argia telesfordi* spec. nov. from Grenada, West Indies (Zygoptera: Coenagrionidae)

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Abstract

Argia telesfordi sp. nov. a new species close to *Argia concinna*, is described from Grenada. Both species are illustrated and diagnosed. They can be distinguished by morphology of male tori, cerci and paraproct and female mesostigmal laminae. Their distribution is allopatric, with *Argia telesfordi* distributed on Grenada and *Argia concinna* known only from Guadeloupe and Dominica.

Key words: Lesser Antilles, Guadeloupe, Dominica, endemics, new species

Introduction

With more than 110 species, the genus *Argia* is the most speciose genus of the *Coenagrionidae* in the New World of which only one, *Argia concinna* (Rambur), is known from the West Indies. *Agrion concinnum* was first described by Rambur (1842) without illustrations. Hagen *in* Calvert (1902) and Ris (1921) provided illustrations of the male caudal appendages based on Rambur's type specimens. Unfortunately, the syntype male now lacks the caudal appendages, as stated by Gloyd (1941).

Ever since its original description, the type locality has remained a mystery. Rambur noted “du Cap” as the type locality, and the species was thus thought to be from Africa. Selys (1876) doubted the African origin for *Argia concinna* and Gloyd (1941) after examining like material, restricted the type locality to the Lesser Antilles. Donnelly (1970) proposed Cape Estate (northern part of St Lucia) and Meurgey (2007) proposed Capesterre (Guadeloupe, FWI) as probable type localities. The species was first recorded from Guadeloupe by Goyaud (1994), from Dominica by Donnelly (1970) and from Grenada by Clarke (1904), followed by Woodruff *et al.* (1998). The species was erroneously mentioned from Martinique based on a single male specimen collected by Starmühlner (1982), now housed at the Florida State Collection of Arthropods (FSCA). Examination of this specimen (J. Daigle *pers. comm.*) revealed that the specimen was *Enallagma coecum* (Hagen); *A. concinna* is thus not known from this island. Recently, M. Ivie (Donnelly, 2007) and F. Sibley (*pers. comm.*) both failed to find *Argia concinna* on Montserrat and Ste. Lucia during a two-week collecting trip in 2007 and 2009 respectively.

I compared specimens from Guadeloupe, Dominica and Grenada during a survey carried out in 2009. My examination of an extensive series revealed that two species are involved. As a part of an on-going study of Caribbean odonata, I redescribe *Argia concinna* based on a number of specimens and describe another species which has been incorrectly associated with the former species until now.