



<http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3716.4.1>

<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:579F6501-B733-4D58-9B41-6C931097A6D0>

Further contribution to the knowledge of *Ityphilus calinus* Chamberlin, 1957, a poorly known ballophilid centipede from Colombia, with description of *Ityphilus bonatoi*, a new diminutive geophilomorph species from Brazil (Myriapoda: Chilopoda, Geophilomorpha)

LUIS ALBERTO PEREIRA

CONICET and National University of La Plata, Natural Sciences Faculty and Museum (Division of Invertebrate Zoology), Paseo del Bosque s/n, (1900) La Plata, Buenos Aires, Argentina. E-mail: lpereira@fcnym.unlp.edu.ar

Abstract

Ityphilus calinus Chamberlin, 1957 (Chilopoda: Geophilomorpha, Ballophilidae), a poorly known centipede from Cauca Valley, Colombia, is herein redescribed and illustrated after the male holotype, revealing the condition of the forcipular tarsungulum (which is completely smooth), also giving new data on many other morphological features of specific value until now unknown. A new diminutive species named *Ityphilus bonatoi* sp. nov. is herein proposed after the holotype female from Rio de Janeiro State, Brazil. The new species is characterized by having the internal edge of the forcipular tarsungulum serrate; among the other Neotropical members of the genus having the same trait, it only shares with *I. donatellae* Pereira, 2012 (from Central Amazon) a very small body size and a low number of leg-bearing segments. The new species represents the first record of the genus *Ityphilus* from the Atlantic Rainforest biome, and the southernmost representative of the genus in the Continent. A key for identification of the Neotropical species currently included in *Ityphilus* is also given.

Key words: Chilopoda, Geophilomorpha, Ballophilidae, *Ityphilus*, Diminutive new species, Neotropical Region

Introduction

The genus *Ityphilus* Cook, 1899 is the most species-rich and widespread of the ballophilid genera in the Neotropics. It is known from the southernmost part of North America; Central America; Lesser and Greater Antilles (Guadeloupe, Antigua, Barbuda, Bahamas, Cuba); and Continental South America (Colombia, Guyana, French Guiana, Brazil and Peru).

Of the 20 Neotropical species currently recognized in the taxon, 12 (in addition to the new species described below) are characterized by having the internal edge of the forcipular tarsungulum serrate. Of the eight remaining taxa, five are known to have a smooth forcipular tarsungulum. For the other three (*I. calinus* Chamberlin, 1957 (from Colombia); *I. savannus* Chamberlin, 1943 (from Mexico) and *I. ceibanus* Chamberlin, 1922 (from Honduras)) the original descriptions do not state whether the forcipular tarsungulum is serrate or smooth.

The opportunity to examine the holotype of *I. calinus* enabled to reveal the condition of the forcipular tarsungulum and to describe many other morphological characters of specific value omitted by Chamberlin. The knowledge of the mentioned trait allows to confidently identify as belonging to a new species, a tiny adult specimen of *Ityphilus* collected in Rio de Janeiro State, Brazil, described herein under the name of *Ityphilus bonatoi*. Similar to *I. calinus*, the new species is characterized by a low and similar number of leg-bearing segments, and a small body size, but has a serrate, rather than smooth, tarsungulum. The discovery of this new taxon represents the first record of the genus *Ityphilus* from the Atlantic Rainforest biome, and the southernmost representative of the genus in the Continent. The updated key presented below will enable the identification of the Neotropical members of *Ityphilus*, including the new species described herein.