

***Heteragrion cauei* sp. nov.,
a new damselfly from Minas Gerais, Brazil
(Odonata: Heteragrionidae)**

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Abstract. *Heteragrion cauei* sp. nov. (♂ holotype and ♀ allotype: Brazil, Minas Gerais, Catarina Mendes, Ouro Preto, 18-iii-2016, 20°19'54"S, 43°30'49"W, deposited in coll. MNRJ) is described and illustrated. Based on thoracic coloration, *H. cauei* sp. nov. is part of the group of species formed by *H. gracile*, *H. luizfelipei* and *H. beschkii*; however the new species differs from these species by the morphology of the medial process of the cercus.

Further key words. Dragonfly, Zygoptera, new species, South America

Introduction

Heteragrionidae is a large family found in diverse habitats in tropical South America, ranging from sea level to mountain tops. The genus *Heteragrion* is the most speciose in the family with approximately 50 species (LENCIONI 2013). The genus is generally considered a good bioindicator of well-preserved natural environments, due to the rapid response all species' to environmental changes (MONTEIRO JÚNIOR et al. 2015).

Heteragrion was erected by SELYS (1862) who placed all 11 species known at that time into four groups of which the last, *Heteragrion petiolatum*, was placed in his »sous-genre« *Oxystigma*. WILLIAMSON (1919) revised the genus, recognized *Oxystigma* as a separate genus, and provided keys for the remaining three groups. Williamson, though recognizing Selys' groups 1 and 2, combined them within his keys to both sexes. The Brazilian species of *Heteragrion* were reviewed by LENCIONI (2013), who largely followed SELYS (1862, 1886) and WILLIAMSON (1919) but combined their Groups 1 and 2