

The genus *Lestes* (Odonata: Lestidae) Leach, 1815, in Surinam

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The species of *Lestes* from Surinam are treated. *L. basidens* spec. nov. (♂ holotype: Distr. Nickerie, Sipaliwini, near airstrip), *L. curvatus* spec. nov. (♂ holotype: Distr. Suriname, Coropina creek, Republiek), *L. edentatus* spec. nov. (♂ holotype: Distr. Marowijne, Nassau mountain range) and *L. trichonus* spec. nov. (♀ holotype: Distr. Nickerie, Sipaliwini, near airstrip) are described and illustrated. The types are deposited in the National Museum of Natural History, Leiden. *L. mediorufus* Calvert and *L. tenuatus* Rambur are illustrated and a lectotype for the latter species is designated. The holotype of *L. sublatus* Hagen in Selys is redescribed and illustrated. *L. forficula* Rambur, known from the surrounding countries of Surinam, is also illustrated. A key to the Surinam species of *Lestes* is provided.

Introduction

The cosmopolitan genus *Lestes* Leach, 1815, is hitherto represented in South America by about twenty named species. One of these, *Lestes sublatus* Hagen in Selys, 1862, was described from Surinam. Furthermore, two previously named species *Lestes mediorufus* Calvert, 1909, and *Lestes tenuatus* Rambur, 1842, and four unnamed species were collected in Surinam during the explorations of the late Dr D.C. Geijskes and the author in that country. The four unnamed species were first recognized as being new to science by Dr Geijskes and are described in this paper under the specific names *basidens*, *curvatus*, *edentatus* and *trichonus*. The occurrence of *Lestes forficula* Rambur, 1842, in Surinam is highly probable, since this species is known from the surrounding countries French Guiana, Brazil and Venezuela. A key to the seven Surinam species is provided.

Most specimens were borrowed from the National Museum of Natural History at Leiden. The holotypes of the new taxa are deposited in that museum. Other reference material came from the Brussels and Berlin museums, and enabled me to select a lectotype for *Lestes tenuatus* and to figure the holotype of *Lestes sublatus* for the first time. *Lestes forficula* is also discussed and some specifically important details are elucidated by figures.

The illustrations are reproductions of original camera lucida drawings (details completed by free hand) but they are not all on the same scale. The Jena oculars used are 12.5 and 6.3; the objectives 2.5 and 0.63. The combination is indicated in figure captions. All dimensions are given in mm. The wing vein term R3 is in the sense of Fraser (1957).

Keys to the species of *Lestes*

The colour pattern of the pterothoracic venter (= pectoral colour pattern of Calvert, 1909: 93) is of great importance for the identification of the Surinam species of *Lestes*. The dark markings of this pattern appear to be identical, or nearly so, in both sexes of the same species. However, aged specimens often have this colour pattern