

Analysis of *Telebasis* Selys, 1865—Part I. (Odonata: Coenagrionidae)

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Abstract

All species of *Telebasis* Selys, 1865 are analyzed and *Telebasis sensu lato* is redefined, *Helveciagrion* Machado, 1980 is removed from synonym and revalidated based on morphological characters and a new genus (*Juenagrion* **gen. nov.**) and a new species (*Juenagrion nanae* **spec. nov.**—Brazil: Mato Grosso: Querência, córrego transição, 13° 03' 35" S & 52° 12' 03" W) are erected. Diagnostic illustrations are presented.

Key words: Zygoptera, new species. Neotropical, damselfly

Resumo

Todas as espécies de *Telebasis* Selys, 1865 são analisadas e *Telebasis sensu lato* é redefinido, *Helveciagrion* Machado, 1980 é removido da sinonímia e revalidado baseado em caracteres morfológicos e um novo gênero (*Juenagrion* **gen. nov.**) e uma nova espécie (*Juenagrion nanae* **spec. nov.**—Brasil: Mato Grosso: Querência, córrego transição, 13° 03' 35" S & 52° 12' 03" W) são descritos. São apresentadas ilustrações diagnósticas.

Palavras-chave: Zygoptera, nova espécie, Neotropical, donzelinha

Introduction

Telebasis Selys, 1865 was revised by Bick & Bick (1995, 1996), they stated that the definition of *Telebasis* at that time “will not solve the many problems of the *Telebasis* complex” and continued “Confusion will arise with *Helveciagrion* Machado, 1980 and *Aeolagrion* Williamson, 1917. Machado (1980) erected *Helveciagrion* to include 3 blue and black species; (*H. chirihuanum* (Calvert, 1909) {nomen now synonym of *T. obsoleta* (Selys, 1876)}, *H. simulacrum* (Calvert, 1909), *H. vulcanoae* Machado, 1980), giving basally approximate cerci as a generic characteristic.” However, they did not synonymize *Helveciagrion* with *Telebasis* and stated that the new species erected by them (*T. garrisoni* Bick & Bick, 1995) and *T. boomsmiae* Garrison, 1994 share the approximate cerci with *Helveciagrion*.

Garrison (2009) defined the issue with hypothesizing the concept of *Telebasis* as: “Part of the problem stems from the continuing placement of newly described species in previously described genera, enlarging generic concepts and making it difficult to precisely define such genera. *Telebasis* and *Helveciagrion* Machado, 1980 represent such examples. Bick & Bick (1995, 1996) acknowledged the difficulty in precisely defining the large genus *Telebasis*”. Although, the author argued against enlarging the generic concept, he proposed to synonymize the nomen *Helveciagrion* with *Telebasis*. This suggestion followed the analysis of Bick & Bick (1995) who demonstrated that certain similarities (blue and black species; and basally approximate cerci) of the members included in both former genera should be used to infer they all should be considered congeneric.

From the 2009 until today 10 new species have been added to *Telebasis* and we have now 61 species forming an odd group of species with morphological characteristics that I understand could be divided into a better arrangement.