



***Acanthagrion marinae* sp. nov. (Zygoptera: Coenagrionidae): a new species of the *apicale* group**

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ABSTRACT

Acanthagrion marinae sp. nov. (Holotype male: BRASIL, Mato Grosso do Sul, Campo Grande, UFMS, 20°29'56.26"S - 54°36'48.43"W, 547m, leg. M.E. Rodrigues, 03.ii.2015, collection code: VZYG437, MLP) is described and illustrated on the basis of 15 males. The new species belongs to the *apicale* species group by having horns on S10 and sclerotized hooks on tip of distal segment of the genital ligula. It can be easily distinguished from other species of the group by a combination of characters of the genital ligulae (presence of setae on segment two; absence of setae at flexure; distal lateral lobes of segment three absent). Notes on habitat and a modification of previous keys for the species of the *apicale* group are provided.

Key words: *Acanthagrion*, Coenagrionidae, Neotropics, Odonata, Zygoptera.

INTRODUCTION

The neotropical genus *Acanthagrion* was erected in 1876 by Baron Edmond Selys-Longchamps to include nine species of Coenagrionidae. Currently it includes 44 coenagrionids ranging from Texas (USA) to Buenos Aires (Argentina) (Garrison et al. 2010, Machado 2012). According to von Ellenrieder and Lozano (2008) and Garrison et al. (2010) species of *Acanthagrion* are small to medium size with wings generally hyaline, CuP of HW reaching posterior margin of wing; flexure of male genital ligula short with lateral lobes of segment 3, when present, distal to flexure; male

cerci decumbent forming an angle of 45° with posterior margin of S10, with dorso-basal tubercle; females without a well defined mesepisternal carina between mesostigmal plates and medio-dorsal carina, generally with mesepisternal fossae on the dorsum of the pterothorax and vulvar spine on abdominal segment S8.

Leonard (1977) provided the first revision of the genus in which he defined nine species groups. The three species originally included within the *apicale* species group (*A. apicale*, *A. obsoletum*, and *A. phallicorne*) share the presence of horns in S10 of males, elevated mesepisternal fossae in females, and presence of orange coloration in head and thorax of mature specimens. *Acanthagrion apicale* and *A. obsoletum* also share the presence

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