

***HETERAGRION PETIENSE* SPEC. NOV., FROM THE STATE OF MINAS
GERAIS, BRAZIL (ZYGOPTERA: MEGAPODAGRIONIDAE)**

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H. petiense sp. n. (♂ holotype, ♀ allotype: Brazil, Minas Gerais, Caeté; 6-XII-1987) is described and illustrated. The new sp. is unique in the genus by the presence of a large turquoise-white mesoepisternal spot.

INTRODUCTION

In 1986 we initiated a survey of the dragonfly fauna of the nature reserve of Peti (MACHADO et al., 1988), in the state of Minas Gerais, Brazil, as part of a thorough coordinated study of the ecosystems of the area, aimed at developing a system of monitoring its fauna and flora. Among several interesting dragonflies that resulted from this survey we found a new species of *Heteragrion* which is described here. With this new finding the genus attains 32 species, described by SELYS (1862, 1886), CALVERT (1901-1903), RIS (1918), WILLIAMSON (1919), SJÖSTEDT (1918), DONNELLY (1965) and more recently by DE MARMELS (1987). The most distinctive feature of *H. petiense* sp. n. is a large turquoise-white mesoepisternal spot not found in other members of the genus. It is curious that such a conspicuous and beautiful species remained undetected in the vicinity of Belo Horizonte, where Odonata have been intensely collected for many years.

The name *petiense* is allusive to Peti, the nature reserve belonging to the Companhia Energética de Minas Gerais — CEMIG, where the species was discovered.