

Studies on neotropical Protoneuridae. 15. *Amazonera* gen. nov. with description of *A. juruaensis* sp. nov. (Odonata, Zygoptera)

Angelo B. M. Machado

Departamento de Zoologia, Instituto de Ciências Biológicas, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais. Caixa Postal 486, 31270-901 Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais, Brasil.

ABSTRACT. The genus *Amazonera* is erected to contain *A. ephippigera* (Selys, 1886), *A. westfalli* (Machado, 2001) and *A. juruaensis* sp. nov. The new genus is close to *Forcepsioneura* Lencioni, 1999 but differs from it mainly by the poorly-developed postero-lateral tubercles of the medium prothoracic lobe, by the dark colour of the metepimerum and of the rear of the head. *A. juruaensis* sp. nov. (holotype male, Acre, Brazil) differs from the other two species of the genus mainly by the structure of the superior anal appendages.

KEY WORDS. Brazil, new genus, new species, Protoneuridae.

RESUMO. Criou-se o gênero *Amazonera* para as espécies *A. ephippigera* (Selys, 1886), *A. westfalli* (Machado, 2001) e *A. juruaensis* sp. nov. O novo gênero é próximo de *Forcepsioneura* Lencioni, 1999 mas difere dele principalmente por ter o tubérculo postero-lateral do lobo médio do protórax pouco desenvolvido e pela cor escura do metepímero e da parte posterior da cabeça. *A. juruaensis* sp. nov. (holotipo macho, Acre, Brasil) difere das outras duas espécies do gênero principalmente pela estrutura dos apêndices anais superiores.

PALAVRAS CHAVE. Brasil, Protoneuridae, nova espécie, novo gênero.

MACHADO (2000, 2001) divided the known species of *Forcepsioneura* Lencioni, 1999 in two groups, the *sancta* and the *ephippigera* species group. The *sancta* group contains *F. sancta* (Selys, 1886), *F. itatiaiae* (Santos, 1970), *F. garrisoni* (Lencioni, 1999) and *F. haerteli* (Machado, 2001) all from the Atlantic Forest of Brazil. The *ephippigera* group contains *F. ephippigera* (Selys, 1886) and *F. westfalli* (Machado, 2001) from the Amazonian Forest. The discovery of a third species of the *ephippigera* group makes it convenient to erect a new genus for the three species it contains. We describe now *Amazonera* gen. nov. and the new species *A. juruaensis*.

Amazonera gen. nov.

Genotype. *Amazonera westfalli* (Machado, 2001) by present designation.

Etymology. From the Amazon, an allusion to the fact that the three species of the genus were found in the Amazon region.

Description. Protoneuridae of medium size, abdomen long and slender. General coloration dark with metallic reflections, the dark metepimeral area ventrally confluent with that of the opposite side behind the hind trochanter. Rear of the head black. Apex of the penis with two filaments. Superior anal appendages forcipated each one with a short and stout ventral branch, and a process directed ventrally and medially.

Inferior appendages absent. Prothorax with postero-lateral tubercles scarcely visible or absent. Anal vein absent. CUP terminating between the vein descending from the subnode and that descending from the second postnodal. IR3 arising at the subnodus or slightly distal to it and usually separated from R4+5 by a small crossvein. First antenodal costal space longer than the second, equal or slightly longer than the third.

Remarks. *Amazonera* belongs to the group of New World Protoneuridae with the anal vein absent and no inferior appendages. To this group belongs the genera *Forcepsioneura*, *Phasmoneura* Williamson, 1916, *Psaironeura* Williamson, 1915 and *Ropponeura* Santos, 1966. The latter genus stands isolated from the other ones by its yellow colour, by having CUP ending distal to the vein descending from the second postnodal and by having the third antenodal costal space twice longer than the second and the third. *Phasmoneura* is also quite different from the other genera of the group mainly by the absence of filaments in the penis apex. *Amazonera* differs from *Psaironeura* by its predominantly black colour (red in *Psaironeura*), larger stature and by having CUP ending distal to the vein descending from the subnodes (at or before this vein in *Psaironeura*). No doubt the closer genus to *Amazonera* is *Forcepsioneura* to which belonged *westfalli* and *ephippigera*, species now transferred to *Amazonera*. The generic position of *ephippigera* has been controversial. Since its description by Selys