

***Heteragrion thais* sp. nov.**
from the Atlantic Forest of Brazil
(Odonata: Heteragrionidae)

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Abstract. A new *Heteragrion* damselfly species, *Heteragrion thais* sp. nov. (Holotype deposited in ABMM) from Brazil, Minas Gerais State, Municipality of Barroso, is described and illustrated. This species is most similar to *H. beschkii*, *H. gracile*, and *H. luizfelipei*, from which it can be distinguished by the shape of the cercus and the colour of the posterior lobe of the prothorax.

Key words. Dragonfly, damselfly, new species, Zygoptera

Introduction

Heteragrion Rambur, 1842 is a Neotropical genus of Zygoptera that comprises 53 species and one subspecies (GARRISON et al. 2010; LENCIONI 2013; MACHADO & SOUZA 2014). The genus, together with *Oxystigma* Selys, 1862, has recently been raised to the rank of a family, Heteragrionidae (DIJKSTRA et al. 2014). It has been divided into two groups by LENCIONI (2013). In Group A, which corresponds to groups 1 and 2 of SELYS (1886), the males lack an elongated paraproct and females have several rows of teeth on the ventral surface of genital valves. In Group B, which corresponds to Selys' group 3, the males have an elongated paraproct and females possess a single row of teeth on the ventral surface of genital valves. Group A comprises the majority of Brazilian species, and its taxonomy has been long hampered by the lack of a modern comprehensive review and difficulties in identifying some poorly described species, most of them by SELYS (1862, 1886). This problem has been, in great part, solved by the important and richly illustrated review of the genus by LENCIONI (2013). However, the identification of three species – *H. obsoletum* Selys, 1886, *H. ochraceum* Hagen in Selys