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XI CBC
TCS Summer Meeting
June 06-09th, 2022
Brazil

Santos (Brazil) - 2022

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The Crustacean Society

CONGRESSO BRASILEIRO SOBRE CRUSTÁCEOS (CBC)
THE CRUSTACEAN SOCIETY (TCS) SUMMER MEETING

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THEME
Tradition and Innovation:
Integrative Approaches to Crustacean Studies

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CONTRIBUTIONS TO TERRESTRIAL ISOPODS (ONISCIDEA) FROM BRAZILIAN CAVES

CAMPOS-FILHO, I.S.[1,*]; SFENTHOURAKIS, S.[1]; GALLO, J.[2]; GALLÃO, J.E.[2]; CARPIO-DÍAZ, Y.M.[3]; LÓPEZ-OROZCO[3], C.M.; BORJA-ARRIETA[3], R.; ARAUJO, P.B.[4]; TAITI, S.[5,6] & BICHUETTE, M.E.[2]

[1] University of Cyprus, Cyprus; [2] Universidade Federal de São Carlos, Brazil; [3] Universidad de Cartagena, Colombia; [4] Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil; [5] Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Italy; [6] Museo di Storia Naturale, Sezione di Zoologia "La Specola", Italy.

* Corresponding author: ivanklin.filho@gmail.com

Terrestrial isopods (Oniscidea) comprise about 4,000 species in more than 500 genera and 38 families, occurring in almost all terrestrial habitats. Along the total carbonate karst regions of South America, Brazil hosts about 22,000 caves distributed in 39 geomorphological groups. To date, more than 70 species of terrestrial isopods are known from Brazilian caves, 36 of which are considered to be troglobitic. A large collection of Oniscidea from several caves in the states of Bahia, Goiás, Mato Grosso, Mato Grosso do Sul and São Paulo have been examined. Twenty-one species have been recognized, 15 of which are considered to be new to science. *Diploexochus* n. sp. 1, *Gabunillo* n. sp., *Novamundoniscus* n. sp. 1, *Venezillo* n. sp. 1, *Venezillo* n. sp. 2, *Venezillo* n. sp. 3, *Venezillo* n. sp. 4, and *Venezillo* n. sp. 5 are recorded from Bahia; *Novamundoniscus* n. sp. 2 from Goiás; *Circoniscus* n. sp., *Metaprosekia* n. sp., *Novamundoniscus* n. sp. 3, *Novamundoniscus* n. sp. 4, *Trichorhina* n. sp. from Mato Grosso; and *Diploexochus* n. sp. 2 from Mato Grosso do Sul. Moreover, *Benthana olfersii*, *B. taeniata*, *Ctenorillo ferrarai*, *Cubaris murina, Venezillo congener*, and *Porcellionides pruinosus* have their distribution extended. Only *Gabunillo* n. sp. is considered to be a troglobite, while all the remaining species are troglophiles. The subterranean environments are well known to experience stable environmental conditions, offering refuges to this fauna, especially in xeric areas. Most of the Brazilian caves are outside of conservation areas, and in the last years these peculiar environments have been suffering with serious threats, i.e., mining, deforestation, husbandry in surrounding habitats, and alteration of the Brazilian environmental law by the Decree 10.935. Despite the low representation of strict cave-dwelling species, the present work underlines the importance of cave habitats to total fauna diversity, stressing the importance of caves in conservation strategies.

Keywords: cave-dwelling, Neotropical. terrestrial isopods.

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