RESEARCH NOTE

Noteworthy Records of *Ixodes auritulus* Neumann, 1904 (Acari, Ixodida) on Birds from Paraná, Southern Brazil

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During bird sampling in the municipality of Curitiba, next to the Passaúna River, in an Araucaria forest (*Araucaria angustifolia*) from March to May 1992, autumn months, three specimens of *Turdus rufiventris* and one specimen of *T. albicollis* were captured and examined for ectoparasites. Four ticks specimens were found. They were removed from the hosts and were preserved in Oudemans's fluid, according to G Krantz (1978 2nd ed. Oregon State University Book Stores, Oregon, 509 pp). The ticks were identified as *I. auritulus* using criteria proposed by M Méndez-Arocha and I Ortiz (1958 *Mem C Nat La Salle* 51: 196-208). The specimens, two females (F) and two nymphs (N) were deposited in the Parasitological Collection of the Museum of Natural History “Capão da Imbuia” (MHNCI 92, 93-F; MHNCI 93, 94-N).

Although *I. auritulus* is common ectoparasite of birds, including sea birds (Clifford loc. cit.), it has been also observed on mammals. E Jones et al. (1972 *B Y Un Sc Bull* 17: 1-40) found larvae and nymphs on wild rodents from Venezuela. J Botelho (personal communication) observed this species on *Dasyprocta fuliginosa* (Rodentia) in Brazil.


This communication records the first occurrence of *I. auritulus* in Paraná, and probably constitutes the first report on *T. rufiventris* and *T. albicollis*. These two *Turdus* species are not migratory but are well disseminated in Brazil and other South American countries (R Schauensee 1982 Intercollegiate Press, Filadelfia, 498 pp, H Sick 1988 3rd ed. I/II, Brasilia, 827 pp). Studies on biology and ecology of *Ixodes* spp. parasitizing birds are being carried out so that aspects of their dispersion may be clarified.

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