

SCIENTIFIC COMMUNICATION

AMBLIOMMA AUREOLATUM (ACARI: IXODIDAE) PARASITIZING *DIDELPHIS ALBIVENTRIS*
(MARSUPIALIA: DIDELPHIDAE) IN THE STATE OF RIO GRANDE DO SUL, BRAZIL

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ABSTRACT

The occurrence of *Amblyomma aureolatum* reported for the first time in the State of Rio Grande do Sul and also in Brazil, parasiting the opossum *Didelphis albiventris*.

KEY WORDS: *Amblyomma aureolatum*, Ixodidae, *Didelphis albiventris*, Marsupialia.

RESUMO

AMBLIOMMA AUREOLATUM PARASITANDO *DIDELPHIS ALBIVENTRIS* (GAMBÁ) NO ESTADO DO RIO GRANDE DO SUL, BRASIL. Registra-se pela primeira vez, para o Estado do Rio Grande do Sul, e também para o Brasil, a ocorrência de *Amblyomma aureolatum* parasitando *Didelphis albiventris* (gambá).

PALAVRAS-CHAVE: *Amblyomma aureolatum*, Ixodidae, *Didelphis albiventris*, Marsupialia, gambá.

Amblyomma aureolatum (Pallas, 1772) is reported for the first time parasiting the opossum *Didelphis albiventris* in the State of Rio Grande do Sul and also in this country, Brazil. Three males were collected from one opossum captured in the Municipality of Pelotas, RS. The ticks were preserved in alcohol 70° GL and the identification was made in the Laboratory of Entomology, Department of Microbiology and Parasitology, Institute of Biology, UFPel (DEMP, IB, UFPel). For the specific identification, the keys of ARAGÃO & FONSECA (1961) and GUIMARÃES et al. (2001) were used. The *A. aureolatum* parasitism is common in domestic and wild Carnivora, dogs and cats (RIBEIRO, 1970/1971; BARROS & BAGGIO, 1992; EVANS et al., 2000; GUGLIELMONE et al., 2003a; GUGLIELMONE et al., 2003b). The report of this species from other mammals, without Carnivora, are the orders: Artiodactyla (Bovidae, Cervidae); Primates (Hominidae); Rodentia (Ctenomyidae, Echimyidae, Erethizontidae, Hydrochaeridae and Sciuridae); Xenarthra (Bradypodidae), (GUGLIELMONE et al., 2003a). This same authors mentioned the collect of one male of *A. aureolatum* from *Didelphis* sp., but the species of *Didelphis* was not identified.

Nymphs of *Amblyomma* were collected from *D. albiventris* by BARROS & BAGGIO (1992), BRUM et al. (2003) and also by the authors of this research. This is the first report of *A. aureolatum* parasiting the opossum *D. albiventris* for the State of Rio Grande do Sul and also in Brazil.

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