





The discovery of Neotropical *Lepidosira* (Collembola, Entomobryidae) and its systematic position

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Abstract

We herein present the first reliable record of *Lepidosira* from Neotropical Region. *Lepidosira neotropicalis* sp. n. from Brazil is described and illustrated in detail, including its complete mitochondrial genome. We perform a Bayesian phylogenetic analysis to place the new species within the Entomobryidae, and at the same time to test previous contrasting hypotheses on *Lepidosira* position within the Entomobryinae versus Seirinae for the first time. Phylogenetic analyses were based on one mitochondrial and two nuclear genes, Cytochrome Oxidase subunit I, 18S ribosomal RNA and 28S ribosomal RNA, respectively. *Lepidosira neotropicalis* sp. n. resembles *L. sundana* Yoshii and Suhardjono and *L. nigropunctata* (Nguyen) in dorsal chaetotaxy of abdominal segments I and II, but differs from all other species by the combination of head (dorsally and ventrally) and dorsal trunk chaetotaxy, plus empodial complex morphology. Our phylogenetic analyses support the placement of *Lepidosira* within Entomobryinae, as the sister group of *Lepidocyrtoides*. Overall, our revision enables a more objective diagnosis to *Lepidosira* and suggests that the genus is in need of a full revision due to its variable morphology, and lack of data needed to evaluate its monophyly. Finally, we provide an identification key for Neotropical genera of Entomobryinae.

KEYWORDS

Caatinga, Entomobryomorpha, genome, integrative taxonomy, mitochondrial, phylogeny

1 | INTRODUCTION

Entomobryinae *sensu stricto* (Collembola, Entomobryomorpha, Entomobryidae) currently presents a total of 12 genera recorded from the Neotropical Region: *Amazhomidia*, *Americabrya*, *Calx*, *Coecobrya*,

Desertia, *Drepanosira*, *Drepanura*, *Entomobrya*, *Homidia*, *Lepidocyrtoides*, *Sinella* and *Willowsia*; with a total of 83 described species, summarized in Table 1 (Bellinger, Christiansen, & Janssens, 1996–2019; Jordana & Baquero, 2008; Mari-Mutt & Bellinger, 1990, 1996). Here, we consider the Entomobryinae as proposed by Zhang and Deharveng

(2015) and Zhang, Sun, Yu, and Wang (2015) studies, in which after integrating molecular and morphological evidence (mainly the S-chaetotaxy) disregarded the importance of the presence or absence of scales to separate the Willowsiini and Entomobryini. The genus *Lepidosira* has 54 described species. These are predominantly found in South and Southeast Asia and Oceania, although a few records also exist from Africa and even Antarctica (Bellinger et al., 1996–2019).

Schött (1925, p. 116) defined a broad and non-objective diagnosis for *Lepidosira*, which can be summarized to: “more or less *Seira*-like in appearance, with jointed tibiae and retractile terminal organ on Ant. IV. Scales of varying types but generally pointed, with long internal distinct striation.” Womersley (1939, p. 201) complemented Schött's diagnosis with: antennae not annulated, mesothorax not overlapping head and claws “normal.” Additionally, Salmon (1938, p. 349) proposed the genus *Urewera*, which was posteriorly considered as a junior synonym to *Lepidosira* (Soto-Adames, Barra, Christiansen, & Jordana, 2008; Womersley, 1939). In his description, Salmon (1938) diagnosed the new genus based solely on claw and scale morphology. Later, Salmon (1941, p. 376) extended the diagnosis of *Urewera* and added, among other features, an “Ant. IV generally with apical sensory knob,” indicating this structure can be present or absent in members of the genus. In our bibliographic revision of the valid species of *Lepidosira*, we found that most of these diagnostic characters are quite variable (presence of annulations and apical bulb on Ant IV, and jointed tibiae), and furthermore, such data are not available for many species (Table 2). In fact, with the exception of the mesothorax not overlapping the head, all the diagnostic characters listed for *Lepidosira* look polymorphic and do not allow a precise delimitation of its members. For example, although some species of *Lepidosira* have a slightly projected mesothorax, it does not overlap the head as in *Lepidocyrtoides* taxa. This demonstrates the need for a revision and a detailed diagnosis of the genus that effectively encompasses all its members.

Most species descriptions within *Lepidosira* are poorly detailed and lack important data concerning dorsal chaetotaxy and other key taxonomic characters used in modern systematics. This lack of objective diagnostic characters and detailed species descriptions leads to mistaken descriptions in the genus. An example of this problem concerns the neotropical fauna. Until recently, there were three records of *Lepidosira* species from this region: *L. tapuia* Arlé & Guimarães, 1980 and *L. villasboasi* Arlé & Guimarães, 1981, both from Brazil, and *L. violaceapallipes* (Denis, 1931) sensu Christiansen & Bellinger, 2000, from Costa Rica, all three of which are poorly described. Cipola, Morais, and Bellini (2017) redescribed the two Brazilian species and transferred both to *Lepidocyrtoides*, based on the presence of a projected mesothorax overlapping head and manubrial plate with blunt macrochaetae, some of the

few features that differentiate *Lepidocyrtoides* from other scaled Entomobryinae (Liu, Chen, & Greenslade, 2008; Yoshii & Greenslade, 1994; Yoshii & Suhardjono, 1992). Concerning *L. violaceapallipes*, this species was originally described as *Lepidocyrtinus domesticus* f. *violaceapallipes* Denis, 1931, and it was suggested as *Lepidosira* by Christiansen and Bellinger (2000, p. 42). Denis (1931, p. 142) focused his description only on colour pattern, and the single illustration of the description presented by the author is the habitus for the new species—no further distinguishable characteristics are available. Christiansen and Bellinger (2000) do not explicitly justify their decision, but simply mention that this species “may be” a *Lepidosira*. However, the real status of *L. violaceapallipes* was never confirmed, and the presence of *Lepidosira* in the Neotropical Region was discarded after the revision by Cipola et al. (2017).

The systematic position of *Lepidosira* within the Entomobryidae was also revised during recent decades. Yoshii and Suhardjono (1989) positioned the genus within the Seirini based on the morphology of scales and divided the tribe into *Lepidosira* and *Seira* groups based on mucro morphology (falcate in *Seira*-group and bidentate in *Lepidosira*-group). Soto-Adames et al. (2008) maintained this classification for Seirini, although the authors proposed other changes at subfamily and tribe levels. Posteriorly, Zhang and Deharveng (2015) provided an extensive systematic revision of Entomobryidae, transferring the *Lepidosira*-group from Seirinae to the Entomobryinae, based on distribution of tergal bothriotracha (2, 3, 2 on Abd. II–IV), mucro structure (bidentate) and chaetotaxy of tergal sens (22|122–3).

Here, we present and describe the first reliable record of *Lepidosira* from the Neotropical Region, specifically *Lepidosira neotropicalis* sp. n. from Sete Cidades National Park (Piracuruca municipality, Piauí State, Brazil). After an extensive bibliographic revision, a new diagnosis is proposed for the genus, excluding variable and uninformative characters. We also present the complete mitochondrial genome of the new species, which complements the 13 other mitogenomes published for springtails (Carapelli, Comandi, Convey, Nardi, & Frati, 2008; Faddeeva-Vakhrusheva et al., 2016, 2017; Wu et al., 2017). Additionally, we propose a hypothesis for the phylogenetic position of the new taxon among 19 species of Entomobryinae and six Seirinae, using one Lepidocyrtinae, three Orchesellinae, three Heteromurinae, two Isotomidae and one Tomoceridae as out-groups, to test the position of *Lepidosira neotropicalis* sp. n. among the Entomobryinae or Seirinae as suggested in different previous studies. Our analyses were based on one mitochondrial and two nuclear genes, Cytochrome Oxidase subunit I (COX1), 18SrRNA (18S) and 28SrRNA (28S), respectively. Finally, an identification key to the Neotropical genera of Entomobryinae is provided.

TABLE 1 Entomobryinae species recorded from the Neotropical Region

Genera	Species	Type locality
<i>Amazhomidia</i>	<i>duckeensis</i> Cipola and Bellini, 2016 (in Cipola, Morais, & Bellini, 2016)	Ducke reserve, Amazonas, Brazil
	<i>guianiensis</i> (Womersley, 1930) Cipola, Morais, & Bellini, 2018	Essequibo River, Moraballi Creek, Guyana
	<i>thaisae</i> Cipola and Bellini, 2018 (in Cipola et al., 2018)	Ducke reserve, Amazonas, Brazil
<i>Americabrya</i>	<i>arida</i> (Christiansen & Bellinger, 1980) Mari-Mutt & Palacios-Vargas, 1987	Rustlers Park, Arizona, USA
	<i>epiphyta</i> (Loring, 1984) Mari-Mutt & Palacios-Vargas, 1987	Rio Tambopata reserve, Madre de Dios Province, Peru
	<i>matthewsi</i> (Snider, 1981) Mari-Mutt & Palacios-Vargas, 1987	Parque Nacional Corcovado, Puntarenas Province, Costa Rica
<i>Calx</i>	<i>cubensis</i> Folsom, 1927	Tanamo, Cuba
	<i>luthuli</i> Rapoport & Rubio, 1968	Cerro el Pajonal, Antofagasta, Chile
	<i>neryi</i> Soto-Adames, 2002	Saint John, United States Virgin Islands, USA
	<i>sabulicola</i> (Mills, 1931)	Bryan, Texas, USA
<i>Coecobrya</i>	<i>tenebricosa</i> (Folsom, 1902) Gruia, 1998	Washington D.C., USA
<i>Desertia</i>	<i>semicolorata</i> (Handschin, 1928)	Chapultepec, Mexico
<i>Drepanosira</i>	<i>pulchra</i> Stach, 1960 (in Christiansen & Bellinger, 2000) ^a	Shahr-e Gholghola, Bamiyan, Afghanistan
<i>Drepanura</i>	<i>californica</i> Schött, 1891	California, USA
	<i>delamarei</i> Christiansen, 1963	Esquel, Colline Nord, Argentina
<i>Entomobrya</i>	<i>adustata</i> Börner, 1907	La Plata, Argentina
	<i>aipatse</i> Arlé, 1959	Alto Xingú, Mato Grosso, Brazil
	<i>assuta</i> Folsom, 1924	Geneva, New York, USA
	<i>ataquensis</i> Arlé, 1959	Serra da Mantiqueira, Minas Gerais/ São Paulo, Brazil
	<i>atra</i> (Nicolet, 1847) Brook, 1884	Chile
	<i>atrocincta</i> Schött, 1896	Hanford, California, USA
	<i>bahiana</i> Bellini and Cipola, 2015 (in Bellini, Cipola, & Godeiro, 2015)	Parque Nacional Chapada Diamantina, Bahia, Brazil
	<i>bicolor</i> Guthrie, 1903	Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA
	<i>carbonaria</i> Bonet, 1934	Argentina
	<i>ciliata</i> Börner, 1907	La Plata, Argentina
	<i>citrensis</i> Katz and Soto-Adames, 2015 (in Katz, Giordano, & Soto-Adames, 2015b)	Chassahowitzka National Wildlife Refuge, Florida, USA
	<i>confusa</i> Christiansen, 1958	Mount Evans, Colorado, USA
	<i>corticola</i> Jacquemart, 1975	Galápagos, Ecuador
	<i>darwini</i> Katz, Soto-Adames, and Taylor, 2016 (in Katz et al., 2016)	Santa Cruz Island, Galápagos, Ecuador
	<i>decora</i> (Nicolet, 1847) Brook, 1884	Chile
	<i>egleri</i> Arlé & Guimarães, 1978	Santo Antônio de Tauá, Pará, Brazil
	<i>fasciata</i> Denis, 1931	San José province, Costa Rica
	<i>griseoolivata</i> (Packard, 1873) Brook, 1884	USA
	<i>inaequalis</i> Denis, 1924	Curitiba, Paraná, Brazil
	<i>infuscata</i> Handschin, 1927	San José province, Costa Rica
<i>lavata</i> Börner, 1907	La Plata, Argentina	
<i>ligata</i> Folsom, 1924	New York State, USA	
<i>linda</i> Soto-Adames, 2002	Saint Thomas, United States Virgin Islands, USA	

(Continues)

TABLE 1 (Continued)

Genera	Species	Type locality
	<i>litigiosa</i> Denis, 1931	San José province, Costa Rica
	<i>longipes</i> Bonet, 1934	Argentina
	<i>longiseta</i> Soto-Adames, 2002	Saint John, United States Virgin Islands, USA
	<i>mineola</i> Folsom, 1924	Long Island, New York, USA
	<i>multifasciata</i> (Tullberg, 1871) Brook, 1884	Gotland, Sweden
	<i>neotenica</i> Katz & Soto-Adames, 2015b	Lawrence, Alabama, USA
	<i>nivalis</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) Ågren, 1904	European forests
	<i>olivacea</i> Rapoport, 1962b	Bahía Blanca, Buenos Aires province, Argentina
	<i>paroara</i> Arlé & Guimarães, 1978	Ananindeua, Pará, Brazil
	<i>protrifasciata</i> Denis, 1931	San José province, Costa Rica
	<i>pseudodecora</i> Rapoport, 1962a	Bahía Blanca, Buenos Aires province, Argentina
	<i>pulchra</i> Schäffer, 1897	Ushuaia, Tierra del Fuego, Argentina
	<i>secca</i> Christiansen, 1963	Arroyo del Puma, Los Alerces, Argentina
	<i>simulans</i> Denis, 1931	San José province, Costa Rica
	<i>spectabilis</i> Reuter, 1890	Brazil
	<i>suzannae</i> Scott, 1937	Santa Cruz, California, USA
	<i>triangularis</i> Schött, 1896	San Francisco, California, USA
	<i>trifasciata</i> Handschin, 1927	San José province, Costa Rica
	<i>tupiana</i> Arlé, 1939	Petrópolis, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
	<i>uambae</i> Arlé, 1959	Alto Xingú, Mato Grosso, Brazil
	<i>unostrigata</i> Stach, 1930	Flix, Tarragona, Spain
	<i>variocolorata</i> Thibaud & Najt, 1989	near Latacunga, Cotopaxi province, Ecuador
	<i>venezolana</i> Díaz & Najt, 1995	Páramo de Mucubajá, Venezuela
	<i>virescens</i> Schäffer, 1897	Viña del Mar, Valparaiso, Chile
	<i>walkeri</i> Christiansen, 1963	Nahuel Huapi, Patagônia, Argentina
	<i>wasmanni</i> Handschin, 1924	Blumenau, Santa Catarina, Brazil
	<i>wheeleri</i> Folsom, 1921	Kartabo, Guiana
	<i>xanthoderma</i> Rapoport & Izarra, 1962	González Chaves, Buenos Aires province, Argentina
<i>Homidia</i>	<i>socia</i> Denis, 1929	Fuzhou, Fujian, China
<i>Lepidocyrtoides</i>	<i>bicolorangelus</i> Cipola and Bellini, 2017 (in Cipola et al., 2017)	Parque Nacional do Viruá, Roraima, Brazil
	<i>caeruleomaculatus</i> Cipola and Bellini, 2017 (in Cipola et al., 2017)	Rio Preto da Eva, Amazonas, Brazil
	<i>colormutatus</i> Cipola and Bellini, 2017 (in Cipola et al., 2017)	Ducke reserve, Amazonas, Brazil
	<i>tapuia</i> (Arlé & Guimarães, 1980) Cipola et al., 2017	Parque Nacional da Tijuca, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
	<i>villasboasi</i> (Arlé & Guimarães, 1981) Cipola et al., 2017	Parque Nacional do Xingu, Mato Grosso, Brazil
<i>Lepidosira</i>	<i>neotropicalis</i> sp. n.	Parque Nacional de Sete Cidades, Piauí, Brazil
<i>Sinella</i>	<i>avita</i> Christiansen, 1960	Crittenden and Livingston, Kentucky, USA
	<i>barri</i> Christiansen, 1960	Perry, Tennessee, USA
	<i>curviseta</i> Brook, 1882	Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, England
	<i>hexophthalma</i> Rapoport & Rubio, 1968	Cerro el Roble, Santiago, Chile
	<i>laevis</i> Denis, 1931	San José province, Costa Rica
	<i>sexoculata</i> (Schött, 1896) Mills & Rolfs, 1933	Sonora, Mexico

(Continues)

Genera	Species	Type locality
<i>Willowsia</i>	<i>buski</i> (Lubbock, 1870) Shoebottom, 1917	British Isles
	<i>jacobsoni</i> (Börner, 1913) Stach, 1965	Semarang, Java, Indonesia
	<i>mexicana</i> Zhang, Palacios-Vargas, & Chen, 2007	Oaxaca city, Oaxaca, Mexico
	<i>nigromaculata</i> (Lubbock, 1873) Shoebottom, 1917	British Isles
	<i>pyrrhopygia</i> Katz, 2017	Kissimmee Prairie Preserve State Park, Florida, USA

Note: Data extracted from Mari-Mutt and Bellinger (1990, 1996), Mari-Mutt, Bellinger, and Janssens (1996–2019), Bellinger et al. (1996–2019), Abrantes et al. (2012) and directly from the original descriptions.

^aDoubtful record as *Drepanosira*.

2 | MATERIAL AND METHODS

2.1 | Taxa sampling

Specimens of *Lepidosira neotropicalis* sp. n. were collected in Sete Cidades National Park, in the transitional zone between Caatinga and Cerrado biomes, Piauí state, Northeastern Brazil (Figure 1); from top soil and leaf litter samples, using entomological aspirator. Most specimens were preserved in 70% ethanol, but specimens used for DNA extraction were preserved in 100% ethanol. All material was deposited in the Collembola Collection of Biosciences Center of Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil (CC/UFRN).

2.2 | Microscopy and imaging

Specimens were preserved in 70% ethanol, clarified with a mixture of 100% hydrochloric acid and a saturated solution of potassium dichromate, washed in Arlé's liquid and mounted on glass slides in Hoyer's medium, following mostly the procedures described by Arlé and Mendonça (1982). Most specimens in 70% ethanol and on glass slides were photographed using a stereomicroscope Nikon SMZ1500 and a microscope Nikon Eclipse NiU, respectively, both attached to a Nikon DS-Ri1 camera, and using NIS-Elements AR v.4.51.00 software. For Figure S2, specimens were photographed in glass slides, using a microscope Leica DM750 attached to a Leica MC170 HD camera, and using LAS v.4.12 software. Photographs were digitally corrected using Corel Photo-Paint X8. For the morphological analysis and drawings, it was used a Leica DM750 microscope with an attached drawing tube. Figures were improved, assembled and labelled with CorelDraw X8 software.

2.3 | Terminology, abbreviations and symbols

The terminology used in the morphological description follows mainly: Gisin (1967) to labial chaetotaxy; Fjellberg (1999) to labial palp papillae; Cipola, Morais, and Bellini (2014) to labral chaetotaxy; Mari-Mutt (1979) to dorsal head chaetotaxy as modified by Soto-Adames (2008); Szeptycki (1972) to S-chaetotaxy; Szeptycki (1979) to dorsal

chaetotaxy, with additions of Jordana and Baquero (2005), Soto-Adames (2008) and Zhang and Deharveng (2015).

Morphology abbreviations: **Abd.**—abdominal segment; **acc.**—accessory S-chaeta(e); **al**—anterolateral S-chaeta(e); **Ant.**—antennal segment; **as**—anterosubmedial S-chaeta(e); **b.c.**—basal chaetae; **l.p.**—lateral process; **mac**—macrochaeta(e); **mes**—mesochaeta(e); **mic**—microchaeta(e); **ms**—S-microchaeta(e); **p.c.**—proximal chaetae; **ps**—posterior S-chaeta(e); **sens**—ordinary S-chaeta(e); **Th.**—thoracic segment.

Symbols used in drawings to represent the dorsal chaetotaxy schemes are as follows: large empty circles for mac, large black circles for mes, black dots for mic, black chaetae-like drawings for sens or ms, large black circles with a cross line for pseudopores, long lines ending in a transversal bar for bothriotricha and a dash above any symbol for chaetae present or absent in different specimens of type series. Chaetae of uncertain homology are followed by a question mark (?).

2.4 | DNA extraction and sequencing

Genomic DNA was extracted from a whole individual of *L. neotropicalis* sp. n. and of the other newly sequenced species using the Cell and Tissue DNA kit (Thermo Scientific) following the manufacturer's protocol, with minor modifications. Specifically, the incubation time was increased to 48 hr, with an extra 15 µl of proteinase K was added after the first 24 hr. The KingFisher Duo Prime (Thermo Scientific) was used for automatized purification. An Illumina compatible sequencing library was prepared using the NEBNext kit 6070 (New England Biolabs) following the Illumina multiplex protocol of Meyer and Kircher (2010), using double indexed library adapters. Quantification and size estimation of the library was conducted on a Tape Station 2200 using a High Sensitivity DNA Analysis Kit (Agilent Technologies), and quantitative real-time PCR was performed to estimate the number of PCR cycles needed to amplify the library prior to sequencing using a Mx3000P (Stratagene). The library was pooled with other samples then sequenced at the Danish National High-Throughput DNA Sequencing Centre on a fraction of a lane of an Illumina HiSeq 2000, using 80 paired-end cycles of a rapid run.

TABLE 2 Variation in diagnostic features of *Lepidosira* among the currently valid species

Species	Ant. IV annulations	Ant. IV apical organ	Jointed Tibiae	Additional references
<i>L. angulata</i> (Schött, 1917) Howard, 1969	–	Present	–	–
<i>L. anomala</i> Salmon, 1944	–	Present	–	–
<i>L. arborea</i> Salmon, 1944	–	Absent	No	Salmon (1944): plate 60, fig 132
<i>L. australica</i> (Schött, 1917) Greenslade & Majer, 1980	–	Present	No	Yoshii and Greenslade (1994): pp. 17–18, figs 9a, d
<i>L. bifasciata</i> (Salmon, 1944)	Yes	Present	–	–
<i>L. bisecta</i> (Salmon, 1944) Greenslade, 2012	–	Present	No	Salmon (1944): plate 61, fig 146
<i>L. brunnea</i> (Womersley, 1935) Greenslade, 1994	Yes	–	–	–
<i>L. calolepis</i> (Börner, 1913) Yayuk, 1989	Yes	Present	–	Yoshii and Suhardjono (1989): p. 42
<i>L. congoia</i> Salmon, 1956	–	Present ^a	–	–
<i>L. faaroana</i> (Carpenter, 1934) Greenslade, 2012	–	–	No	Carpenter (1934): p. 140, Figure 3a
<i>L. fallaciosa</i> Yoshii, 1989	–	Present	–	–
<i>L. fuchsiata</i> (Salmon, 1938) Greenslade, 2012	–	–	Yes	Salmon (1938): plate 35, Figure 1; Salmon (1941): plate 63, fig 390
<i>L. gupta</i> Howard, 1969	No	Present	Yes	–
<i>L. javana</i> (Börner, 1913) Yayuk, 1989	–	Present	No	Yoshii and Suhardjono (1989): pp. 40–41, fig 10a
<i>L. laboriosa</i> Greenslade, 1994	–	Present	–	Schött (1917): p. 45
<i>L. longicornis</i> (Schött, 1917) Yoshii & Greenslade, 1994	–	Present	–	–
<i>L. magna</i> (Salmon, 1937) Greenslade, 2012	–	–	Yes	Salmon (1941): plate 64, fig 397
<i>L. minima</i> Salmon, 1938	–	–	No	Salmon (1938): plate 36, fig 15; Salmon (1941): plate 65, fig 416
<i>L. minuta</i> Salmon, 1938	–	–	No	Salmon (1938): plate 36, fig 22
<i>L. nigrocephala</i> (Womersley, 1936) Yosii, 1960	Yes	Present	No	Womersley (1936): p. 481, fig 4a
<i>L. nilgiri</i> (Denis, 1936) Yosii, 1955	Yes	Indistinct	Yes	Denis (1936): p. 267, fig 17
<i>L. obscura</i> (Salmon, 1944) Greenslade, 2012	–	Present	No	Salmon (1944): plate 61, fig 139
<i>L. okarita</i> Salmon, 1938	–	Present	–	–
<i>L. pigmenta</i> Salmon, 1944	–	Absent	No	–
<i>L. punctata</i> Yosii, 1960	Yes	Present	No	Yosii (1960): p. 19, fig 9a
<i>L. quadridentata</i> (Salmon, 1941) Greenslade, 2012	–	–	No	Salmon (1941): plate 63, fig 387
<i>L. rotorua</i> Salmon, 1938	–	–	No	Salmon (1938): plate 36, fig 24
<i>L. sagmaria</i> (Schött, 1917) Schött, 1925	–	Present	–	Salmon (1941): p. 390
<i>L. sexmaculata</i> Salmon, 1938	–	Present	No	Salmon (1938): plate 37, fig 29; Salmon (1941): plate 65, fig 412
<i>L. splendida</i> (Salmon, 1941) Greenslade, 2012	–	Present	No	Salmon (1941): plate 63, fig 382
<i>L. terraereginae</i> (Ellis & Bellinger, 1973) Howard, 1969	–	Present	No	Salmon (1941): p. 389; Yoshii and Greenslade (1994): p. 16, fig 8a
<i>L. unguerrata</i> Salmon, 1970	–	Present	–	–
<i>L. vicina</i> Yoshii, 1989	No	Present	–	–

Note: Data extracted directly from the original descriptions; and from descriptions of species posteriorly synonymized with currently valid species, or providing additional information to the original descriptions, both cited in the “additional references” column. Valid species not included in the table have no available information about all the three characters. Unavailable information for isolated characters is marked with “–.”

^aAccording to Salmon (1956, p. 28), only males of *L. congoia* present the apical bulb.

2.5 | Sequence analysis and mitogenome assembly

The quality of the sequence was evaluated using FastQC software v0.11.8 (Andrews, 2018). AdapterRemoval v2 (Schubert, Lindgreen, & Orlando, 2016) was conducted to remove reads containing adapters and low-quality reads from the raw data. The mitogenome was de novo assembled and annotated using MitoZ v1.04 (Meng, Li, Yang, & Liu, 2019). The final mitogenome can be accessed at GenBank under the number MF716603. The circular mitogenome of *L. neotropicalis* sp. n. was visualized with Circos v0.69 (Krzywinski et al., 2009). During the same experiments, other Entomobryidae were sequenced: *Entomobrya* sp.2, *Lepidocyrtoides* sp., *Seira corroatensis* and *Tyrannoseira gladiata* to reinforce the phylogenetic analysis. The detailed mitogenomes of all sequenced species apart from *L. neotropicalis* sp. n. will be reported in an independent publication, which is currently in preparation.

2.6 | Ribosomal RNA genes assessment

Using the raw reads previously sequenced of *L. neotropicalis* sp. n., *Entomobrya* sp.2, *Lepidocyrtoides* sp., *Seira corroatensis* and *Tyrannoseira gladiata*, two nuclear genes (18S and 28S) were recovered using the following methodology: SicklePE v1.330 (Joshi & Fass, 2011) was used to clean the low-quality reads; the mapping was made using Bowtie2 v2.3.0 (Langmead & Salzberg, 2012), the reference sequences were *Orchesella flavescens* (Bourlet, 1839) Nicolet, 1847 and *Orchesella villosa* (Linnaeus, 1767) Dalla-Torre, 1895 for 18S, and *O. villosa* for 28S (KY382769.1, EU368606.1 and EF199972.2, respectively); the final assembly of paired-end reads was made with ABySS v2.0 (Jackman et al., 2017) (k-mer = 45).

2.7 | Phylogenetic inference

For the phylogenetic inference, the sequences of the complete nuclear genes 18S (1,265 bp) and region D1-3 of 28S (1,255 bp), and partial mitochondrial COX1 (641 bp) from 19 species of Entomobryinae and six Seirinae (ingroups), one Lepidocyrtinae, three Orchesellinae, three Heteromurinae, two Isotomidae and one Tomoceridae (outgroups) were downloaded from GenBank to complement those generated in this study (Table 3). All DNA sequences were aligned with the newly sequenced *L. neotropicalis* sp. n. by MAFFT v7 (Katoh & Standley, 2013). Bayesian Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) analyses in BEAST v1.8.4. (Drummond, Suchard, Xie, & Rambaut, 2012) were performed using GTR model of evolution and gamma + invariant rate heterogeneity models, and base frequencies estimated. Simultaneous Markov chains were run for 15,000,000 generations,

sampling every 1,500 steps. A total of 9,000 trees were sampled. Evaluation of effective sample size (ESS) values and state convergence were checked in Tracer v1.6.0 (Rambaut, Suchard, Xie, & Drummond, 2013), as well as the burn-in value, that was defined in 1,000 trees or 1,500,000 states. The consensus tree was generated using TreeAnnotator v1.8.4 (Drummond et al., 2012) and was visualized in FigTree v1.4.3 (Rambaut, 2014).

3 | RESULTS

3.1 | A new diagnosis proposed to the genus *Lepidosira*

Genus Lepidosira Schött, 1925: p. 116. Gender feminine; type species: *Lepidosira terraereginae* (Ellis & Bellinger, 1973) Howard, 1969, nom. nov. for *Lepidocyrtus* (*Lepidocyrtoides*) *coeruleus* Schött, 1917 (Bellinger et al., 1996–2019).

Urewera Salmon, 1938: p. 349. Gender feminine; type species: *Urewera fuchsiata* Salmon, 1938. Junior synonym of *Lepidosira* (Bellinger et al., 1996–2019; Soto-Adames et al., 2008).

3.1.1 | Diagnosis

Coarsely ribbed scales, apically pointed or rounded, present on antennae, head, body, manubrium and dens. Dorsal chaetotaxy of head and trunk polymacrochaetotic. 8 + 8 eyes. Tergal S-chaetotaxy, from Th. II to Abd. V as 2, 2 | 1, 2, 2, +, 3 for **sens**, and 1, 0 | 1, 0, 1, 0, 0 for **ms**. Abd. I with **ms** in the height of **acc.p6**, external to **m5**. Tergal bothriotricha on Abd. II–IV as 2 (**a5**, **m2**), 3 (**a5**, **m2**, **m5**), 2 (**T2**, **T4**). Abd. IV without lateral finger-shaped appendix in the reproductive females, linked to the segment by a distinct joint. Unguiculus without an external tooth. Manubrial plate without blunt chaetae. Mucro bidentate, with a basal mucronal spine.

3.1.2 | Remarks

We attempt to propose a new diagnosis to the genus maintaining most features originally used by Schött (1925) and complemented by Womersley (1939), but excluding the interspecific variable characters listed in Table 2. We included the number of tergal bothriotricha on Abd. II–IV and the S-chaetotaxy pattern characteristic to most Entomobryinae, established by Zhang and Deharveng (2015), which was observed in *L. vicina* by the same authors, and now in *L. neotropicalis* sp. n. We also included characters differentiating *Lepidosira* from *Lepidocyrtoides*, *Epimetrura*, *Lepidobrya* and *Lepidodens*, the only other genera of Entomobryinae with scales on body, manubrium

and dens; mucro bidentate with mucronal spine; and lacking rows of spines on manubrium and dens (see Discussion topic).

3.2 | Description of the new species

Lepidosira neotropicalis Nunes and Bellini, sp. n. (<http://www.zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:37F86999-2D49-4C9C-8A8B-D852985D7CC5>). The detailed description and comparison of the new species can be seen in the Appendix S1, and in the Figures S1–S10.

3.3 | Mitogenome analysis and features

A total of 14,327,173 raw reads were generated from the sequencing library. The assembled *L. neotropicalis* sp. n. mitogenome is 14,597 bp long, containing 37 genes (13 protein-coding genes—PCGs, 2 rRNA genes and 22 tRNA genes) (Table 4, Figure 2). The total GC content was 25.5%, with base composition of 39.2% A, 35.2% T, 10.5% G and 15.1% C. Nine PCGs (NAD2, COX1–3, ATP6, ATP8, NAD3, NAD6, CYTB) were located on the major J-strand, and four PCGs (NAD1, NAD4, NAD4L and NAD5) were located on the minus N-strand (Table 4, Figure 2). Two common start codons were observed: ATG (CYTB, ATP6, COX3, NAD4) and ATA (NAD6, NAD1–3), followed by ATT (COX1, COX2, NAD5), ATC (ATP8) and TTG (NAD4L). Ten genes contained a TAA stop codon, two had TAG, and one had incomplete stop codon T (NAD4) (Table 4). The size of the *L. neotropicalis* sp. n. mitogenome is similar to the previously published for other Collembola, ranging from 13,800 to 15,700 bp. The GC content is lower than average when compared with other collembolan mitogenomes (29.27%), although similar to *Folsomotoma octooculata* (Willem, 1901) Potapov, 2001 (25.5%) (Carapelli, Convey, Nardi, & Frati, 2014). This feature is commonly observed in mitogenomes of hexapods, which are AT-rich (Hassanin, Leger, & Deutsch, 2005).

The genes order of *L. neotropicalis* sp. n. presented in Figure 2 is the most common observed in Collembola. Despite the presumed long evolutionary history of major lineages of the group, the gene order remains identical to the presumed ancestral gene order state for the Pancrustacea group (Carapelli et al., 2008).

3.4 | Phylogeny

Phylogenetic analyses were performed with 10 taxa as outgroups in Lepidocyrtinae, Orchesellinae, Heteromurinae (all Entomobryidae), Anurophorinae (Isotomidae) and Tomocerinae (Tomoceridae) (Table 3). All genera of Entomobryinae *sensu stricto* for which genetic data are

available in GenBank to complement our own sequence was included in the analyses (Zhang et al., 2014, 2016, 2015; Zhang, Ma, & Greenslade, 2017). Both genera of Seirinae were also included, to test for a possible relationship of *Lepidosira* with this taxon, as suggested previously (Soto-Adames et al., 2008). The Bayesian consensus tree is presented in Figure 3.

The monophyly of Entomobryinae *sensu stricto* was recovered with high node support (Figure 3). *Lepidosira* was recovered with high support as an ingroup of this subfamily, and as sister group to *Lepidocyrtoides* in a clade that is basal to the other Entomobryinae. *Entomobrya* and *Willowsia* were not recovered as monophyletic taxa, as seen in previous studies (Katz, Giordano, & Soto-Adames, 2015a, 2015b; Zhang et al., 2014, 2016, 2015; Zhang & Deharveng, 2015; Zhang, Ma, et al., 2017). Otherwise *Homidia* and *Sinella* appeared as natural groups, in agreement with all recent revisions to *Homidia* (Zhang et al., 2014, 2016, 2015; Zhang & Deharveng, 2015; Zhang, Ma, et al., 2017), and most to *Sinella* (Zhang et al., 2014, 2015; Zhang & Deharveng, 2015; Zhang, Ma, et al., 2017), but not all (Zhang et al., 2016). The monophyly of Seirinae was also recovered as recent studies suggested (Zhang et al., 2014, 2016, 2015; Zhang & Deharveng, 2015; Zhang, Ma, et al., 2017), including *Tyrannoseira*. In this first assessment, this last genus appeared as an ingroup of *Seira* (Figure 3).

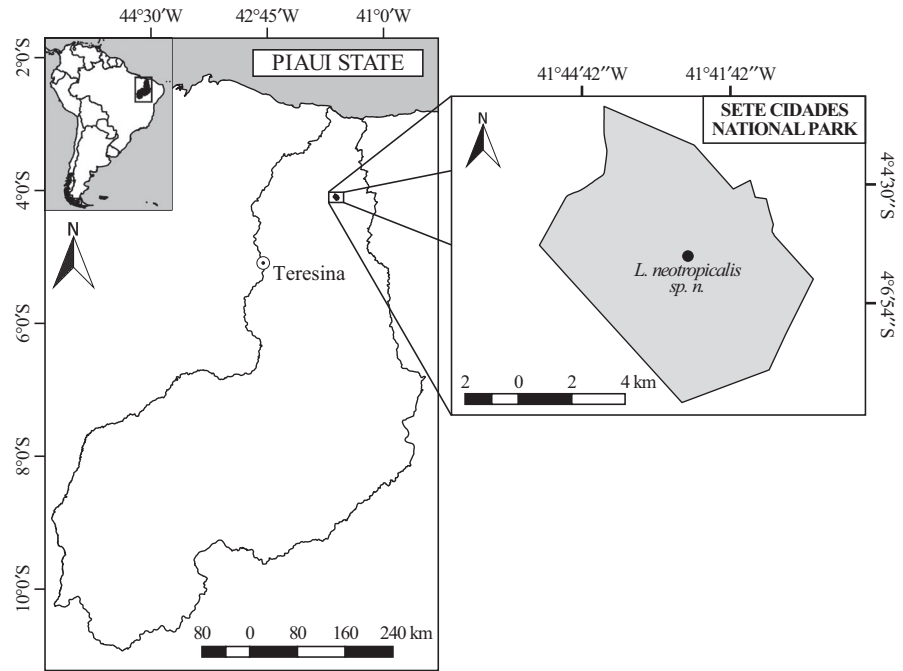
4 | DISCUSSION

4.1 | The diagnostic problem of *Lepidosira*

The diagnosis of *Lepidosira* was established in 1925 and complemented by Womersley (1939), at a time when only four species were described (currently there are 54). Indeed, it was because of this lack of knowledge concerning the potential diversity of species which could fit the diagnosis of *Lepidosira* that the original authors failed to provide more clear diagnostic characters. While the total number of species in the genus has significantly increased during the last century, no extensive taxonomic review has been undertaken, and thus, the initial diagnosis proposed is no longer representative of all species in the genus, and can neither effectively differentiate them from other genera.

Lepidosira, *Lepidocyrtoides*, *Epimetrura*, *Lepidobrya* and *Lepidodens* are the only genera of Entomobryinae *sensu stricto* (Zhang and Deharveng (2015) which combine the following features: scales on body, manubrium and dens; mucro bidentate with mucronal spine; and rows of spines lacking on manubrium and dens. *Epimetrura* is diagnosed by the presence of a finger-shaped appendage in the Abd. IV of reproductive females, connected to the segment by a distinct joint (Schött, 1925). *Lepidobrya* has no unpaired inner teeth in the unguis;

FIGURE 1 Geographical location of the sampled specimens of *Lepidosira neotropicalis* sp. n. Shapefiles downloaded from IBGE—Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatística (<https://portaldemaps.ibge.gov.br/portal.php#homepage>)



the unguiculus is truncated with a small external tooth; and the body scales are long, narrow and pointed (Womersley, 1937; Zhang, Greenslade, & Stevens, 2017), like the dental scales of *Lepidosira neotropicalis* sp. n. (Figure S10b). *Lepidodens* can be diagnosed by the unguiculus truncated; scales with basal ribs longer than distal ones; bothriotrachel complex with unmodified accessory mic; Abd. I with **ms** abnormally positioned at the height of the chaeta **m3** (Zhang et al., 2016). Despite its morphological resemblance with *Lepidosira* and *Lepidocyrtoides*, the genus *Lepidodens* was recovered in a distinct clade in our phylogeny (Figure 3), outside the *Lepidosira*-group.

In practical taxonomic terms, the principal diagnostic problem lies in the ability to differentiate between the *Lepidosira* and *Lepidocyrtoides* genera. The similarity between these two genera had already been observed at the beginning of the 20th century, and *Lepidosira* was proposed precisely to separate some “anomalous” species of *Lepidocyrtoides* (Schött, 1925; Womersley, 1939). Very few characters actually distinguish the two groups, the most reliable being the presence of blunt mac on the manubrial plate of the latter genus (Cipola et al., 2017). The occurrence of such blunt chaetae on the manubrial plate could be interpreted as an autapomorphy of *Lepidocyrtoides* or a plesiomorphy of *Lepidosira* + *Lepidocyrtoides* clade. Our review shows these chaetae, or very similar ones, can also occur in other parts of the body of *Lepidosira*, but never on manubrium and dens. This last finding suggests the presence of such modified chaetae could denote a common ancestor, which may have had blunt chaetae on different body parts. Another trend observed in both genera, that

was probably also inherited from their common ancestor, is the enlarged Th. II. Traditionally, it is accepted that in *Lepidocyrtoides*, this projection is accentuated to the point of overlap with the head, about four times as long as Th. III according to Womersley (1939, p. 173), forming a hood-like structure; in *Lepidosira*, this projection is notably smaller, never overlapping the head (Liu et al., 2008; Yoshii & Suhardjono, 1992), as pointed out also by Womersley (1939, p. 201). For *Lepidosira australica*, *L. brunnea*, *L. calolepis*, *L. longicornis* and *L. nigrocephala*, Womersley (1939, pp. 173, 195) reports the length of Th. II as twice as long as Th. III, and for *Lepidosira neotropicalis* sp. n., the ratio Th. II: III ranges from 1.74 to 2.37:1. On the other hand, for five Neotropical and one Australian species of *Lepidocyrtoides*, Cipola et al. (2017) report a Th. II: III ratio ranging between 3.66 and 2.09:1. In the same way, Liu et al. (2008, Table 1) reports a Th. II: III ratio ranging between 4 and 1.43:1, for five Australian species of *Lepidocyrtoides*. In all cases, the inferior range overlaps the reported ratio of *Lepidosira*, thus, this character becomes useless for separating the two genera. Overall, dorsal chaetotaxy of Neotropical species of *Lepidocyrtoides* and *Lepidosira* also shows remarkable similarities, in particular, the presence of a high number of multiplets of centro-anterior mac on Th. II and centro-posterior mac on Abd. IV (Cipola et al., 2017).

Our revision suggests it is quite possible that one of the two genera (*Lepidosira* and *Lepidocyrtoides*) is an ingroup to the other. This is suggested by their overall morphological similarity, close phylogenetic relationship and overlapping circumglobal distribution. However, as was demonstrated

TABLE 3 List of taxa analysed in the present study, including collection locality, and GenBank accession numbers for each gene

Group	Species	Locality	18S	28S (D1–3)	COX1
Entomobryidae					
Entomobryinae	<i>Coecobrya tenebricosa</i>	France	KC236231	KC236272	KM978347
	<i>Drepanura</i> sp.	China	KC236233	KC236274	KM978349
	<i>Entomobrya aino</i>	China	KC236235	KC236279	KM978350
	<i>Entomobrya multifasciata</i>	France	KC236237	KC236276	KM978392
	<i>Entomobrya proxima</i>	China	KC236236	KC236279	KM978351
	<i>Entomobrya</i> sp.1	China	KC236234	KC236278	KM978352
	<i>Entomobrya</i> sp.2	Brazil	MK246434*	MK246429*	MF716608*
	<i>Himalanura</i> sp.	China	KC236243	KC236284	KM978357
	<i>Homidia sichuanensis</i>	China	KC236244	KC236285	KM978358
	<i>Homidia sinensis</i>	China	KC236245	KC236286	KM978359
	<i>Homidia socia</i>	China	KC236246	KC236287	KM978360
	<i>Lepidosira neotropicalis</i> sp. n.	Brazil	MK246432*	MK246427*	MF716603*
	<i>Lepidocyrtoides</i> sp.	Brazil	MK246433*	MK246428*	MF716598*
	<i>Lepidodens similis</i>	China	KC236266	KC236305	KM978396
	<i>Sinella curviseta</i>	China	KC236258	KC236300	KM978373
	<i>Sinella longisensilla</i>	China	KC236259	KC236299	KM978374
	<i>Sinhomidia bicolor</i>	China	KC236260	KC236301	KM978375
	<i>Willowsia guangdongensis</i>	China	KC236264	KC236306	KM978377
	<i>Willowsia japonica</i>	China	KC236265	KC236307	KM978378
	<i>Willowsia nigromaculata</i>	France	KC236263	KC236304	KM978379
Heteromurinae	<i>Dicranocentrus wangi</i>	China	KC236232	KC236273	KM978348
	<i>Heteromurus major</i>	France	KC236241	KC236282	KM978355
	<i>Heteromurus nitidus</i>	France	KC236242	KC236283	KM978356
Lepidocyrtinae	<i>Lepidocyrtus</i> sp. 1	China	KC236248	KC236289	KM978361
Orchesellinae	<i>Orchesella cincta</i>	France	KC236250	KC236290	KM978365
	<i>Orchesellides sinensis</i>	China	KC236251	KC236293	KM978363
	<i>Orchesellides</i> sp.	China	KC236226	KC236267	KM978364
Seirinae	<i>Seira corootensis</i>	Brazil	MK246435*	MK246430*	MF716614*
	<i>Seira delamarei</i>	China	KC236255	KC236292	KM978370
	<i>Seira barnardi</i>	South Africa	KC236254	KC236296	KU508096
	<i>Seira</i> sp. 1	China	KC236257	KC236297	KM978371
	<i>Seira</i> sp. 2	South Africa	KC236256	KC236298	KM978372
	<i>Tyrannoseira gladiata</i>	Brazil	MK246436*	MK246431*	MF716599*
Isotomidae					
Anurophorinae	<i>Folsomia candida</i>	China	KC236239	KC236281	KM978353
	<i>Folsomia quadrioculata</i>	France	JN981027	KC236280	KM978354
Tomoceridae					
Tomocerinae	<i>Tomocerus ocreatus</i>	China	KC236262	KC236303	KM978376

Note: Numbers marked with an asterisk (*) are newly sequenced in the present study, with others extracted from the GenBank.

above, *Lepidocyrtoides* can be effectively differentiated from *Lepidosira* by the presence of blunt chaetae on manubrium and dens, something similar to what separates *Seira* (*Seira*) and *Seira* (*Lepidocyrtinus*).

4.2 | Phylogeny of Entomobryidae

Our analyses recovered the topology of derived Entomobryidae as: Lepidocyrtinae + (Entomobryinae + Seir

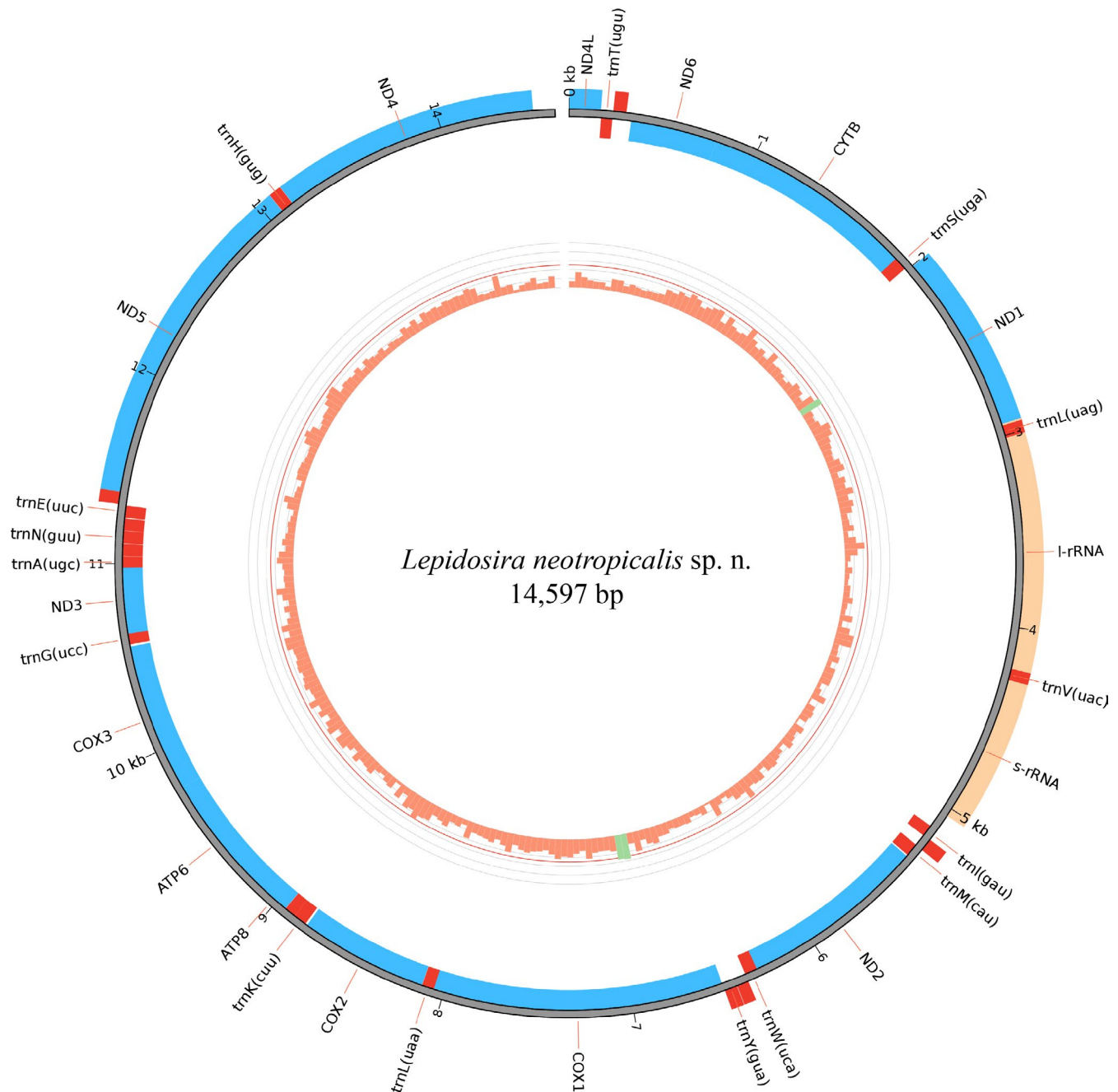


FIGURE 2 Mitochondrial genome of *Lepidosira neotropicalis* sp. n. [Colour figure can be viewed at wileyonlinelibrary.com]

inae), consistent with the results of recent studies (Zhang, Ma, et al., 2017; Zhang et al., 2016, 2015). However, we identified Orchesellinae as the sister group of Heteromurinae, and Isotomidae as the sister group of Tomoceridae, both in disagreement with the same studies. Such disparate results are quite possibly due to the choice of genes in the analyses, since we could not use in this study the mitochondrial gene 16S rRNA (16S), which had been used in the previous studies. Also, the set of terminal taxa and outgroups (in number and identity of species) is different among these studies and may have weighed in the different topologies

achieved here and in the cited studies. It is noteworthy all recent efforts concerning the Entomobryoidea phylogeny represent a work in progress and it is not entirely clear the relationships of Orchesellinae and Heteromurinae and the derived Entomobryidae (Entomobryinae, Lepidocyrtinae and Seirinae). Even so, this study did not aim to resolve the deeper relationships among the Entomobryidae taxa, but to understand the place of the new species (and *Lepidosira* as well) within the Entomobryinae.

Yoshii and Suhardjono (1989) included *Lepidosira* and similar genera (*Epimetrura*, *Lepidocyrtoides* and

Gene	Location (bp)		Stand	Size (bp)	Codon
	Start	Stop			Start–Stop
NAD4L	2	163	N	161	TTG–TAA
trnT(ugu)	166	227	J	61	–
trnP(ugg)	228	295	N	67	–
NAD6	324	783	J	459	ATA–TAA
CYTB	784	1,916	J	1,132	ATG–TAA
trnS(uga)	1,915	1,985	J	70	–
NAD1	2,003	2,948	N	945	ATA–TAA
l-rRNA	2,940	4,279	N	1,339	–
trnL(uag)	2,949	3,013	N	64	–
trnV(uac)	4,213	4,276	N	63	–
s-rRNA	4,273	5,042	N	769	–
trnI(gau)	5,134	5,196	J	62	–
trnQ(uug)	5,193	5,260	N	67	–
trnM(cau)	5,258	5,328	J	70	–
NAD2	5,334	6,324	J	990	ATA–TAA
trnW(uca)	6,223	6,389	J	166	–
trnC(gca)	6,390	6,451	N	61	–
trnY(gua)	6,453	6,518	N	65	–
COX1	6,519	8,058	J	1,539	ATT–TAA
trnL(uaa)	8,054	8,118	J	64	–
COX2	8,118	8,799	J	681	ATT–TAA
trnK(cuu)	8,810	8,880	J	70	–
trnD(guc)	8,880	8,941	J	61	–
ATP8	8,941	9,103	J	162	ATC–TAA
ATP6	9,096	9,777	J	681	ATG–TAA
COX3	9,776	10,565	J	789	ATG–TAA
trnG(ucc)	10,576	10,636	J	60	–
NAD3	10,633	10,981	J	348	ATA–TAG
trnA(ugc)	10,980	11,040	J	60	–
trnR(ucg)	11,041	11,104	J	63	–
trnN(guu)	11,106	11,172	J	66	–
trnS(gcu)	11,173	11,239	J	66	–
trnE(uuc)	11,243	11,306	J	63	–
trnF(gaa)	11,309	11,372	N	63	–
NAD5	11,371	13,075	N	1,704	ATT–TAG
trnH(gug)	13,076	13,140	N	64	–
NAD4	13,140	14,485	N	1,345	ATG–T

TABLE 4 Location of features in the mitochondrial DNA of *Lepidosira neotropicalis* sp. n.

Acanthocyrtus) in Seirini, based on scale morphology (with roughly striate surface) and manubrium ventral chaetotaxy (with rounded scales). This classification was used until recently, and the wide morphological revision of Entomobryomorpha provided by Soto-Adames et al. (2008) supported Yoshii and Suhardjono (1989) view of Seirini. It was only in 2015 that Zhang and Deharveng (2015) provided

a phylogenetic analysis of the ingroups of Entomobryidae based on molecular data (original data presented in Zhang et al., 2014), and they observed that Seirini (promoted by that study to Seirinae) and Entomobryini (also promoted to Entomobryinae) could be separated by: mucro shape (falcate in the former, basally bidentate in the later); tergal sens (Th. II to Abd V 11|022–3 in Seirinae and 22|122–3 in

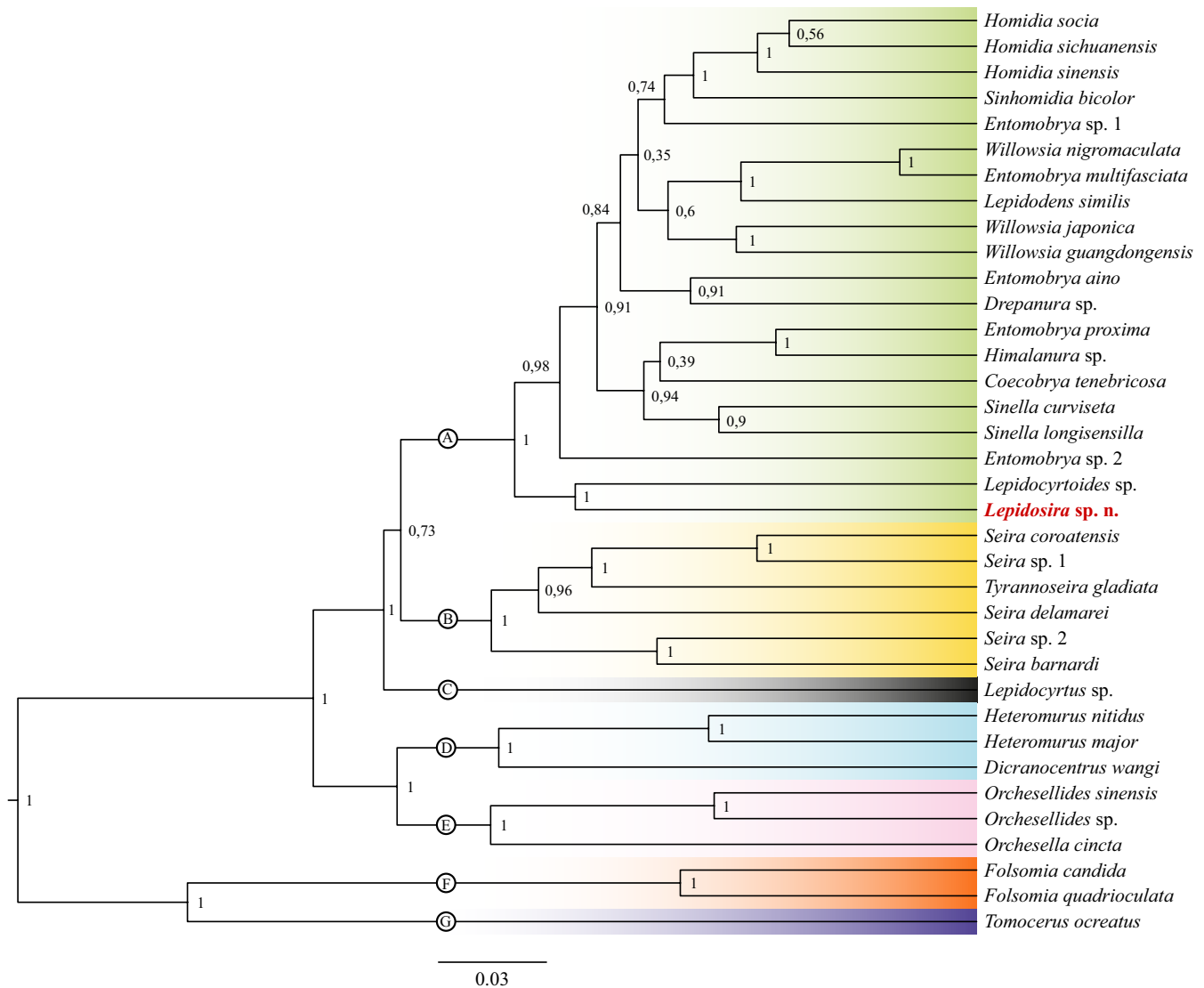


FIGURE 3 Phylogenetic position of *Lepidosira neotropicalis* sp. n. among 19 species of Entomobryinae (green—A), six Seirinae (yellow—B), one Lepidocyrtinae (grey—C), three Heteromurinae (blue—D), three Orchesellinae (pink—E), two Isotomidae (orange—F) and one Tomoceridae (purple—G). Numbers at the nodes indicate values of Bayesian posterior probabilities. For further details about specimens and GenBank accession numbers, see Table 3 [Colour figure can be viewed at wileyonlinelibrary.com]

Entomobryinae); and bothriotrichal formula of Abd. II–IV (2, 3, 3 in Seirinae vs. 2, 3, 2 in Entomobryinae). In 2014, another study (Zhang et al., 2014) also showed that Entomobryinae could present scales, excluding the significance of presence/absence of scales to separate Entomobryinae from other subfamilies of Entomobryidae. Posterior studies reinforced this point of view (Zhang et al., 2014, 2016, 2015). Although Zhang and Deharveng (2015) did not include any *Lepidosira* species in their molecular analyses, the new diagnostic features presented by the authors for all Entomobryinae allowed them to exclude the entire *Lepidosira*-group from Seirinae and enclose all their genera among the Entomobryinae. We are able, for the first time, to use molecular data to corroborate Zhang and Deharveng's (2015) argument for including

Lepidosira and *Lepidocyrtoides* in Entomobryinae (Figure 3). Also, both *Lepidosira neotropicalis* sp. n. and neotropical species of *Lepidocyrtoides* (Cipola et al., 2017) fit the current diagnoses to Entomobryinae (Zhang & Deharveng, 2015; Zhang et al., 2016, 2015).

The finding of *Lepidosira* as the sister group of *Lepidocyrtoides* in our analyses (Figure 3) agrees partially with Yoshii and Suhardjono's (1989) definition of the *Lepidosira*-group, and other previous notes on the similarities of both genera (Schött, 1925; Womersley, 1939). On the other hand, the position of *Epimetrura*, *Acanthocyrtus* and other possibly related taxa as *Amazhomidia* within the Entomobryinae remains unclear. Further studies including species of these genera plus other species of *Lepidosira* and

Lepidocyrtoides, in particular from outside the Neotropical Region, are needed to verify how wide is actually the *Lepidosira*-group. The extensive array of morphological variation seen in the *Lepidosira* taxa (Table 2), even with regards to the dorsal chaetotaxy (see remarks of the new species in the Appendix S1), suggests this taxon could be poly or paraphyletic. Also, as discussed before, the similarities of *Lepidocyrtoides* and *Lepidosira* species, at least concerning the neotropical ones, suggest *Lepidocyrtoides* could be an ingroup of *Lepidosira* or vice-versa. Only a detailed revision of the genus and further phylogenetical analyses could bring further clarity to this discussion. Finally, the maintenance of the basal condition of *Lepidosira* + *Lepidocyrtoides* (*Lepidosira*-group) among the Entomobryinae (Figure 3), with inclusions of other taxa could permit in the future the division of Entomobryinae into new tribes.

4.3 | General comments about the Neotropical fauna of *Lepidosira* and Entomobryinae

Concerning the dorsal chaetotaxy, the few simplified schemes presented by some authors allow us to speculate that most species of *Lepidosira* from Oceania and Asia have a reduced chaetotaxy pattern compared to *L. neotropicalis* sp. n. (e.g., Yosii, 1960, pp. 18–19, figs 8b, 9b; Yoshii & Greenslade, 1994, pp. 16, 18–21, figs 8–11; Yoshii, 1989, pp. 241–242, figs 4j, 5f; Yoshii & Suhardjono, 1989, pp. 39, 41, 43, figs 9g, 10l, 11h; Nguyen, 2005, pp. 12–13, figs 6–7). The most obvious reduction can be seen at Abd. I–II, that is totally devoid of mac in most species described by the authors previously cited, or have a very reduced number of mac. Only *L. sundana* Yoshii & Suhardjono, 1989, *L. alba* (Nguyen, 2005) Zhang, Chen, & Deharveng, 2011 and *L. nigropunctata* (Nguyen, 2005) Zhang et al., 2011 have a dorsal chaetotaxy that shows some resemblance with *L. neotropicalis* sp. n., mainly on Abd. I–II, but differing in the other segments.

Concerning the Neotropical diversity of Entomobryinae, several genera were recorded for the first time in recent years from this region, in part as a consequence of collections in unexplored or little-known areas, and by revision of old material deposited at reference collections (e.g., *Amazhomidia*, *Lepidocyrtoides* and now *Lepidosira*). In Brazil, entire biomes with high indices of diversity and endemism, such as “Cerrado” and “Pantanal,” and most of the Amazon rainforest, have yet to be extensively surveyed for Collembola. This scenario indicates that the subfamily diversity is much bigger than actual records, and the vast majority of this fauna still needs to be properly described.


Identification key to the Neotropical genera of Entomobryinae *sensu stricto*.


1	Body scales present	7
1'	Body scales absent	2
2	Mucro bidentate	3
2'	Mucro falcate	5
3	Dental spines present; mucro with subapical tooth much larger than apical one	<i>Homidia</i>
3'	Dental spines absent; mucro with subapical and apical teeth usually subequal	4
4	8 + 8 eyes	<i>Entomobrya</i>
4'	0 + 0 to 6 + 6 eyes	<i>Sinella</i>
5	Mucronal spine present	6
5'	Mucronal spine absent	<i>Calx</i>
6	Eyes present (8 + 8)	<i>Drepanura</i>
6'	Eyes absent (0 + 0 to 2 + 2)	<i>Coecobrya</i>
7	Mucro bidentate	9
7'	Mucro falcate	8
8	Mucronal spine present	<i>Drepanosira</i>
8'	Mucronal spine absent	<i>Desertia</i>
9	Dental scales present	12
9'	Dental scales absent	10
10	Dental spines present; prelabral chaetae bifurcate	<i>Amazhomidia</i>
10'	Dental spines absent; prelabral chaetae simple	11
11	Non-ciliated scales, with two distinct longitudinal ribs	<i>Americabrya</i>
11'	Ciliated scales, without two distinct longitudinal ribs	<i>Willowsia</i>
12	Manubrial plate with blunt macrochaetae	<i>Lepidocyrtoides</i>
12'	Manubrial plate without blunt macrochaetae	<i>Lepidosira</i>

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