Aphylla caudalis, a new species from Brazil (Odonata: Gomphidae)

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Abstract: Aphylla caudalis spec. nov. is described and illustrated after a unique male from Pará, Brazil.

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Introduction

Thanks to the kind attention of Mrs. Leonora K. Gloyd, of the Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, I have been able to study a unique male of an undescribed species of *Aphylla* Selys, here introduced under the specific name *caudalis*. The specimen was borrowed from Dr. F. Ris by Mr. E. B. Williamson more than half a century ago and recently taken out of the Williamson collection by Mrs. Gloyd.

Aphylla caudalis spec. nov.
(figures 1-5)

Holotype: Brazil, State of Pará, Gurupá (Amazon River), i.1921, ♂, A. H. Fassl leg. The holotype is deposited in the Senckenberg Museum, Frankfurt-am-Main, under No. SMF Od 37384.

This new species seems to find its nearest relative in *Aphylla producta* Selys which it resembles in general dullness of coloration, thoracic markings and wing venation. But the male of *A. caudalis* is easily distinguished from that of *A. producta* by its larger size, and particularly by its relative longer tenth abdominal segment (as long as ninth abdominal segment) and the very different shape of its caudal appendages. The male is described below in comparison with *A. producta*.

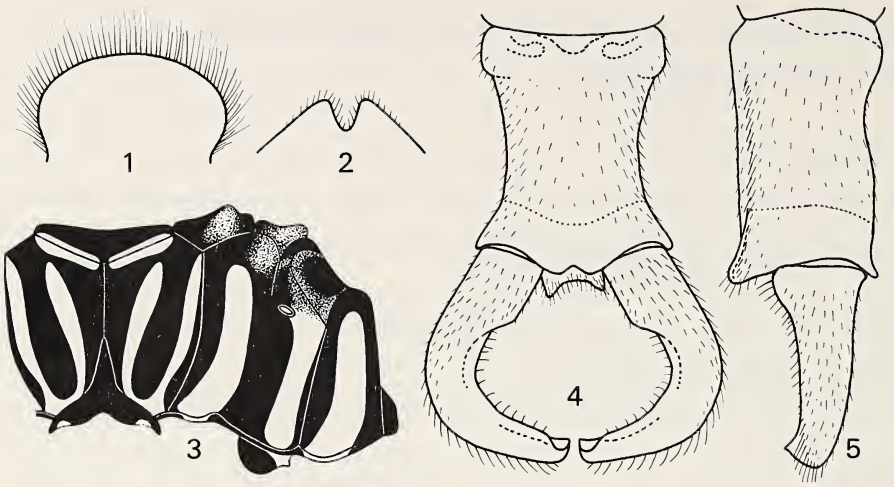
Description

Male holotype (abdomen somewhat distorted and broken between the segments 3-4 and 7-8). – Total length 67.5 mm; abdomen 53.5 mm (incl. caud. app. 2.5 mm); hind wing 37 mm; costal edge of pterostigma in fore wing 4.5 mm.

Head: Labrum without a pair of pale spots as found in *A. producta*. Labium relatively longer and its free border more strongly curved than that of *A. producta* (fig. 1). Superior surface of frons with a broad yellow-green anterior band which is narrowed in middle as in *A. producta*.

Pterothorax: First and second green antehumeral stripes connected along antealar sinus (fig. 3); not connected in *A. producta*.
Hind legs: Tarsi two-thirds the tibial length; three-fourths in *A. producta*.

Abdomen: Ventral tergal margins of segments 8 and 9 completely unexpanded and without denticles; in *A. producta* very slightly expanded and without denticles. Posterior dorsal margin of segment 10 without denticles (figs. 4 and 5); in *A. producta* with denticles at level of bases of superior appendages. V-shaped median excision of posterior dorsal margin of segment 10



Figs. 1-5. *Aphylla caudalis* spec. nov., ♂ holotype. 1, labium; 2, transverse lamella of vesicle, rear view; 3, diagram of thoracic colour pattern; 4, tenth abdominal segment and caudal appendages, dorsal view; 5, the same, left profile view.

broader and deeper than in *A. producta*. Dorso-apical rim of segment 10 one-fifth the length of segment; one-fourth in *A. producta*. Superior appendages more bent outwards from base than in *A. producta*. Inferior appendage rather large and broad, parallel-sided, its posterior margin concave; in *A. producta* very small and short, parallel-sided, and its posterior margin rounded. Transverse lamella of vesicle more produced ventrad than in *A. producta* (fig. 2). Abdominal segments 7, 8, 9 and 10 approximately in ratio 13:10:6:6, with the superior appendages 5 on the same scale; in *A. producta* 13:9:5:4, with the superior appendages 5 on the same scale.

Wings: Basal subcostal cross-vein present. Second primary antenodal cross-vein the seventh in right fore wing, the sixth in other wings. Nodal index 14:20-21:14/16:17-16:16. Intermedian cross-veins 10-12/7-8. Supratriangles two-celled. Subtriangle in hind wings one-celled, in fore wings two-celled. Discoidal triangle in right hind wing two-celled, in other wings three-celled with the dividing cross-veins radiating from centre. Trigonal interspace starting with four (left hind wing) or three (other wings) cells against triangle followed by two rows of cells, eight cells long in fore wings and four cells long in hind wings.

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