

*Maria da Vitória, Bahia, Brasil. A caverna tem cerca de 15,8 km de desenvolvimento, sendo em cerca de 10 km percorrida por rio subterrâneo. As fêmeas foram capturadas dentro da caverna a mais a de 3 km da entrada, nos dias 09 e 10 de novembro 1996. As duas eram recém eclodidas e tinham asas e corpos tenros.*

The available odonate records from caves and similar hypogean (other than interstitial) habitats were reviewed by D.J. THOMPSON & B. KIAUTA (1994, *Opusc. zool. flumin.* 118: 1-10). Among the 34 identified species, *Perithemis domitia* (Dru.) is the sole representative of the genus, evidenced from the cenotes of Yucatán, Mexico (E.B. WILLIAMSON, 1936, *Publs Carnegie Instn Wash.* 457: 139-143).

During 9-11 November 1996, I had the opportunity to participate in the survey of the „Gruta do Padre”, conducted by the members of the „Grupo Bambuí de Pesquisas Espeleológicas”, Belo Horizonte. The cave is situated NE of Santa Maria de Vitória, in the direction of Santana dos Brejos, Bahia. With ca 15,8 km of the hitherto explored galleries, it is among the longest known caves in Brazil. A river runs through ca 10 km of the cave (bed width ca 2.0-6.0 m, water depth on our dry-season visit 0.2-2.0 m, velocity low, cave ceiling at places more than 15 m above water table). We have explored ca 5 km of the galleries.

On the 9th, at 19.00 h, while tubing on the river some 3 km off the cave entrance, I have noticed a *P. mooma* female sitting on my helmet. On the 10th, another member of the party detected another female on his helmet, at about the same section of the river. The two dragonflies were freshly emerged, with very soft wings and bodies.

Apparently, the larvae drifted into the cave during the rainy season. As stated by P.S. CORBET (1962, *A biology of dragonflies*, Witherby, London), in the tropics and provided an adequate food supply, the larval growth rate is simply a result of the thermal growth coefficient and the environmental temperature. In the present case, the synchronized emergence of the two individuals is of particular interest.

I would like to thank Augusto AULER and Heloisa and Wilfred BRANDT for organizing and guiding the tour, Jürgen ZELLER for the second specimen, Marcos ABI-ACKEL for the help in the field, and the Brandt Meio Ambiente for supporting

**PERITHEMIS MOOMA KIRBY EMERGED IN A CAVE (ANISOPTERA: LIBELLULIDAE) – ECLOSÃO DE PERITHEMIS MOOMA KIRBY EM UMA CAVERNA (ANISOPTERA: LIBELLULIDAE)**

*2 ♀ foram casualmente capturados na Gruta do Padre, localizada a nordeste da cidade de Santa*

us by a car. Markus WEBER provided the Portuguese summary, Misa PIPER rendered various kinds of assistance, and Gerhard JURZITZA kindly checked the identification of

the specimens.

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