FIRST RECORD OF *Jenynsia onca* (TELEOSTEI: CYPRINODONTIFORMES: ANABLEPIDAE) FOR LAGUNA DOS PATOS HYDROGRAPHIC SYSTEM, RIO GRANDE DO SUL, BRAZIL

The genus *Jenynsia* Günther comprises thirteen species of small viviparous fish distributed along the upper drainages of southeastern Brazil, the lowlands of the La Plata Basin, the Coastal Atlantic drainages of southern and southeastern Brazil, Uruguay, western and northeastern Argentina, and southeastern Bolivia (GHEDOTTI, 1998; LUCINDA *et al*., 2006). In the State of Rio Grande do Sul, southern Brazil, four species occur, being three of them traditionally referred to the Laguna dos Patos hydrographic system (BUCKUP *et al*., 2007): *J. eirmostigma, J. lineata* and *J. multidentata*. During 2005 and 2006 samples were collected in 50 points distributed along streams (1st to 4th order) located in the Cristaline Shield, southeastern of the State of Rio Grande do Sul. *Jenynsia onca* (LUCINDA *et al*., 2002) is diagnosed by the presence of ovoid to circular maculae, in the ventral half portion of its post-pelvic region, that gradually become more circular in the direction of its ventral contour, and by the fact that adult males present a large convex expansion in their distal segments on the right side of their sixth ray of the anal fin (LUCINDA *et al*., 2002). The species presence was confirmed in two sampling points (UTM 22J 273123; 6544410 and 272763; 6544011), belonging to the upper Camaquã Basin, in a 1st order stream, with an altitude of approximately 200m, and 30cm of depth of crystalline water, located in the 2sd district of the municipality of Pinheiro Machado. At total, 134 specimens were captured with drag net's (150 x 70 cm, mesh = 2 mm) in January 2006. The material was vouched in the PUCRS Museum of Science and Technology (MCP 41170). The species geographical distribution were known to the Ibicuí River drainages, Rio Grande do Sul, in Brazil, and the Negro River drainages, in Uruguay, both rivers are tributaries of the lower Uruguay (LUCINDA *et al*., 2002). This new record widens its distribution to the Laguna dos Patos system. Records of species from the Uruguay Basin that have invaded the Laguna dos Patos system, such as, *Packyurus bonarienses* (DUFECH & FIALHO, 2006), *Acestrorhynchus pantaneiro* (SACCOL-PEREIRA *et al*., 2006) and *Trachelyopterus lucenai* (BECKER, 2002), demonstrate a probable route of invasion through the Jacuí River Basin. Nevertheless, mechanisms involved in the invasion of this system are still highly discussed, as it may result from natural and/or anthropogenic causes. In the case of *J. onca* two hypothesis are raised: i) the first consists that the species is an invasive species, although, the causes for its invasion are still unknown; ii) the second hypothesis is that the species is native in both drainage systems, just as to the Uruguay as to the Laguna dos Patos system. The species invasion in this system is hard to be confirmed, as the area where the species was found is of difficult access and it is isolated from urban and rural centers. Topography characteristics and hydrological connections between both basins (Uruguay River Basin and Camaquã River Basin) are inexistent in this region and reinforce the hypothesis that the species is autochthonous to the Laguna dos Patos hydrographic system.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are thankful to Roberto Reis and the PUCRS Ichthyology Laboratory staff for all their kindly attention; we are also thankful to Paulo Lucinda for identifying the material and Vinicius Bastazini for translating this manuscript.

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