

## Three new species of seasonal killifishes of the *Simpsonichthys antenori* species group (Teleostei: Cyprinodontiformes: Rivulidae) from the rio São Francisco basin, Brazil

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### Abstract

Three new species of the *Simpsonichthys antenori* group from the upper sections of eastern drainages of the middle rio São Francisco, serra do Espinhaço, are described. *Simpsonichthys janaubensis*, new species, from the rio Gorutuba floodplains, upper rio Verde Grande drainage, shares a derived color pattern of anal fin in males with *S. flavicaudatus* and *S. flagellatus*, but differs from them in having a more slender body, a shorter anal-fin base, and a distinctive color pattern of the dorsal fin in males. *Simpsonichthys mediopapillatus*, new species, from the rio São Domingos drainage, a part of the upper rio Verde Grande drainage, is similar to *S. ghisolfii* in having a long urogenital papilla and a light orangish-yellow subdistal stripe on the anal fin in males, and it is distinguished from all congeners in having a median neuromast on the posterior rostral series. *Simpsonichthys macaubensis*, new species, from the upper rio Paramirim drainage, differs from other species of the *S. antenori* group by a combination of features, including presence of contact organs on the flank in males, dorsal and anal-fin filaments reaching central portion of caudal fin in males, urogenital papilla short in males, and anal fin yellow, with a distal black stripe and iridescent dots over the entire fin in males. A key for identification of species of the *S. antenori* group is provided.

**Key words:** Annual fish, killifish, Cyprinodontiformes, Rivulidae, *Simpsonichthys*, Rio São Francisco, systematics, taxonomy, new species

### Resumo

Três espécies novas do grupo *Simpsonichthys antenori* da seção superior das drenagens de leste do médio rio São Francisco, serra do Espinhaço, são descritas. *Simpsonichthys janaubensis*, **sp. nov.**, da várzea do rio Gorutuba, drenagem do alto rio Verde Grande, compartilha um padrão de colorido derivado de nadadeira anal em machos com *S. flavicaudatus* e *S. flagellatus*, diferindo delas por ter corpo mais esguio, base de nadadeira anal mais curta e um padrão de colorido distinto de nadadeira