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A NEW GENUS AND TWO NEW SPECIES OF XUSTROSTOMATIDAE HUNT, 2002 (NEMATODA: RHIGONEMATOMORPHA) FROM THE WEST INDIES

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ABSTRACT

A new genus and two new species of xustrostomatids (Nematoda: Xustrostomatidae) are described parasitizing diplopods from the West Indies. *Trachyglossoides jimenoï* gen. nov. sp. nov. from Cuba, is similar to *Trachyglossus* Hunt, 2002. It differs by having the female genital tract monodelphic, feature unique in the family. This constitutes the second record of the family from the country. *Zalophora dominicana* sp. nov. from the Dominican Republic resembles *Z. repentina* García & Morffe, 2010. It can be segregated by having a minor development of the cephalic crests and the cephalic end barely inflated. This constitutes the first record of the family and genus for the Dominican Republic.

KEY-WORDS: *Trachyglossoides* gen. nov. sp. nov.; *Zalophora*; Diplopoda; Cuba; Hispaniola.

INTRODUCTION

The description of the genus *Trachyglossus* Hunt, 2002 determined the establishment of the family Xustrostomatidae Hunt, 2002; including the genera *Xustrostoma* Adamson & Van Waerebeke, 1984; *Obainia* Adamson, 1983 and *Zalophora* Hunt, 1994. These are characterized by having the cephalic end laterally depressed and the oral opening dorsoventrally elongated (Adamson, 1983; Adamson & Van Waerebeke, 1984; Hunt, 1994, 2002). The features mentioned above locate the family in an intermediate position between Rhigonematidae and Ichthyocephalidae (Hunt, 2002). Xustrostomatids are parasitic of the hind gut of spirolid and spirostreptid millipedes (Diplopoda: Spirolida, Spirostreptida) from Africa

and Australasia (Hunt, 2002). *Zalophora repentina* García & Morffe, 2010 is the only species from the West Indies (García & Morffe, 2010).

As a result of the current study, several specimens belonging to a xustrostomatid with characters close to *Trachyglossus* Hunt, 2002 were found. Such characters, e.g., the presence of a tongue-like rasp as part of the jaw apparatus, corpus and isthmus hypertrophied, caudal alae in the males and females with a vulval flap by hypertrophy of the anterior lip but with the genital tract monogonant suggest the presence of a new genus of Xustrostomatidae. This new genus and species from Cuba constitute the second record for the family in The Caribbean.

The genus *Zalophora* Hunt, 1994 comprises four species, including one from Cuba (cited above): *Z. he-*

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