

Sixth International Oligochaete Taxonomy Meeting (6th IOTM) Palmeira de Faro, Portugal April 22-25, 2013

New species of *Glossoscolex* (Clitellata: Glossoscolecidae) from Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil*

BARTZ Marie L. C. Bartz**¹, JAMES Samuel W.², STEFFEN Gerusa P. K. ³, ANTONIOLLI Zaidai I.³, BROWN George G. ⁴

¹Universidade do Estado de Santa Catarina, Chapecó, SC, Brazil

e-mail: bartzmarie@gmail.com; samuel-james@uiowa.edu; george.brown@embrapa.br

Surveys conducted in the State of Rio Grande do Sul, from the 1920s until the year 2010, indicated the existence of at least 44 identified species of earthworms. Out of them 15 species were native (34%) and 29 species were of exotic origin (66%). These species are grouped into six families, and most of them belong to the family Lumbricidae (12 species) and Glossoscolecidae (11 species). The aim of this study was to present the description of six new species of native earthworms of the genus Glossoscolex collected in ecosystems of the State of RS, Brazil. The earthworm specimens were obtained by digging and hand sorting in sites with natural vegetation (swamp, native grassland, fragments of forest) and also with human impact, such as annual crops (oats) and pastures. Six new species of Oligochaeta of the genus Glossoscolex from Rio Grande do Sul State, Brazil are presented and described recently: Glossoscolex (Glossocolex) knapperae n. sp., G. (G.) pastivus n. sp., G. (G.) pampas n. sp., G. (G.) riograndensis n. sp., G. (G.) nativus n. sp. and G. (G.) parvus. All new species are part of the truncatus species group of Glossoscolex (Glossoscolex) (male pores present in xvii). Species-specific characters are presented in order to clarify the differences among the species described and related species. Habitat and soil associations of the new species are given.

²Department of Biology, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242, USA

³Universidade Federal de Santa Maria, RS, Brazil

⁴EMBRAPA-Florestas, Colombo, PR, Brazil

^{*} Part of the PhD thesis of the third author

^{**}Corresponding author