



Enchytraeidae of the Caratuva mountain summit in the Coastal range of the Atlantic Forest of Paraná

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The Caratuva mountain is the second highest peak in Southern Brazil, reaching 1850 m altitude, and is found in the Coastal Range of the Atlantic Rainforest of the state of Paraná, between the counties of Antonina and Campina Grande do Sul (25° 14' 26" S 48° 49' 41" W). The summit of the peak is covered by highland "moor"-type vegetation, including a native bamboo (caratuva) and grasslands, as well as small shrubs, trees and moss that provide a deep organic soil consisting mainly of roots and dead organic material. In the present study, we evaluated the abundance and diversity of enchytraeids in this particular mountain summit ecosystem. Samples were taken in May 2012 using a 5.6 cm diam., 5 cm deep metal cylinder in eight points on the Eastern side of the summit. At each point two samples were taken, one for cold (24 h) and the other for hot (3h 30 min) wet extraction. Mean enchytraeid abundance was $14,413 \pm 10,905$ indiv. m² (cold) and $11,317 \pm 6,980$ indiv. m² (hot), and maximum abundance reached 32,075 indiv. m². At least eight species were found (including at least one new species), most of them belonging to the genus *Guaranidrilus*, one of them being particularly large, the longest known enchytraeid from Latin America.