Dolichopodidae is among the most diverse families within Diptera, containing around 8,000 species in 250 genera that occur in all zoogeographic regions, except the Antarctic (Grichanov 2017). So far, 212 species and 31 genera are known from Brazil (Capellari 2021). Adults are easily recognized by the metallic tegument, slender body, relatively long legs and reduced wing venation (Bickel 2009). Most dolichopodids are predators and frequently occur in large numbers in crop fields. They control populations of slender-bodied insects, including whiteflies, thrips, mites and aphids, considered severe and recurrent pests in Brazilian agriculture (Ulrich 2004; Bickel 2009; Harterreiten-Souza et al. 2020).

**Condylostylus** Bigot, 1859 currently comprises 260 valid species, from which 78 have been recorded in Brazil (Capellari 2021; Harterreiten-Souza et al. 2020). The genus is distinguished by the following combination of characters: vertical seta inserted in a tubercle, two pairs of well-developed scutellar setae, and M, often sharply recurved basad (Bickel 2009). Species of **Condylostylus** are abundant and utilized in the biological control of conventional and organic crops in Brazil (see Seffrin et al. 2006; Togni et al. 2010; Harterreiten-Souza et al. 2020).

In this study, we record for the first time **Condylostylus depressus** (Aldrich, 1901) and **Condylostylus electus** (Walker, 1852) in the State of Pará, eastern Brazilian Amazon. Both species were collected in crops of *Cocos nucifera* L., thus pointing to a possible value for biological control. In addition, we provide diagnoses and distribution maps for both species in Brazil.

**Keywords:** long-legged flies, Sciapodinae, predators, biological control.

Abstract. We record for the first time two species of *Condylostylus* Bigot, 1859 from Pará state, Brazil. *Condylostylus depressus* (Aldrich, 1901) and *C. electus* (Walker, 1852) were found on commercial crops of *Cocos nucifera* L., thus pointing to a possible value for biological control. In addition, we provide diagnoses and distributional maps for both species in Brazil.

**Condylostylus depressus** (Aldrich, 1901)

*Psilopus* depressus Aldrich, 1901: 359. Type locality: Tabasco, Mexico.

(Figs. 1, 2).

**Diagnosis (males).** Frons with pale hairs next to vertical seta (Fig. 2B). Mesonotum metallic green with weak covery reflections; five pairs of strong dorsocentral setae, 1 pair of pre- and 1 pair of postocular acrostichal setae. Legs yellow, except all coxae, hind trochanter, basal 4/5 of fore and mid femora, entirely hind femur, apex of hind tibia, fore and mid tarsus from apex of basitarsus, and entirely hind tarsus brown to dark brown (Fig. 2A). Fore tarsomeres 2-4 with ventral row of short setae (Fig. 2C); mid tarsus unmodified; hind tarsomeres 4-5 dorsoventrally flattened (Fig. 2D). Wing mostly hyaline, with inverted u-shaped macula on apical half (Fig. 2A).

**Examined material.** Brazil, Pará, Santa Izabel do Pará, Reunidas Farm 01°13’40.2”S 48°02’54.4”W, 09-23.v.2019, adhesive trap, Penner & Silva cols. (1 male).

**Distribution.** Mexico, Brazil (states of Distrito Federal and Pará) (Fig. 1).
**Condylostylus electus** (Walker, 1852)

*Psilopus electus* Walker, 1852: 207. Type locality: Brazil, Rio de Janeiro.

(Figs. 1, 3)

**Diagnosis (males).** Frons with numerous black hairs next to vertical seta (Fig. 3B). Mesonotum metallic dark green, with bluish reflections; five pairs of strong dorsoventral setae, four pairs of acrostichals setae, 1 pre-, 1 sutural and 2 postsutural. Brown to dark brown legs (Fig. 3A); fore tibia with posterolateral row of setae from basal 2/3 to 7/9 (Fig. 3C); mid tibia with anterior row of setae, longer than diameter of tibia (Fig. 3D); mid basitarsus with anterior row of little round bumps extending to the basal half of mid tarsomere 2 (Fig. 3E); hind tarsus unmodified. Wing mostly brown, with basal 1/3, apex of cells M₁ and M₂, a quadrangular portion in cell r₄-₅ beyond vein m₃-a hyaline (Fig. 3A).

**Examined material.** Brazil, Pará, Santa Izabel do Pará, Reunidas Farm 01°13'40.2"S 48°02'54.4"W, 09-23.v.2019, adhesive trap, Penner & Silva cols. (2 males).

**Distribution.** Brazil (states of Rio de Janeiro and Pará) (Fig. 1). This is only the second occurrence record for *C. electus* and *C. depressus* in Brazil. Previously, *C. electus* was recorded only from its type locality in the Atlantic Forest, Rio de Janeiro state [Walker 1852] and is here reported for the first time in agricultural landscapes. *Condylostylus depressus* was recently recorded from the Federal District in Brazil and represents the most abundant species of *Condylostylus* occurring in agroecosystems (Harterreiten-Souza et al. 2020). Both species are reported for the first time in the Amazon biome.

Several works have demonstrated the importance of Dolichopodidae and *Condylostylus* in the biological control of pest potentials in crops. Lundgreen et al. (2013) used molecular analysis to identify the main predators of the cassava whitefly (*Aleurotrachelus socialis* Bondar, 1923) in Colombia and demonstrated the potential as predator of *Condylostylus* sp. on these insects. The family was the Diptera most abundant in coconut crops in the state of Espírito Santo, southeast Brazil (Comério & Benassi 2013). *Condylostylus* was the most abundant genus in *Citrus* orchards from Vero Beach, Florida, USA, and the individuals were observed displaying predatory activity, thus reinforcing the evidence of their natural enemy role in agroecosystems (Cicero et al. 2017). Harterreiten-Souza et al. (2020) demonstrated that *Condylostylus* species are more abundant in agricultural crops than in agroecosystems. Further, the same authors recorded 16 species of *Condylostylus* in greenery crops from Federal District (Midwestern Brazil), which ranked second in abundance among the Dolichopodidae genera.

Data on arthropod colonizing crop fields strengthen the development of integrated pest management, reducing significant financial losses (Weseloh & Hare 2009). In order to preserve the potential of natural mortality factors, biological control is frequently recommended for regulating populations of target species. In particular, predators and parasitoids represent the main natural alternatives for pest control in agroecosystems (Spennemann 2019; Dunn et al. 2020).

Studies on the arthropod fauna found in coconut palm are occasionally limited to mentioning the existence of natural enemies, and there are only rare records of the occurrence of their specific predators, whose conservation strategies are essential for keeping pest populations below the level of economic damage, reducing the need for pesticide use.

Despite the increasing number of research on Dolichopodidae from Brazilian agricultural landscapes, information on biology, morphology, ecology and population distribution of *Condylostylus* in Brazil are still below expectations, ratifying the need for occurrence records in agricultural crops that enable knowledge of species used in biological control against other invertebrates.

**Acknowledgments**

We thank the Company Sococo Agroindústrias da Amazônia for financing the study, especially Dr. Paulo Manoel Pontes Lins and the team of technicians in the plant health sector for enabling the partnership with the Universidade Federal Rural da Amazônia and permit the collection of specimens; and Dr. Daniel Bickel from for his
support in taxonomic identification. MMMS thanks the Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Ensino Superior (CAPES) for the PhD scholarships.

**Authors’ Contribution**

FVP, YKRS and LFB collected the studied specimens, wrote, and edited the manuscript. MMMS made the diagnosis, and photographs of the species and wrote the manuscript. TFVB coordinated the execution of the project that enabled the collection of specimens. All authors read and approved the final version.

**References**


