



**A NEW SPECIE OF THE GENUS *Leptus* (TROMBIDIFORMES: ERYTHRAEIDAE) PARASITIZING *Panstrongylus megistus* (INSECTA: HEMIPTERA: REDUVIIDAE)  
UMA NOVA ESPÉCIE PARA O GÊNERO *Leptus* (TROMBIDIFORMES: ERYTHRAEIDAE) PARASITANDO *Panstrongylus megistus* (INSECTA: HEMIPTERA: REDUVIIDAE)**

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Twenty nine species of the genus *Leptus* are known from Neotropical region. In Brazil there are 9 known species: *L. adaminae* Haitlinger, *L. alberti* Haitlinger, *L. cyryli* Haitlinger, *L. fozicus* Haitlinger, *L. iguacuicus* Haitlinger, *L. mariani* Haitlinger, *L. onnae* Haitlinger, *L. stieglmayri* (Oudemans) and *L. stolae* Haitlinger. Larvae of velvet mites are ectoparasites of arthropods while adults are predators. Some larvae of *Leptus* were collected on bloodsucking bug, *Panstrongylus megistus* (Burmeister) from Jardim Amaralina, São Paulo city, State of São Paulo. The bloodsucking bugs are considered vectors of Chagas Disease in Brazil. The velvet mites were prepared in Hoyer's medium and measured under microscope NIKON Eclipse E200 coupled to NIS-Elements BR measurements system, v.3.33.13. Drawings were prepared in Inkscape program. Here we present the diagnosis of this new species of *Leptus*: 1 palpgenuala and 1 palpfemorala; 4 setae between coxae II-III; fD=45; fV=36; NDV= 81; GL = 222; AL= 66-71; PL=72-73; Palpal setal formula: O-1B-1B-3B-2N-4B-1 $\omega$ ; number of setae on Ta I-II-III (24-25-25); on Ti I-II-III (14-14-15) and Ge I-II-III (8-8-8). The Holotype (IBSP 12052) and 8 Paratypes (IBSP 12023) of *Leptus* n. sp. are deposited at the Coleção Acarológica do Instituto Butantan (IBSP). The host was also deposited at the Coleção Entomológica do Instituto Butantan (IBSP 1006). This is a new species of *Leptus* and *P. megistus* is recorded for the first time as a host for this genus.

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