Phylogeography of *Rhipidomys* (Rodentia: Cricetidae: Sigmodontinae) and description of two new species from southeastern Brazil

BÁRBARA MARIA DE ANDRADE COSTA,* LEONARDO GISELLE, LUCIANA GUIDES PEREIRA, AND LEONORA PIRES COSTA

Laboratório de Museoanatomia e Biogeografia, Departamento de Ciências Biológicas, Universidade Federal do Espírito Santo, Avenida Marechal Campes 1468, Maruípe, 29040-900 Vitória, Espírito Santo, Brazil (BDAC, LPC)

Laboratório de Museoanatomia, Departamento de Zoologia, IB, Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, Rua São Francisco Xavier, 524, CEP 20550-900, Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil (BDAC, LPC)

Habitat Engenharia e Ambiental Ltda, Avenida 13 de maio n. 463, Centro, CEP 20003-900, Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil (BDAC, LPC)

* Correspondence: ngiselle@gmail.com

The genus *Rhipidomys* (sigmodontine rodents in the tribe Thomomysini) is a poorly known radiation of Neotropical mice with few studies addressing their systematics and geographic distribution. We describe 2 new species of *Rhipidomys* (climbing mice) from southeastern Brazil. One of these species is known only from the type locality and 3 additional sites in the southeastern part of Minas Gerais, north of the Serra do Marantilha mountain complex. The other species occurs to the south of this mountain range in eastern Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo states, including coastal islands. These species can be distinguished from each other and from their congeners by morphological and molecular traits, and the new species from south of the Serra do Marantilha has a unique chromosomal complement of 2n = 44 and FN = 48, 49, or 50. Phylogenetic analysis of cytochrome-b sequences also revealed an additional unnamed clade of *Rhipidomys* from central and eastern Brazil, which is closely related to *R. caesi* from northeastern Brazil. A formal description of this clade requires additional morphological analyses, including specimens from the Guiana and other central Brazilian localities. In addition, the Amazonian species *R. marconelli* and *R. wezeli* appear as highly divergent from all other species included in the analysis. Finally, intraspecific morphological variation in species from more enclaves (brejos) in northeastern Brazil indicates the need for further taxonomic revision of *R. marconelli, R. marconelli*, *R. caesi*, and *Rhipidomys* sp.