

Nuclear-follower feeding associations between *Geophagus brasiliensis* (Teleostei: Cichlidae) and *Deuterodon iguape* (Teleostei: Characidae) in a coastal stream of southeastern Brazil

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Nuclear-follower feeding associations between *Geophagus brasiliensis* and *Deuterodon iguape* were described through underwater observations made at a coastal stream of the Atlantic Forest, southeastern Brazil. Subadults of *D. iguape* were recorded feeding on sediment clouds suspended and expelled during the feeding activity of solitary adults of *G. brasiliensis*, mainly under organic substrate, during the day. The feeding association between *G. brasiliensis* and *D. iguape* represents the third record of this type of interaction along coastal drainages of South America, which increases to thirteen the number of known nuclear species in freshwater environments on the continent. The following behaviour is known to provide feeding benefits to follower and nuclear fishes in marine environments, and the present record reinforces that species into freshwater habitats are likely to have similar advantages when taking part in these interactions.

Interações alimentares nuclear-seguidor entre *Geophagus brasiliensis* e *Deuterodon iguape* foram descritas através de observações subaquáticas realizadas em um riacho costeiro da Mata Atlântica, sudeste do Brasil. Sub-adultos de *D. iguape* foram registrados se alimentando em nuvens de sedimentos suspensos e expelidos durante a atividade de alimentação de adultos solitários de *G. brasiliensis*, predominantemente sobre substrato orgânico e durante o dia. A associação alimentar entre *G. brasiliensis* e *D. iguape* representa o terceiro registro deste tipo de interação ao longo das drenagens costeiras da América do Sul, aumentando para treze o número de espécies nucleares conhecidas em ambientes de água doce no continente. Sabe-se que o comportamento nuclear-seguidor oferece benefícios alimentares para peixes nucleares e seguidores em ambientes marinhos e o presente registro reforça que espécies de peixes em ambientes de água doce possuem vantagens similares quando realizam este tipo de interação.

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