Submission date. 13/05/2026

Associate editor's decision after peer review (19/07/2026).
Dear Dr. Seren:
Manuscript ID NI-2026-0074 entitled "The LaCorte Sunset Tetra Revealed: A New Colorful and Sexually Dimorphic Hyphessobrycon from the upper rio Juruena and rio Xingu basin, Mato Grosso, Brazil" which you submitted to the Neotropical Ichthyology, has been reviewed. The comments of the reviewers are included at the bottom of this letter.
The reviewers have recommended publication, but also suggest some minor revisions to your manuscript. Therefore, I invite you to respond to the reviewers' comments and revise your manuscript.
To revise your manuscript, log into https://mc04.manuscriptcentral.com/ni-scielo and enter your Author Center, where you will find your manuscript title listed under "Manuscripts with Decisions." Under "Actions," click on "Create a Revision." Your manuscript number has been appended to denote a revision.
You may also click the below link to start the revision process (or continue the process if you have already started your revision) for your manuscript. If you use the below link you will not be required to login to ScholarOne Manuscripts.
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You will be unable to make your revisions on the originally submitted version of the manuscript. Instead, revise your manuscript using a word processing program and save it on your computer. Please also highlight the changes to your manuscript within the document by using the track changes mode in MS Word or by using bold or colored text.
Once the revised manuscript is prepared, you can upload it and submit it through your Author Center.
When submitting your revised manuscript, you will be able to respond to the comments made by the reviewer(s) in the space provided. You can use this space to document any changes you make to the original manuscript. In order to expedite the processing of the revised manuscript, please be as specific as possible in your response to the reviewer(s).
IMPORTANT: Your original files are available to you when you upload your revised manuscript. Please delete any redundant files before completing the submission.
Because we are trying to facilitate timely publication of manuscripts submitted to the Neotropical Ichthyology, your revised manuscript should be submitted before 19-Aug-2026. If it is not possible for you to submit your revision by this date, we may have to consider your paper as a new submission.
Once again, thank you for submitting your manuscript to the Neotropical Ichthyology and I look forward to receiving your revision.
Sincerely,
Fernando Carvalho
Associate Editor, Neotropical Ichthyology
carvalhofr@gmail.com

Anonymous reviewer #1
Recommendation. Minor Revision
Comments. (There are no comments.)

Anonymous reviewer #2
Recommendation. Minor Revision
Comments. (There are no comments.)

Author's Rebuttal Letter (11/08/2026).
Prezado Editor,
Agradecemos sinceramente a você e aos dois revisores pela cuidadosa avaliação do nosso manuscrito. Revisamos o manuscrito de acordo com as recomendações recebidas e incorporamos praticamente TODAS as sugestões, exceto aquelas que foram especificamente abordadas e justificadas abaixo. Recentemente, coletamos na localidade tipo de Hyphessobrycon heliacus, portanto trocamos a figura 9 da espécie em vida por um exemplar topotipo, aumentando a acurácia da informação.
Acreditamos que a versão revisada representa uma melhoria substancial em relação ao manuscrito anterior e aproveitamos a oportunidade para expressar nossa sincera gratidão pelo tempo, dedicação e pelas contribuições construtivas do Editor e dos revisores ao longo de todo o processo de avaliação.

Reviewer 1
"Estou achando muita afirmação de tolerância sem um estudo para ver se é isso mesmo. Será que é não é melhor DD? Pq não tem a sp no Teles Pires? Será que nunca existiu ou já deixou de existir?" Página 10
Respeitosamente, discordamos do revisor. A espécie foi encontrada em abundância muito maior na localidade situada dentro de uma fazenda de soja, onde habita um lago artificial criado por atividades humanas. Apesar da natureza altamente modificada desse habitat, a espécie é localmente abundante. Em contrapartida, no Córrego do Canário, onde o habitat é consideravelmente menos perturbado, a espécie é muito menos abundante e mais difícil de coletar. Portanto, não vemos justificativa para classificar a espécie como Dados Deficientes (DD), uma vez que atualmente não há evidências de ameaças iminentes que possam causar declínios populacionais nas áreas onde ela ocorre. Em relação à ausência de registros confirmados na bacia do rio Teles Pires, não consideramos que isso tenha implicações diretas para a conservação. Além disso, recebemos recentemente relatos, já adicionados na nova versão do manuscrito, indicando que a espécie pode de fato ocorrer nessa bacia, embora ainda não tenhamos conseguido verificar esses registros.
"Então...mas qual é essa assemblage se vc acabou de destruir o grupo loweae nos parágrafos anteriores? Quais são as características então que servem para definir um grupo loweae, para vc poder falar que sua sp é desse grupo?" Página 13
Não destruímos o grupo. Apenas reinterpretamos as características que foram propostas como diagnósticas do grupo sob à luz das novas evidências que foram publicadas mais recentemente. Isso não significa que não achamos que o grupo não é válido. Pelo menos parcialmente, o grupo parece sim ser monofilético, mas não necessariamente os caracteres que o sustentam são os que foram originalmente propostos.

Reviewer 2 – José Luís Birindelli
Os comentários feitos no texto foram seguidos. Entretanto, dois comentários que chegaram diretamente aos autores merecem maiores explicações.
"In my opinion, this level of variation may justify restricting the type series to specimens from a single basin, which is generally my recommendation in cases like this".
Concordamos que a variação intraespecífica requer atenção criteriosa; contudo, defendemos a importância de reconhecer essa plasticidade fenotípica como um traço inerente e natural das populações biológicas. Embora presente em todas as populações, essa variação é incomumente documentada em Acestrorhamphidae, sobretudo entre os representantes da bacia Amazônica. A manutenção de espécimes de ambas as populações

variantes na série tipo, sob uma mesma identidade taxonômica, reflete a convicção na solidez da nossa hipótese. Obviamente, sob a ótica do Código, é o holótipo o único portador objetivo e regulador do nome da espécie. Caso abordagens futuras como a sistemática molecular venham a diagnosticar essas populações como linhagens distintas, a atual abrangência geográfica da série tipo não causará instabilidade nomenclatural. O nome permanecerá inequivocamente vinculado ao holótipo, restando aos parátipos da bacia discordante apenas a necessária readequação taxonômica. Adicionalmente, fomos recentemente informados de que o táxon também foi coletado na bacia do rio Teles Pires. Esse dado revela que a distribuição da espécie não é disjunta, mas sim contínua e restrita aos ecossistemas de cabeceira dos rios Juruena, Teles Pires e Xingu, corroborando a coesão biogeográfica da entidade que propomos.

"However, I believe that an illustration of the jaws and dentition would be an important addition, even if tooth morphology is not entirely diagnostic relative to the closest congeners."

Respeitosamente, discordamos da necessidade de ilustrar a dentição. Conforme o próprio revisor apontou, a dentição não apresenta caracteres relevantes para a diagnose da espécie, tampouco exibe um padrão que se diferencie daquele comumente observado em outras espécies de Hyphessobrycon. Dessa forma, entendemos que a inclusão dessa ilustração não acrescentaria informações taxonômicas relevantes ao manuscrito.

Associate editor's decision after peer review (03/09/2026).

Dear Dr. Seren:

Manuscript ID NI-2026-0074.R1 entitled "The LaCorte Sunset Tetra Revealed: A New Colorful and Sexually Dimorphic Hyphessobrycon from the upper rio Juruena and rio Xingu basin, Mato Grosso, Brazil" which you submitted to the Neotropical Ichthyology, has been reviewed by editor. The comments of the editor are included into the manuscript file, attached. Therefore, I invite you to respond the comments and revise your manuscript.

To revise your manuscript, log into https://mc04.manuscriptcentral.com/ni-scielo and enter your Author Center, where you will find your manuscript title listed under "Manuscripts with Decisions." Under "Actions," click on "Create a Revision." Your manuscript number has been appended to denote a revision.

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When submitting your revised manuscript, you will be able to respond to the comments in the space provided. You can use this space to document any changes you make to the original manuscript. In order to expedite the processing of the revised manuscript, please reply POINT TO POINT all the suggestions of the reviewers and be as specific as possible in your response to the comments.

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Because we are trying to facilitate timely publication of manuscripts submitted to the Neotropical Ichthyology, your revised manuscript should be submitted before 03-Oct-2026. If it is not possible for you to submit your revision by this date, we may have to consider your paper as a new submission.
Once again, thank you for submitting your manuscript to the Neotropical Ichthyology and I look forward to receiving your revision.
Sincerely,
Fernando Carvalho
Associate Editor, Neotropical Ichthyology
carvalhofr@gmail.com

Author's Rebuttal Letter (04/09/2026).
Todas as sugestões do editor foram seguidas. Aproveitamos novamente a oportunidade de agradecer o Editor e os Revisores pelas valorosas contribuições ao nosso manuscrito.

Associate editor's decision after peer review (16/09/2026).
Dear Dr. Seren:
It is a pleasure to accept your manuscript entitled "The LaCorte Sunset Tetra Revealed: A New Colorful and Sexually Dimorphic Hyphessobrycon from the upper rio Juruena and rio Xingu basin, Mato Grosso, Brazil" in its current form for publication in the Neotropical Ichthyology.
Congratulations for the acceptance of your article, and be aware on the following topics:
1. Publication Fee
NI will charge a publication fee if none of the co-authors is an active SBI member. This measure is essential to strengthen SBI and thus ensure the continuity of our journal, scientific society, and biannual meetings. SBI is not limited to Brazilians but is open to anyone interested in freshwater and marine Neotropical fishes. More details on SBI are available at https://www.sbi.bio.br/. Please email tesouraria.sbi@gmail.com to confirm whether any of your co-authors is a current SBI member and to activate your SBI membership if needed. Otherwise, if you will cover the publication fee of R$1.000, please inform us at the same email. For authors outside Brazil, the fee will be converted to US dollars based on the official exchange rate on the date of payment. The only exceptions to this fee are invited articles.
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Additionally, if your article is taxonomic in nature and has been submitted to Zoobank, it is your responsibility to update the manuscript's status on Zoobank once it has been published.
All of the above information and materials are mandatory for the publication of your article, including the scientific dissemination component, which is crucial in the current climate of science denial and misinformation. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at neoichth@nupelia.uem.br.

Please send an e-mail to neoichth@nupelia.uem.br within five working days to let us know you are aware of all the important points mentioned above.
Thank you for your fine contribution. On behalf of the Editors of the Neotropical Ichthyology, we look forward to your continued contributions to the Journal.
Sincerely,
Fernando Carvalho
Associate Editor, Neotropical Ichthyology
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Neotropical Ichthyology

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