Explanation of Roads Markers in Brazil Tuesday, March 8, 2016

Jennifer,

I'm afraid this is a bit complicated in Brazil, as can be seen from the fact that even GoogleMaps is unable to give you a location based only on a highway name and the corresponding kilometer. The best I can do for you is to translate an explanation that can be found at the bottom of this page: http://www.dnit.gov.br/rodovias/rodovias-federais/nomeclatura-das-rodovias-federais
I'll include the translation below and I hope it can help you in some way.

Best Regards,
Renato

"Kilometer markers in Brazilian highways

Kilometer markers in highways are not cumulative from one state to another. Therefore, every time a highway begins in a new state, markers start again from zero. Direction follows the National Transportation Plan rules, which can basically be summarized as:
* Radial highways - markers start in Brasilia, increasing toward the extremes of the country, starting again from zero in each new state at the closest point to the federal capital.
* Longitudinal highways - markers start from north to south. The only exceptions are the BR-163 and BR-174.
* Transversal highways - markers start from east to west.
* Diagonal highways - markers start at the northernmost point of the highway going towards the southernmost point. Exceptions include BR-307, BR-364 and BR-392.
* Connection highways - markers usually start at the northernmost point of the highway to the southernmost point. In case of connection between two federal roads, markers start in the most important highway."

Contacts in Brazil. Jennie met Dora at the iDigBio summit in 2015.
from: Renato De Giovanni <renato@cria.org.br>
to: "Dora A. L. Canhos" <dora@cria.org.br>