LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

The third issue of 2024 of the **Boletim do Museu Paraense Emílio Goeldi. Ciências Naturais** presents the results of the special call for articles on "Systematics, Biogeography, and Ecology of Arachnida." Fifteen scientific articles were approved for publication in this special issue. The first eight papers are published in this edition, while the remainder will be included in the first issue of the coming year. This thematic edition stands out for its taxonomic and geographic scope, featuring studies on spiders, scorpions, and pseudoscorpions conducted in Brazil, Uruguay, Madagascar, Brunei, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Singapore.

The first article, authored by Arias and collaborators, describes and illustrates a new tarantula species of the genus *Plesiopelma* (family Theraphosidae) based on specimens of both sexes found in Uruguay, utilizing morphological and molecular data.

Regarding new species descriptions, Jäger & Koh presented eight new species of hunting spiders of the genus *Heteropoda* (family Sparassidae), found in Southeast Asia. Six of these species are included in a new group, *ocyalina*. Besides providing important data on natural history and distribution, the study establishes a connection with citizen science by offering photographs of live specimens and using photographic records from the iNaturalist website to supplement distribution data for a strikingly patterned species of *Heteropoda*.

In another remarkable taxonomic study, Sherwood & Jäger demonstrate the importance of modern documentation of historical type material as a foundation for studying a little-researched group of spiders, the wolf spiders (family Lycosidae) of Madagascar. In this study, the authors document the morphology of type specimens of four species described in the 19th and early 20th centuries, discussing the taxonomic identities of the only six species of this family currently known from the island. This work establishes a solid starting point for the taxonomic study of Malagasy wolf spider fauna.

Spider sampling still presents significant unresolved issues in ecology. Carvalho and collaborators compared spider sampling in well-structured and isolated canopies of large trees, analyzing the diversity patterns of the sampled assemblages. The authors observed similarities in abundance and richness, as well as differences in composition, discussing factors that either favor or hinder these samplings.

In the field of ethology, Gonçalves and collaborators present a study on the reproductive behavior and parental care of the pseudoscorpion (Pseudoscorpiones) species *Americhernes bethaniae* (family Chernetidae) based on specimens collected in the cerrado biome of Goiás. The authors provide analyses and observations elucidating important aspects of sex identification, courtship rituals, and spermatophore transfer behaviors.

In another study on pseudoscorpion behavior conducted in cerrado areas of Goiás and São Paulo, Reis and collaborators provided evidence of intraguild predation involving two species of the genus *Victorwithius* (family Withiidae) and one species of the genus *Parachernes* (family Chernetidae) feeding on immature specimens of the species *Paratemnoides nidificator* (family Atemnidae). *Paratemnoides nidificator* is one of the pseudoscorpion species with the broadest known geographical distribution in Brazil, forming large colonies under tree bark. The study highlights this species' importance in multiple previously undocumented trophic relationships.

Gonzalez-Filho and collaborators reviewed the geographic distribution of the enigmatic trapdoor spiders of the family Barychelidae. The authors compiled published information, records of specimens from biological scientific collections, and citizen science data, totaling 127 new records of Barychelidae for Brazil—a major effort to reduce the Wallacean shortfall associated with these spiders.

On the topic of spider distribution, Cajade and collaborators report the first records for continental South America of *Agyneta galapagosensis*, *Erigone autumnalis*, and *Mermessus fradeorum*, three species of spiders from the family Linyphiidae. Additionally, the authors expanded the distribution of the species *Neriene redacta* (family Linyphiidae). These records extend the range of these four Linyphiidae species and update data on the environmental conditions in which they inhabit, including urban environments.

To conclude this letter, we extend our gratitude to the reviewers from various institutions in Brazil and abroad for their dedication to reviewing the articles published in this edition. We also thank Rafaele Lima, Adrienny Souza, Luiz Ramiro Cardoso, and Talita do Vale for their dedication to the editorial work.

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Guest Editors

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