

LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

Continues the special dossier on “Systematics, Biogeography, and Ecology of Arachnida.” A total of sixteen articles were accepted for publication in this special issue. The first eight papers were published in the final issue of 2024, and the remaining eight comprise the present issue. This edition features contributions on the taxonomy of spiders from the family Salticidae, ecological studies on spider richness, and new data on the geographical distribution of a scorpion species.

The opening article, authored by Reis and collaborators, discusses how habitat complexity and prey availability influence spider species richness in understory areas of the Brazilian Cerrado. The authors present compelling results showing that prey abundance exerts a strong influence on spider richness in these environments.

Rojas-Bufferet and Viera analyzed the consequences of sexual interactions between adult males and penultimate instar subadult females of the subsocial Uruguayan spider *Anelosimus viera* (family Theridiidae). To facilitate behavioral observations, the authors established experimental groups in the laboratory with males and females of this species, allowing for a detailed description of courtship and pseudo-copulation behaviors.

In the field of taxonomy, Michelotto and Santos described and illustrated, for the first time, the female of the jumping spider *Corythalia vervloeti* (family Salticidae). They discussed the species' placement within Salticidae and proposed a synonymy. Additionally, the authors presented new records that extend the species' distribution to different Brazilian biomes and even to Ecuador.

Also focusing on jumping spiders, Ruiz and collaborators examined the genus *Nyckerella* in Brazil, providing additional geographic records for three species, extending their known distribution to the Brazilian Northeast, and describing the female of *Nyckerella melanopygia* for the first time.

Xavier and collaborators contributed new information on the natural history of the spider *Tapixaua callida* (family Corinnidae), a species previously poorly studied. They reported geographic records that extend its distribution to additional localities in Peru and Brazil, as well as a new record for Colombia. The authors also presented unprecedented natural history data, including photographs and videos, and proposed a distinct nomenclature for the ant-mimicry solution observed in this species.

In the article by Sá and collaborators, further natural history data are presented, this time on the brown recluse spider *Loxosceles chapadensis* (family Sicariidae). The authors collected specimens from seven locations in the state of Bahia, Brazil, and discussed the species' distribution, which is particularly associated with cave environments in the Brazilian Caatinga. They also highlighted the importance of implementing careful management plans for the caves where this species occurs, especially considering the significant tourist activity in these locations and the public health relevance of this spider.

In the field of ecology, Pantoja and collaborators demonstrated that a small forest fragment within an urban area can harbor valuable information about local spider fauna. Their study presents a checklist of spider species/morphospecies from the Research Campus of the Museu Paraense Emílio Goeldi, in Belém, Pará, Brazil. The authors published 16

new local records and three new records for Brazil, complemented by photographs of live specimens representing the various taxa found.

Goldoni and collaborators provided new distribution records for the scorpion *Tityus (Tityus) confluens* (family Buthidae), expanding its known range to the state of Paraná, Brazil.

In closing, we would like to once again express our gratitude to the reviewers from various institutions in Brazil and abroad for their dedication in reviewing the articles published in this issue. We also extend our sincere thanks to Rafele Lima, Adrienny Souza, Luiz Ramiro Cardoso, and Talita do Vale for their commitment to the editorial work.

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