

Word from the President



Dear fellow Entomologists,

We started this ISEB with excellent news about the I Meeting of Brazilian Entomology Students organized by SEB Jovem with the support of SEB. The purpose of the event is to share the results and research carried out in Brazil in the last two years during the pandemic (2020-2021). Once again, we congratulate the editorial board of Neotropical Entomology and the competent professionals of Springer for yet another increase in its Impact Factor. We are also grateful

for the organization and success of the first webinar celebrating the journal's 50th anniversary. The Annals of the Entomological Society of Brazil (now Neotropical Entomology) platform continues with improvements and many hits. If you have not seen it yet, visit the page on the SEB website. The Federation of Latin American Entomology (FELA) participated in a series of conferences with representatives from various Latin American societies in the celebrations of women's month. See these full stories in the column "Activities of the Board".

Sadly, we must say farewell to three great entomologists: Donald Roberts, Wanderli Tadei, and Victor Py-Daniel. We are grateful for the great legacies they left for the entire entomological community.

Entomology in Focus brings interesting information about the Urban Meliponiculture Project, where native stingless bees are used to regenerate ecosystems in cities and reconnect people with nature. Entomology in the Press addresses the important role of indigenous stingless bees in the context of urban environments.

In addition, read the Nomenclator Entomologicus, Entomology Events, Worth Reading, the Insects of Brazil page, and the poem by the greatest Brazilian writer Machado de Assis. In addition, view the creativity of our entomologists at Your picture, Comic strip, EntomoArt!

Sincerely,

Eliane D. Quintela

Activities of the Board



ENCONTRO DE ESTUDANTES DE ENTOMOLOGIA DO BRASIL

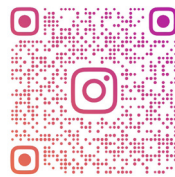
First Meeting of Brazilian Entomology Students

On November 22 to 26, 2021, the First Meeting of Brazilian Entomology Students (I-EB) shall occur. The event will be sponsored by the SEB and organized by SEB Jovem.

Due to COVID-19, many events have been canceled; however, students and researchers continued to work, overcoming challenging situations and adapting to changes to produce science. The first fully virtual meeting of entomology students in Brazil aims to provide an opportunity to share the results and research conducted in Brazil in these last two years during the pandemic (2020-2021). In addition to publicizing and showing that Brazilian entomology is active, the event will provide students and researchers with the opportunity to publish their abstracts in the annals of the meeting. Participation and publication of abstracts in events is an important action in the lives of researchers, which has been drastically reduced due to the cancellation of in-person events. The event will have a scientific program focused on promoting young entomologists with key lectures on Entomology highlights and presentations of

work in recorded and live formats. With this event, we hope to unite and nourish Brazilian entomology, promoting dissemination, innovation, collaboration, and exchange of experiences among scientific agents. The site will be online soon with more information. The Instagram page can be accessed at @encontro_entobrasil. Get ready and reserve these days, November 22-26, 2021.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff at SEB Jovem who made themselves available to organize this important event. Our thanks go to Aline Sartori Guidolin, André Alves, Eduardo Engel, Eliaber Barros, and Ellen Souza. We are positive that it will be a success.



ENCONTRO_ENTOBRASIL

Neotropical Entomology

Impact Factor Increase

We are pleased to announce that the Impact Factor (JCR) for Neotropical Entomology (NE) has increased to 1.434. In the last five years, the IF has practically doubled, due to the excellent work of the entire Editorial Board and the competent professionals of Springer who work with our journal. We congratulate and sincerely appreciate this select team.

New Forum Section Editor

After four years in the position, Prof. Lessando Gontijo (UFV) leaves as editor of the NE Forum. During his term, the section performed well. Some of the articles from this period appear as the most cited in recent years. Fortunately, Prof. Lessando remains on the Editorial Board, working in the Biological Control section. We are grateful to him for his time dedicated to NE and for his excellent work in the Forum section.

With this, we welcome the new Forum Editor, **Dr. Juliano Marimoto**, an Academic Fellow at the University of Aberdeen (UK). Since 2019, Juliano has been Associate Editor at NE, dedicated to entomology in a collaborative and multidisciplinary research group, which seeks to provide a platform for the development of interesting and innovative ideas in all fields of science and philosophy. This experience, together with his time at different institutions in Australia and England, will be very relevant for his performance at the Forum. We wish him good luck and success in this work.

Videoconference series

On June 30, 2021, the first videoconference was held to commemorate 50 years of Neotropical Entomology. The main theme of this videoconference, livestreamed by the SEB channel on the Youtube platform, was "Innovations in insect management for sustainable agriculture". It was coordinated by Dr. Adeney Freitas Bueno (Embrapa Soybean) and featured lectures by Drs. Fernando Nicodemos (NCB Sistemas Embarcados), Patrick Dourado (Bayer Crop Sciences), and Ivan Cruz (Embrapa Maize and Sorghum). Before the tech-



nical lectures, there was a tribute to the 50 years of Neotropical Entomology, with an opening by Dr. Eliana Fontes, Editor-in-Chief of NE. The Deputy Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Raúl Laumann, presented a brief history of the journal's early years (1972-1990) highlighting the main facts and achievements of that period. The Editor-in-Chief of the journal in 1978 to 1984 and 1991 to 1993, Dr. Jocelia Grazia and her assistant Dr. Ruth Mocellin reported their experiences as editors in a period in which all the work of peer review, production, and printing of the fascicles was done by hand. In the figures of professors Jocélia and Ruth, all members of the editorial board who worked on the journal's first 18 years were honored.

The Conference was a success. Nearly 600 people signed up, and the live performances had an audience of more than 220 simultaneous online attendees for most of the broadcast and nearly 900 random live attendees. A dynamic audience participation was also registered through comments and questions sent via chat.

The celebration of NE's 50th anniversary includes at least two other videoconferences, to be held in August and November. Current and relevant themes will continue to be presented and recognition honors will be given to all those who have collaborated with the journal during its 50 years. The content, date, and time of the next videoconferences will be announced soon. Stay tuned and register!!!

Those who were unable to follow the first videoconference live can watch it on SEB's official YouTube channel, through the link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HncoFyFknLY>.

We hope to see everyone at the next videoconferences!!

Eliana Fontes and Raul Laumann
Chief Editors of Neotropical Entomology

ANAIAS

DA SOCIEDADE ENTOMOLÓGICA DO BRASIL

Dear members and readers,

To continue the project of making articles published in the **Annals of the Entomological Society of Brazil (ASEB)** available online, we made some improvements to the journal's OJS platform: 1) All articles already have their DOI active in CrossRef; 2) The 1178 articles available have already been indexed in Google Scholar; 3) The covers of all published issues were added to their respective volumes (this way we managed to maintain the visual identity of all issues published of the ASEB); 4) The CC-BY 4.0 license was granted for all articles published between 1972 and 1996, thus making the ASEB a 100% journal in accordance with the Open Access proposal. For articles published by SciELO between 1997 and 2000, the license remains with CC-BY-NC, and they can be accessed directly on the SciELO website (<https://www.scielo.br/j/aseb>). Since the launch of the page, in May 2021, we have had around 10 thousand hits to the articles. This demonstrates that the ASEB still continues to be a source of information. Finally, I would like to thank Renata Coutinho for digitizing the covers of the 54 issues of ASEB published between 1972 and 1996, which now brighten the pages of the ASEB. Visit our website (<https://anais.seb.org.br>) and remember to mention the DOI when sharing articles on social media, so the metadata will be counted by metrics and indexers.

Daniell Rodrigo Rodrigues Fernandes

Support of FELA during women's month celebrations – Women in Latin American Entomology
With the support of the Federation of Latin Ameri-

can Entomology (FELA) and the National Institute of Biodiversity (INABIO), the Cycle of Conferences for Women in Entomology was held from March 1 to 31, 2021. The event was organized by the Mexican Society of Entomology (SME) and the Ecuadorian Entomological Society (SEE).

Sixty-eight scientists from 10 Latin American countries participated and generously shared their research, knowledge, and experiences in Entomology. They also offered their opinions on the challenges they have faced or must still face to achieve their professional development.

Stella Zerbino, FELA President, inaugurated the event with the presentation "Mujeres en la entomología latinoamericana". The conference was also attended by the president of SEB, Eliane Quintela, who contributed with the lecture "An epizootic and efficient *Cordyceps javanica* for the control of the whitefly *Bemisia tabaci*".

An article was published in the Bulletin of the Mexican Entomological Society, (n. s.) 7 (1): 12-15, where a summary of the activities during women's month was presented. Link to access: http://seb.org.br/files/Bolns_2021_12-15.pdf



Entomology in the Press

Native stingless bees in the context of urban environments

Bees play an important role in pollination. The ecosystem services provided by them amount to 12 billion dollars/year. Without them, the loss of food biodiversity would be considerable and harmful to human health, as around 87% of known plants need pollination to reproduce and maintain genetic variability. An Argentine study published in the journal *One Earth* states that the number of bee species observed in the wild has decreased about 25% between 1990 and the past decade.

As the presence of bees represents biodiversity, some projects have encouraged the creation of indigenous stingless bees in the urban environment; in valley bottoms to improve aspects of the insect/plant relationship and biodiversity; in addition to conducting environmental education for future generations.

The "Polinizando o Saber" (pollinizing knowledge) project of the "BeeTech" research group at the Federal University of Tocantins works on this theme. It conducts Environmental Education at

daycares. On visits, students can see bees working inside a hive without danger. They are stingless and the boxes are didactic and sealed; thus, the children can see the hive through a glass frame.

In São Paulo, jataí, mandaçaia, and mirim bees are raised by residents as if they were pets. With this action, in addition to helping to preserve pollinating species, they also help to balance the environment. As bees need an "apicultural pasture", many breeders end up increasing the local flora with native species, which generates considerable gain for the environment. In cities, plants grow even with green roofs and vertical gardens.

Currently, those interested in raising stingless bees need authorization from the Brazilian Institute for the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (IBAMA), as they are wild animals. In São Paulo, the Department of Infrastructure and the Environment (Sima) started to regulate their raising through the Integrated System for the Management of Wild Fauna (GeFau), even for noncommercial breeders.

In fact, raising stingless bees in urban environments has helped to preserve the species, enrich the biodiversity of the environment and teach Environmental Education to future generations. Encouraging knowledge about the biology of bees in the environment improves the quality of life in urban environments, and bees are also a source of income in communities with established apiculture.

Sources: <https://www1.folha.uol.com.br/ciencial/2021/01/numero-de-especies-de-abelhas-observadas-na-natureza-caiu-cerca-de-25-desde-os-anos-1990.shtml>
<https://www.uol.com.br/eco/ultimas-noticias/2021/04/13/como-a-extincao-das-abelhas-coloca-em-risco-o-futuro-da-humanidade.htm>
https://www2.uft.edu.br/index.php/ultimas-noticias/26045-criancas-e-abelhas-em-sintonia-projeto-polinizando--o-saber-inicia-atividades-de-2019-2-?fbclid=IwAR2nW94eY2I_AGzhTk5qm8fZBxO6BOdGGniDLOx7ZE317rIRxWms8m7EnUI
<https://vejasp.abril.com.br/cidades/paulistanos-criam-abelhas-nativas-sem-ferrao/>



Entomology in Focus

The urban apiculture project uses native stingless bees as a tool to regenerate ecosystems in cities and reconnect people with nature.

Bees are nature's greatest and most efficient pollinators. Their ecosystem function is so important that without them, our agricultural crops would suffer huge losses; furthermore, the maintenance of our forests would also be seriously compromised.

Many may have heard the phrase "no bees, no food". It is fair to say that, at least for a good portion of the world's population, their food depends largely on pollination carried out by bees. No wonder they were considered in 2008 by the Earth Watch Institute as the most important animals on the planet, as they are irreplaceable.

Nevertheless, when we talk about bees, we usually think of that yellow and black insect, which has a stinger, and its sting can be quite dangerous. However, few people know that



the universe of bees is vast and diverse! There are more than 20,000 species of bees worldwide, the vast majority of which are solitary. Only about 500 species are social (belonging to the Apidae family).



Social bees are those that establish hives and have morphological differentiation between queen, workers, and drones, each with its own functions. In this group, Brazil is a champion of diversity with more than 300 known species. Our social bees belong to the subfamily Meliponinae, also known as indigenous stingless bees.

Unfortunately, great ignorance still remains about this rich diversity of bees, at the same time that the decline of their populations is growing in several Brazilian states. Pesticides, increased monoculture and pasture areas, felling and burning of forests, in addition to the advance of cities are some of the chronic threats that compromise the maintenance and diversity of natural hives in Brazilian biomes.

In this scenario, Urbees was born, which is an urban apiculture project that promotes the creation of native stingless bees as a practical tool for regeneration of ecosystems in cities and for reconnecting people with nature, as a way to reappropriate our biodiversity and

make people aware of its importance and preservation. Among the species of stingless bees that occur in Brazil, many are not very defensive and can be raised in appropriate wooden boxes, on the backyard and even in apartments. The simplicity of the activity makes it accessible to virtually anyone who has adequate environmental conditions for the well-being of the bees.

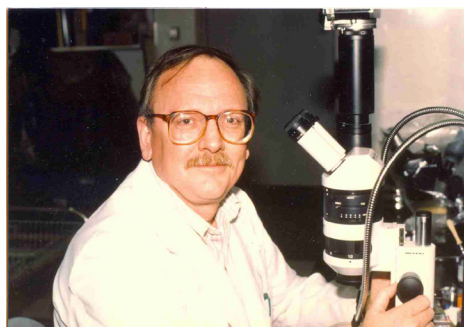
The apiculture activity also promotes the planting of bee-friendly species and the relationship between people and the surrounding nature, further enhancing the regeneration of the environment. Today, Urbees operates in a network and through the sale of hives, basic courses, and consulting. In its one and a half year of existence, it has already managed to spread 118 hives to 22 cities in five Brazilian states. Together, these bees (and their guardians) are boosting the regeneration of more than 60,000 urban hectares.

Stefânia Hofmann Mohedano

Environmental Engineer and Founder of Urbees



Our Members



Donald W. Roberts, 1933-2021

Donald Wilson Roberts, 1933-2021

Insect pathology lost a very important scientist on May 2, 2021, when Dr. Donald W. Roberts passed away at 88 due to natural causes. Originally from Phoenix, Arizona, USA, Don was inspired to study insect diseases as a teenager when he first saw nucleopolyhedrosis virus infecting caterpillars in cotton fields. For his PhD from the University of California at Berkeley (1964), he studied under the father of insect pathology, Edward Steinhaus. Don's PhD dissertation focused on destruxins of *Metarhizium anisopliae*.

Don spent most of his career at the Boyce Thompson Institute (BTI) in New York where he helped build a world-renowned center for study of insect pathogens. After he retired from BTI in 1997, he set up a laboratory at Utah State University, where he continued to work until he was 85 years old.

Although Don and his group worked with virtually every type of insect pathogen, his favorite was always fungal insect-pathogens, especially *Metarhizium*

anisopliae, which Don's group made into a premier model fungus. Fittingly when *M. anisopliae* was divided into several new species in 2008, the type that he had studied most was called *Metarhizium robertsii* named after Don.

Don was also a passionate promoter of insect pathology and biological control throughout the world. Don journeyed to 64 countries to promote biological control by making presentations, helping with research, and collecting pathogens, especially in the developing world. In these travels, Don collected fungi and contributed significantly to the ARSEF fungal collection in Ithaca, NY. He also supervised research projects in India, Nigeria, the Philippines, and Brazil.

Don's work was pivotal for the early development of Brazil as a leader in the biological control of insects with fungal pathogens. From 1981 to 1992, he had a major project in Brazil for biological control of cowpeas pests funded by the USAID/CRSP for about one million two hundred and twenty thousand dollars total. With these funds he sponsored research at EMBRAPA Rice and Bean in Goiás, collected fungal pathogens, provided Brazilian research



Donald Roberts receiving the SEB Honorary Membership at SICONBIOL



Participants in a biological control course sponsored by the Don's project in Goiás.

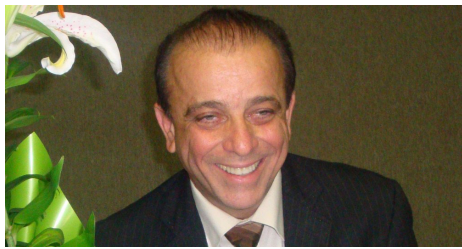
chers' postgraduate fellowships, stationed American postdocs in Goiás to research and train Brazilians, and organized several courses on biological control at EMBRAPA. In addition, Don traveled many times to Brazil before, during, and after the project to give classes and presentations, including at most of the early SICONBIOLs. In recognition of his importance for biological control in Brazil, SEB awarded Don an Honorary membership in 1995. Don's greatest legacy for the field will be the people that he trained. He was a very supportive person that encouraged those who worked for him and many others to explore science. Donald Roberts leaves behind his wife Mae Roberts, two children, and three grandchildren, as well as innumerable scientific descendants that will pass on his passion for biological control of insects.

Alene Alder-Rangel and Drauzio E.N. Rangel

Wanderli Pedro Tadei, 1948-2021

The senior researcher Wanderli Pedro Tadei, 73 years old, left us on May 11, 2021. He left his mark on the field by training almost two hundred students from scientific initiation to post-doctoral researcher, seeking solutions to





Wanderli Pedro Tadei

problems of public health in the Amazon, in the training about agents of endemic diseases and the joy of living in the Amazon, the place he chose to belong. He devoted himself entirely to science, made friends, and built a family at the National Institute for Research in the Amazon – INPA.

Dr. Tadei, as he was known, began his research in the Amazon in 1979, at the invitation of then INPA director Warwick Kerr. He joined the Institute's staff in 1983, from where he built bridges for networks of collaborators and partners in various groups and health agencies in states and municipalities throughout the country. This researcher was the head of the Malaria and Dengue Laboratory, and in his trajectory, he became a reference in studies on the vectors of these endemic diseases and yellow fever. He also played a strong role in research about diseases with more recent outbreaks, such as Zika virus and chikungunya.

He had experience in bioecology of anopheline and *Aedes aegypti*, effectiveness of surfaces impregnated with insecticides in controlling these mosquitoes, vector transmission dynamics, nanocomposites, and biotechnology. In partnership with researchers and students, he developed the clove solution as a measure to control dengue at home and the lime and chlorine mixture used at construction sites to kill larvae of the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito. His contributions have been recognized in more than a dozen awards and honors throughout his life, such as the Rio Negro Honorable Mention from INPA (2007), Ney Bahaiense de Lacerda Award from the Health and Surveillance

Foundation (2007), Order of Legislative Merit Medal for Amazonas - Contribution to C&T in the Amazon, Legislative Assembly of the State of Amazonas (2004), Contribution to the Implementation of the Leônidas and Maria Deane Research Center, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (2000), Active member of the New York Academy of Science (1999).

He received his undergraduate degree in Natural History and a master's and Ph.D. in Biological Sciences (Genetics) from the University of São Paulo (1974 and 1977). He taught in the postgraduate courses of Entomology and Genetics, Conservation and Evolutionary Biology at INPA and Bionorte at the State University of Amazonas (UEA) and Biotechnology at the Federal University of Amazonas (UFAM). He held various positions at INPA within the Institute's management, (Department Head), coordinator and deputy director from 2006 to 2011.

Science loses a great medical entomologist, rest in peace and thank you for your contributions. Our condolences to your family and friends.

Source: ASCOM/INPA/MCTI

Victor Py-Daniel, 1951-2021

The science in the field of medical entomology lost yet another of its researchers to Covid-19 on June 22, 2021.

The gaucho entomologist Victor Py-Daniel, age 69, was a retired researcher at the National Institute for Research in the Amazon (INPA/MCTI), where he developed important epidemiology and ethnoepidemiology studies, with emphasis on simuliidae (Diptera), known as piñons and blackflies, vectors of pathogens that cause onchocerciasis, popularly called river blindness, and several tropical filariasis. In addition, he conducted studies of indigenous cultures, Yanomami and other ethnic groups, and how the disease is involved in the cultures of these peoples. Py-Daniel was the forerunner of the Program to Eliminate Onchocerciasis in Brazil.

Inquisitive since he was a child, Py-Daniel at the age of six or seven already 'described animals and biological

cycles,' and directed his studies to living nature. He graduated in Biological Sciences at the University of Brasília (UnB/1976), where he did an internship in the Parasitology laboratory of Dr. Lobato Paraense, an expert in tropical parasitology. During his journey, he met other great names in Zoology, such as Walter Kempf (entomologist). He structured the course and laboratory of Zoology at the University of Paraíba, where he spent two years. In 1978, he moved to the Amazon, where he always wanted to live and work, according to researcher Lucía Rapp Py-Daniel. He did a Doctorate at INPA (1990), without going through a master's program. He founded the Laboratory of Ethnoecology and Ethnoentomology (Letep/Cosas) and guided several students from INPA and the Federal University of Amazonas (UFAM), many of them "academic offspring" who continue this line of research at various institutions. In the field work, some of which was dangerous, he had the support of a highly qualified technical team from INPA and good companions, but he contracted malaria and hepatitis several times. The professor who became a "school" is still remembered today by many indigenous communities, such as those in the Médio Juruá.

To Dr. Py-Daniel our gratitude and recognition for his dedication to science and to the appreciation of the life of the Amazonian people. To his family and friends, our sincere condolences at this moment of great pain. Rest in peace, Py-Daniel!

Source (text and image): INPA/MCTI/Manaus, Amazonas



Victor Py-Daniel

Nomenclator entomologicus

110. Since the 1990s populations of the beetle species *Cyclocephala signaticollis* Burmeister, 1847 (Coleoptera: Melolonthidae: Dynastinae) have been mistakenly identified as *Cyclocephala flavipennis* Arrow, 1914, which are commonly found in natural and cultivated areas in southern Brazil, as well as in Argentina and Uruguay. In all cases, the name *C. flavipennis* was erroneously used and replicated in subsequent literature until 2017.

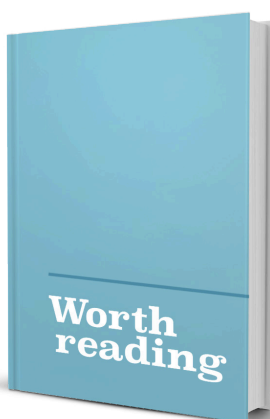
Cherman & Grossi (2020) detected the error and corrected it to update the nomenclature of this taxon for integrated management purposes, since in some regions *C. signaticollis* has been reported as a perennial pasture pest. Note that recently *C. flavipennis* was synonymized with *Cyclocephala sanguinicollis* Burmeister, 1847 by Ratcliffe et al. (2020).

References: Cherman M. A., Grossi, P.C. (2020). A

crop pest species of *Cyclocephala* Dejean (Coleoptera: Melolonthidae: Dynastinae) misidentified for over twenty years in Southern Brazil. *Bragantia*, 79(3), 372–376.

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Pachol C. Grossi (UFRPE)



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Publicize Your Page

Visibility of INSETOS DO BRASIL

Due to their great diversity, insects are one of the first animals that we come into contact with during our development. Their colors, shapes, and varied behaviors call our attention from an early age, but we are often warned not to touch or approach them. Much of society sees them as “evil”, “dirty”, and/or “poisonous/venomous” organisms. This is mainly due to the lack of information about these animals, which leads to a culture of negligence to the majority insects – with the exception of the “beautiful” or “useful” ones, such as ladybugs, butterflies, and honeybees, which are seen by most of the population with good eyes.

After our return from an academic exchange in Portugal, in mid-2014, we created a Facebook group (/insetosdobrasil) to provide a place to disseminate the insect biodiversity in our country, which is extremely rich. The acceptance and involvement of society has been incredible, motivating us to invest part of our time in spreading quality information and demystifying preconceptions and Fake News associated with insects.

The Project was founded by us, Ricardo Brugnera and Guilherme M. Limberger, during the final phase of our undergraduate studies in biological sciences at the Federal University of Rio Grande (FURG) and it matured with us as we advanced in academic training in entomology during the master's and doctoral degrees.

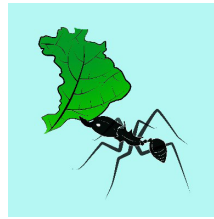
Entomology Events

- I Neotropical Ecology Meeting, August 2 to 6, 2021 – Online (<https://www.even3.com.br/econeo/>)
- VII Brazilian Symposium of Arcari – September 6 to 9, 2021 – Online
- II Meeting for Entomology and Conservation of Biodiversity, October 18 to 22, 2021 – Online (UFGD)
- MEDTROP Play – October 25 to 28, 2021 – Online (<https://medtrop.com.br/>)
- XXXVIII Annual Meeting of Ethology Encontro/III Meeting of Behavioral Biology of the Southern Cone – November 11 to 13, 2021 – Virtual (<https://eaerb2021.wordpress.com/>)
- I Meeting of Brazilian Entomology Students – November 22 to 26, 2021 – Online
- II Natural History Colloquium – November 22 to 26, 2021 – Online
- Latin American Congress of Evolution – November 30 to December 3, 2021 – Virtual (<https://play.4id.science/clevol1/>)
- IX Symposium of the European Association of Acarologists – July 11 to 15, 2022, Bari, Italy

Over time, we were able to expand our reach on social media, including Instagram, which enabled the formation of a team that includes students and volunteer biologists.

Our philosophy as researchers is to share with the population the knowledge produced in teaching and research institutions. We believe that informing and involving people with science is a way to promote the value of scientific and biodiversity in Brazil. Thus, we seek to raise awareness of the importance of nature conservation and the ecological role of insects, deconstructing the anthropocentric view of these essential arthropods. For this, we develop materials using images, videos, and texts with accessible and informal language, according to the functioning of each social media. In addition, we have given lectures at various events and recorded and shared exhibits about the world of insects.

We are looking forward to the end of the pandemic so that we can expand the project to schools, universities, and Conservation Units throughout the country, further strengthening our relationship with the community. More than that, we want to strengthen the relationship between people and insects, as we do online. In the meantime, you can find us on various medias. The entomological universe is fascinating, come check it out at @insetosdobrasil!



Royal Jelly

Because the artistry of poetry is nearly impossible to translate into another language, the poems in Royal Jelly will be published in their original language even in the English version of the SEB newsletter. In this Royal Jelly, we present a poem by the greatest Brazilian writer of all time: Machado de Assis. Although best known for his novels, “Bruxo do Cosme Velho” was also the author of some poems. In the sonnet below, the author uses the firefly to symbolize the condition of continuous dissatisfaction. For this, he presents the voices of four characters (firefly, star, moon, and sun), one in each stanza, in which they complain about their own existence and the desire to become another being. As in a vicious circle, the succession of scenes has in its ending a return to the beginning – “Why wasn't I born a simple firefly?”

Círculo Vicioso

Bailando no ar, gemia inquieto vagalume:
– “quem me dera que fosse aquela loura estrela
que arde no eterno azul, como uma eterna vela!”
Mas a estrela, fitando a lua, com ciúme:

– “Pudesse eu copiar o transparente lume,
que, da grega coluna à gótica janela,
contemplou, suspirosa, a fronte amada e bela!”
Mas a lua, fitando o sol, com azedume:

– “Miser! Tivesse eu aquela enorme, aquela
claridade imortal, que toda luz resume!”
Mas o sol, inclinando a rútila capela:

– “Pesa-me esta brilhante auréola de nume...
Enfara-me esta azul e desmedida umbela...
Por que não nasci eu um simples vagalume?”
(Machado de Assis, in “*Ocidentais*”, 1880)

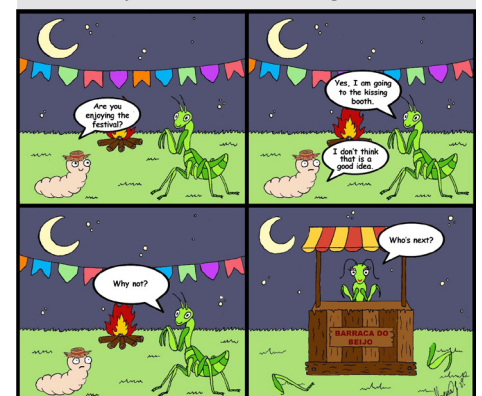
About the author: Machado de Assis (1839–1909) was from Rio de Janeiro. Although he was black, he was perceived as white by the intellectual elite of his time and is considered the greatest Brazilian writer of all times. His work includes titles such as *A Mão e a Luva* (Hand and the Glove), *Helena*, *Iaiá Garcia*, *Quincas Borba*, *Memórias Póstumas de Brás Cubas Dom* (Posthumous Memoirs of Brás Cubas) and his masterpiece *Dom Casmurro*, many of which are available in English translations. His literary trajectory is divided into a first romantic phase and a second realistic phase, with includes social criticism. Though best known as a novelist, he published five collections of his poetry. In addition to his vast and exquisite work, he was one of the founders of the Brazilian Academy of Letters, of which he was the first president and is considered the perpetual president.

Comic Strip

Author: João Vitor de Oliveira

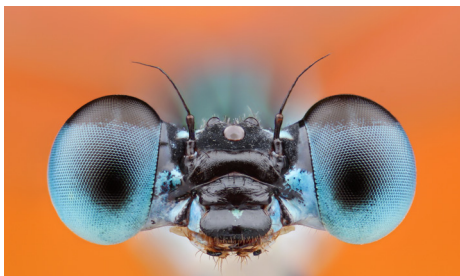
Master's degree from the Biological Sciences program at the State University of Londrina (UEL).

The setting of this comic strip is the traditional Festa Junina, which are common winter harvest festivals that occur communities throughout Brazil in June.



Your Picture

Coenagrionidae - Artist: Bruno Garcia Alvares
Instagram: @brunogarciaalvares



EntomoArt!

Rothschildia sp. - Artist: Cassia Anacleto dos Santos
Instagram: @cassiamatilda





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Entomological Society of Brazil

NEWSLETTER



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