

SHORT COMMUNICATION

A case of phoresy of *Semeiochernes armiger* Balzan, 1892 (Pseudoscorpiones: Chernetidae) on the giant tropical fly *Pantophthalmus tabaninus* Thunberg, 1819 (Diptera: Pantophtalmidae) in an Amazonian rain forest, Pará

Jean C. Santos¹; Everton Tizo-Pedroso² & G. Wilson Fernandes^{1,3}

¹Laboratório de Ecologia Evolutiva de Herbívoros Tropicais. ICB/DBG. Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais CP. 486. 30161-970. Belo Horizonte - MG - Brazil. ²Laboratório de Ecologia Comportamental e de Interações. Instituto de Biologia. Mestrado em Ecologia e Conservação de Recursos Naturais. Universidade Federal de Uberlândia. Uberlândia - MG. CP. 593. Cep. 38400-902. ³E-mail: gwilson@icb.ufmg.br

Abstract

Pseudoscorpions have the ability to attach themselves to a wide variety of more mobile arthropods. This interaction has been termed phoresy. We report on a phoretic interaction of *Semeiochernes armiger* with a giant tropical fly *Pantophthalmus tabaninus* in an Amazonian rain forest. Two males and two females of *S. armiger* were found attached to the right posterior leg of the fly. In addition, more than two hundred mites were found on the thorax of the host fly. Long term and detailed studies on the phoretic associations of pseudoscorpions and hosts in the neotropical rain forest would contribute to a better understanding of these interactions.

Keywords: Diptera, Phoresy, Pseudoscorpions, Porto Trombetas, Rain forest.