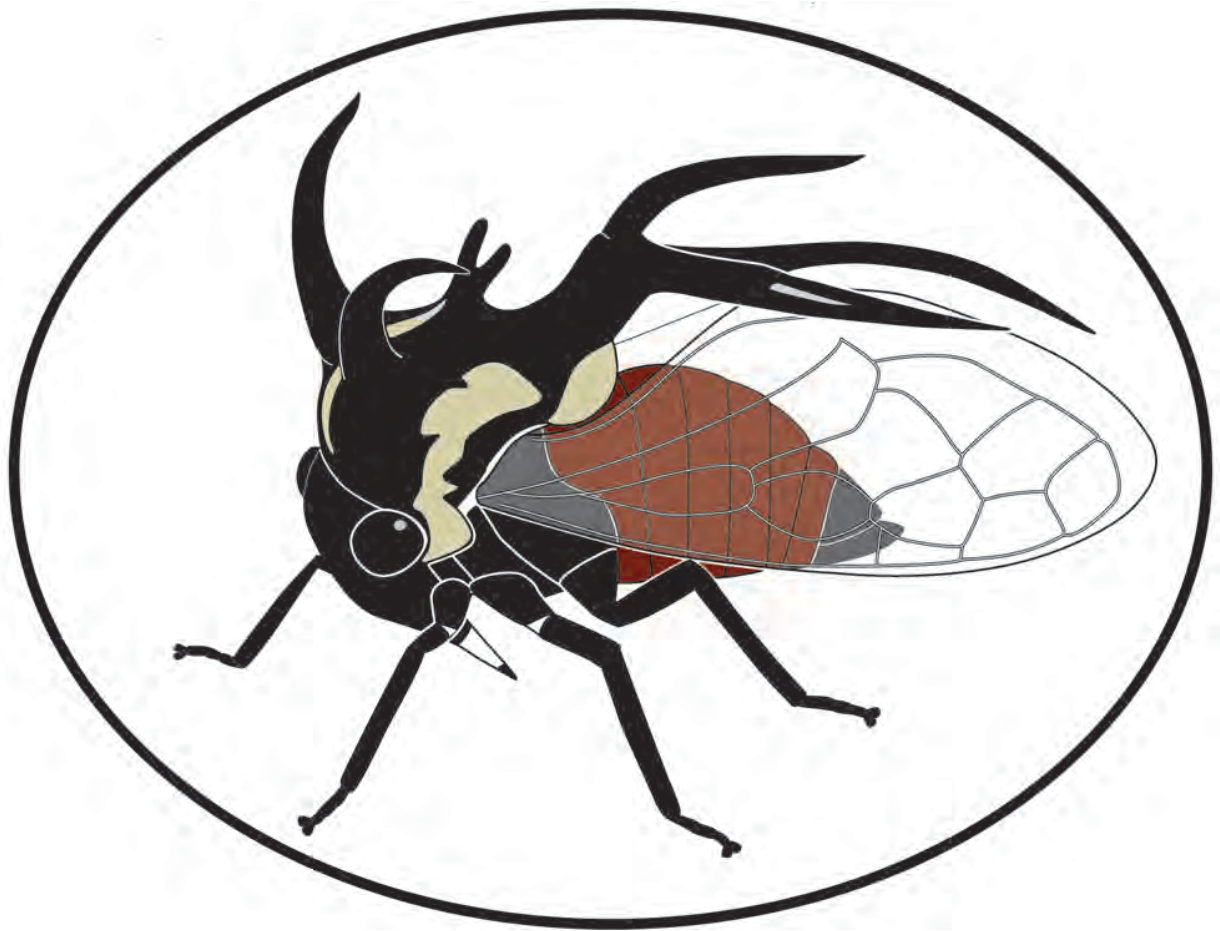


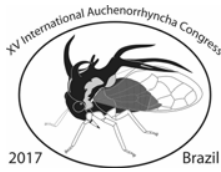
XV International Auchenorrhyncha Congress



2017

Brazil

PROGRAM AND ABSTRACTS BOOK



15th International Auchenorrhyncha Congress and 10th International Workshop on Leafhoppers and Planthoppers of Economic Importance

Foreword

On behalf of the Organizing and Scientific Committee, it is our pleasure to welcome you to the 15th International Auchenorrhyncha Congress (IAC) and the 10th International Workshop on Leafhoppers and Planthoppers of Economic Importance. The IAC is a triennial conference that congregates international experts on several biological disciplines focusing on auchenorrhynchous insects since 1973. Past IAC editions were held in China, France, Germany, United States, United Kingdom, Australia, Greece, Italy, Switzerland, Finland, and the Netherlands.

This year, the IAC will be held at *Centro Marista São José das Paineiras* in Mendes, Brazil, from July 9th to 15th 2017. Seventy confirmed delegates from 17 countries – Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, France, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Pakistan, Poland, South Africa, Turkey, USA, and Vietnam – will be presenting their latest research on Auchenorrhyncha. The conference program includes 79 oral and poster presentations divided into four major themes: (1) Taxonomy, Phylogeny, and Biogeography; (2) Databases and regional inventories; (3) Ecology and Behavior; and (4) Vector interactions and resistance. We are also glad to inform that the Scientific Committee will award prizes to outstanding oral and poster student presentations.

The scientific program will be complemented with a visit to Itatiaia National Park, the oldest National Park in the country, established in 1937. This trip will offer participants the unique opportunity to experience the Brazilian Atlantic Rainforest. Itatiaia is a wonderful place to observe and learn about the diverse local wildlife, which encompasses several endemic species. The National Park is amongst the best studied areas in Brazil with regard to its biodiversity. So far, 22 species of medium and large-sized mammals, 51 reptiles, 260 birds, 145 species of spiders, 690 species of longhorn beetles, and 75 species of sharpshooter leafhoppers have been recorded for this region. The Park sector to be visited is renowned for its scenic landscapes covered in exuberant vegetation, as well as natural pools and waterfalls with designated areas for swimming.



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Occurrence of *Pandora* sp. (Entomophthoromycota) as pathogen of spittlebugs (Hemiptera: Cercopidae) pest of crops and pastures in Argentina

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Spittlebugs (Hemiptera: Cercopidae) are a major biotic limit to forage grass, milk and beef production in rangelands and pastures of the Neotropics (Valério *et al.* 1996). These insects inflict heavy economic damage to pasture grasses and crops such as rice, sugarcane and corn, causing mechanical damage by feeding, by the physiological effects of saliva and by facilitating the entry of pathogenic microorganisms (Peck 2001, Peck *et al.* 2004). Within the fungal family Entomophthoraceae approximately 16% of the entomopathogenic species correspond to *Pandora* genus. This genus infects mainly species from the orders Hemiptera and Diptera, to a lesser extent Coleoptera, Hymenoptera and Lepidoptera. According to the bibliography, to the present the only families of Hemiptera affected by this fungal genus are Aphidae, Aleyrodidae, Cicadidae, Jassidae and Delphacidae (Keller 2007). The natural occurrence of entomophthoralean fungi infecting spittlebugs in Argentina was investigated during November to May in the period 2013-2016. Adults and nymphs were collected from *Sorghum halepense* and *Setaria parviflora* var. *parviflora* in San Miguel de Tucumán, Tucumán province. Specimens were collected from their host plants using aspirators, nets or entomological forceps. Fungal species were characterized on the basis of morphological and molecular keys. Microscopic characters were described from material mounted in lactophenol/aceto-orcein (1% w/v), and the amplification of the SSU rDNA was carried out using the universal primers nu-SSU-0021-5' and nu-SSU-1780-3'. This study reports for the first time the occurrence of *Pandora* sp. (Fig. 1) infecting adults of the economically important spittlebugs *Deois* (*Deois*) *mourei* (Fig. 1, a-b), *D. (D.) knoblauchii*, *Isozulia christenseni christenseni* and *Notozulia entreriana* (Fig. 1, c-d), increasing the host range and geographical distribution of entomophthoralean fungi.