

ANAIS DO




XII

ENCONTRO SOBRE ABELHAS

Editores:

**Solange C. Augusto, Sidnei Mateus, Yara S. R. Sbordonni, Joyce M. V. A. Dias,
Wilson Frantine-Silva e Fernanda Helena Nogueira-Ferreira**

12 a 14 DE OUTUBRO DE 2018
UBERLÂNDIA-MG - ISSN: 2595-8216



Dados Internacionais de Catalogação na Publicação (CIP)
Elaborado pelo Sistema de Bibliotecas da UFU / Setor de Catalogação e Classificação

E56a Encontro sobre Abelhas (12. : 2018 : Uberlândia, MG)
Anais / XII Encontro sobre Abelhas, 12 a 14 de outubro de 2018 em
Uberlândia, Minas Gerais; editores: Solange Cristina Augusto ... [et al.].
- Uberlândia: UFU, 2018.
265 p.

1. Abelha - Congressos. I. Augusto, Solange Cristina. II. Mateus,
Sidnei. III. Sbordoni, Yara Sbrolin Roldão. IV. Almeida, Joyce Mayara
Volpini. V. Frantine-Silva, Wilson. VI. Ferreira-Nogueira, Fernanda
Helena. VII. Universidade Federal de Uberlândia. VIII. Título.

CDD-595.79906

CDU: 595.799

ISSN: 2595-8216

Universidade Federal de Uberlândia. Rua Ceará, s/n - Bloco 2D - Instituto de
Biologia, Bairro Umuarama, Uberlândia – MG. CEP 38400-902

WHAT IS THE BEST STRATEGY TO SAMPLE BEES IN THE AMAZON REGION?

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Tropical ecosystems shelters more than 3/4 of Earth's biodiversity, being the Amazon region is home of the world's largest rainforest. Despite its size and importance, this biome is the least known in relation to bee fauna in Brazil. The hardship of access, high costs of mobility and distance from research centers are the main factors that contribute to this lack of knowledge. Therefore, the objective of this work was to evaluate the best strategy for bee sampling in the region. Samplings were carried out in the forest, surroundings shrubbery and experimental guaraná (*Paullinia cupana*) areas of Embrapa Amazônia Ocidental, located on the highway AM 010 (2 ° 53'29.19 "S / 59 ° 58'40.58" W), km 29, municipality of Manaus / Amazonas. Twelve samples were performed with each of the methods. Traps of the Malaise type (6 traps) and yellow pantraps (Möerick type, 24 traps) were used, with biweekly intervals between the samples from between September 2012 to February 2013. Monthly active samples using insect net were also carried out from June 2016 to May 2017, by two collectors, totaling 12 hours by month. In total, 4845 bees belonging to 175 species were sampled; of these, 118 species (2817 individuals) were collected through active collection, 116 (1934 individuals) with Malaise trap and 16 (94 individuals) in pantraps. Only 8 species were common to all methods, 58 species on two methods and 109 species unique to a sampling method (56 active samples, 50 Malaise and 03 pantraps). The diversity index H 'for the whole area was 3,705, the active samples (3,294) and Malaise trap (3,419), obtained similar results and, pantrap (1,989), the lowest diversity index. Despite the temporal and methodological differences, the results indicate that the best strategy for the Amazon region is to jointly use active samples and Malaise traps.

Keywords: biodiversity; Apidae; sampling methods.

Financial support: EMBRAPA; CAPES