USING PAN TRAPS TO SAMPLE BEES AT THE STATE OF ACRE, WESTERN BRAZILIAN AMAZON

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Pan traps, colored bowls filled with soapy water, are frequently used for sampling bee fauna. The main objective of this study was to estimate the diversity of bees at the Experimental Station of Embrapa Acre (S10°1'30,7" W67°41'35,2") by using 40 bowls painted fluorescent blue, 40 bows painted fluorescent yellow and 40 bowls left white. At the Station, the sampled habitats were a plantation of Brazil nut (Bertholletia excels: Lecythidaceae), a plantation of "mulateiro" (Calycophyllum spruceanum: Rubiaceae), a native forest and an open field. Each habitat received 30 bowls, 10 of each color, placed on the ground, at random. These bowls were exposed in the field, once a month, for 24 hours, from December 2011 to April 2012. The bees collected were taken to the Laboratory of Entomology of Embrapa Acre, kept in alcohol 70% for a few hours, dried with paper towels, fixed in pins and added to the Entomological Collection. Up to now, the insect catch was diverse with a total of 10,588 specimens from the following Orders: Diptera (37.72%), Hymenoptera (27.76%), Coleoptera (12.23%), Hemiptera: Homoptera (11.49%), Lepidoptera (4.90%), Orthoptera (3.86%), Isoptera (1.11%), Blattodea (0.22%), Odonata (0.01%) e Mantodea (0.01%). There were also collected anurans, caterpillars, land snails and spiders (0.69%). Bees have represented 2.99% of the samples. From it, 36.59% were collected in the yellow bowls, 30.28% in the blue bowls, 33.12% in the white bowls. Considering the habitats, most of the bees were collected in the open field (81.07%), followed by the Brazil nut plantation (12.62%), "mulateiro" plantation (4.73%) and native forest (1.58%). Among the collected bees, there were samples of Apis mellifera, Halictini and Megachilini. Although pan traps have been employed for catching numerous species of bees, in this study, they were also effective for capturing a wide range of other insect taxa.

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