

Project Update: October 2017

We proposed to sample ants in the six Brazilian biomes (Amazon, Atlantic Rainforest, caatinga, cerrado, Pantanal), always in the rainy season. We already have sampled Amazon, Pantanal and caatinga. In the Amazon biome, we sampled ants at Reserva Florestal de Humaitá, with Universidade Federal do Acre supporting. In the Pantanal biome (Brazilian wetlands) we sampled at SESC Pantanal with Universidade Federal do Mato Grosso supporting. In caatinga biome, we sampled at Catimbau National Park.

While we were at fieldwork in Pantanal, we did lectures in Instituto Federal do Mato Grosso – Núcleo Avançado do Pantanal, which is an educational institution of that region. We gave lectures for five classrooms, and reached about 200 students. Speeches were focused at the importance of ants to the ecosystem to demonstrate their ecological functions. Unfortunately, as Amazon and caatinga biome samples were taken at vacation period, lectures had to be cancelled.



Left: Lectures at Pantanal biome in Instituto Federal do Mato Grosso – Núcleo Avançado do Pantanal. Right: Installing transect samples at Caatinga biome.



Left: Installing transect samples at Amazon biome. Right: Installing an epigaeic pitfall trap at Caatinga biome.



Left: *Ectatomma* sp. visiting an epigaeic tube with lipids bait at Pantanal biome. Right: *Dinoponera quadriceps* found at Caatinga biome. Photo by Jonas Aguiar.