

PARASITOSIS IN HIGH SCHOOL BIOLOGY TEXTBOOKS (PNLD 2018-2021): A QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS WITH AN EMPHASIS ON ENTOMOLOGY

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Textbooks are essential pedagogical tools that facilitate the comprehension of learning objectives. The Ministry of Education, through the National Textbook Plan (PNLD), provided ten educational collections for adoption by public schools across Brazil during the 2018-2021 triennium. Among the contents covered in 2nd-year high school biology textbooks, parasitology stands out. Despite variations in topic depth and approach, the material presented is expected to be accurate and appropriate for students. In this context, it is crucial to evaluate the textbooks provided by the PNLD and monitor the evolution and accuracy of their content with each triennium. This study aimed to analyze the representation of parasitosis, emphasizing entomology qualitatively, in PNLD 2018-2021 high school biology textbooks, aiming to later compare them with the PNLD 2022-2025 textbooks. Based on the "Guia de Bolso das Doenças Infecciosas Parasitárias" of the Ministry of Health, the analyzed content was classified as complete, sufficient, incomplete, or absent. None of the textbooks addressed all the topics outlined in the guide. On average, only 46% of the evaluated content was classified as complete. Among the neglected topics, "vector morphology" and the "symptoms of vector-borne diseases" were prominent. While all textbooks included figures, only two provided illustrations for all evaluated topics. In terms of exercises, two textbooks stood out in quality and quantity. The *Biologia* textbook (Silva Junior, 2016) was considered the most comprehensive, while *Biologia Unidade e Diversidade* (Favareto, 2016) presented the most in-depth treatment of the evaluated topics. The next phase of this study will involve analyzing the PNLD 2022-2025 textbooks to assess content quality and coverage improvements.

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