

ABSTRACT

FIRST REPORT OF *Sciopemyia vattierae* (LE PONT & DESJEUX, 1992) (DIPTERA: PSYCHODIDAE) FROM STATES OF AMAZONAS AND PARÁ, NORTHERN BRAZIL

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Abstract

Sand flies (Diptera, Psychodidae, Phlebotominae) are a diverse group and important for public health because they are vectors of pathogens such as protozoa of the genus *Leishmania*. This subfamily comprises about 1060 species distributed worldwide, where more than half of the species, 555, occur in the Americas. *Sciopemyia vattierae* was described by Le Pont & Desjeux (1992) from the collection of nine females and six males in the Amazon rainforest of Yucumo, Bolivia. There are also records of the species in Colombia and Peru. In Brazil, *S. vattierae* was first found in 2014, in the municipality of Rio Branco, state of Acre. Since then, there has been only one more record of *S. vattierae* in Brazil, in 2022, in the municipality of Porto Velho, state of Rondônia. Here, we present the first record of *S. vattierae* for two other states in the northern region of Brazil, Amazonas and Pará. In the Amazonas, the specimens were collected in the Hi Merimã and Paumari do Lago indigenous lands, located in the municipality of Lábrea, and in the Urucu River region, in the municipality of Coari. In the Pará, the specimens were collected in the Amazon National Park, in the city of Itaituba. The specimens were collected between 2011 and 2023, using different traps. In total, four males and six females of *S. vattierae* were identified in the municipalities of Amazonas, while in the state of Pará only female specimens were found (n=3). The finding of this species in Brazilian states east of its first record in the country reinforces the suggestion that *S. vattierae* is a cis-Andean species.

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