

OCCURRENCE OF MOSQUITOES IN GALLERY FORESTS IN PRIMEIRA CRUZ,  
MARANHÃO, BRAZIL.

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The distribution of mosquito species in the state of Maranhão has been little studied, except for anopheline species. Northern Maranhão is one of the least studied areas of Cerrado in terms of mosquito diversity in Brazil. Therefore, systematic surveys could provide fundamental elements in terms of faunal diversity and public health. We analyzed the occurrence of diurnal and nocturnal mosquitoes at the beginning of the rainy season in Cerrado gallery forests in the municipality of Primeira Cruz, Maranhão. We collected in three gallery forests (G1, near Lagoa do Cassó, G2, next to the road 10 km from the lagoon and G3, Brejo) for 5 days in December 2024. We used 3 collection methods: CDCs, manual capture and Shannon traps, at different times between 8am and 10pm. In forests G1 and G2, we installed 10 CDCs, carried out manual collection with a Castro aspirator (1 man/hour) and collection with a Shannon trap (pair of traps, 4 hours), over 4 days/nights. In G3 we only used Shannon traps for 2 nights. Mosquitoes were identified using keys. We analysed the richness and number of mosquitoes collected using different methods. We collected 862 specimens belonging to 7 genera and 13 species, mainly with Shannon (n=429, 49.8%), followed by CDC (n=374, 43.4%) and manual capture (n=59, 6.8%). We collected more mosquitoes at night in forest G1 (n=556, 64.5%) and G2 (n=204, 23.7%). The diurnal species were *Aedes serratus*, *Sabethes glaucodaemon*, *Sa. chloropterus*. The nocturnal species were *Anopheles* sp, *Coquillettidia albicosta*, *Cq. arribalzagae*, *Cq. lynchi*, *Uranotaenia nataliae* and *Uranotaenia* sp. We found potential vector species of Yellow Fever - YF (*Sa. glaucodaemon* and *Sa. chloropterus*). Most of the mosquitoes were found at night in the gallery forest near Lagoa do Cassó. The presence of YF vector species in the forest near the lagoon indicates a potential risk of transmission to locals and tourists.

Supported By: CNPq, CAPES

Keywords: mosquitoes, traps, cerrado.