

ECOLOGY OF *Corethrella* (DIPTERA: CORETHRELLIDAE), VECTORS OF TRYPANOSOMATIDS IN ANURANS FROM FORESTED AND ANTHROPIZED ENVIRONMENTS IN AN AMAZONIAN SETTLEMENT

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Coretrellids are popularly known as frog-biting midges due to the habit of their females to exclusively blood feeders of anurans. Because of this habit, these insects are also vectors of trypanosomatids on anurans. There are little informations about the diversity and ecology of these insects, especially in the Amazon. This study aimed to compare the effect on the abundance of these insects in forested and anthropized landscapes in the rural settlement of Rio Pardo, Presidente Figueiredo, Amazonas. Collections were carried out in the municipality of Presidente Figueiredo in the Rural Settlement of Rio Pardo, located 160 km from Manaus. Corethrellids were collected by simple HP model light traps and HP model light traps with loudspeakers ("frog-song traps"). The coretrellids were screened and are grouped according to morphological similarity, gender, females with eggs and engorged females according to morphological similarity in microtubes containing alcohol for later identification and molecular techniques. Subsequently, the specimens will be dissected and mounted on slides in phenol balsam. To date, 3,442 specimens of *Corethrella* have been screened. Of these, 2,417 specimens are from the forest environment and 1,025 specimens are from the Peridomicile, showing a significant difference (Mann Whitney t-test $p < 0.01$). The abundance of coretrellids is higher in forested areas compared to anthropized areas, demonstrating a probable effect on the population in impacted areas.

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