



Universidade Federal de Pernambuco



Departamento de Biociências

From: Eder Barbier

To: Dr. Fernando Álvarez Noguera, Editor in Chief – *Revista Mexicana de Biodiversidad*

Recife, October 2, 2017

Dear Editor,

I would like to submit for possible publication in *Revista Mexicana de Biodiversidad* the manuscript “Updated species list of the bat ectoparasitic flies (Diptera: Nycteribiidae and Streblidae) in the state of Paraíba, Northeastern Brazil”, whose authors are Hannah Nunes, Patrício Adriano da Rocha, Fabiana Lopes Rocha, Pedro Cordeiro-Estrela, and myself.

Studies on bat parasites are underestimated in Northeastern Brazil and the majority of states is undersampled or remain with no information about this group. The state of Paraíba, for instance, has only one survey on bat ectoparasitic flies – conducted in the Caatinga (seasonally dry tropical forest) – with only 10 species recorded.

In this manuscript, we provide an annotated species list of streblid and nycteribiid flies in the state of Paraíba, extending the known geographical range of five genera and 12 species; including *Basilina anceps* and *Noctiliostrebla* sp. as new records for the Northeastern Brazil. We have increased the number of known Nycteribiidae and Streblidae in the state from 10 to 22 species and from five to 10 genera; as well as from 50 to 52 species known in the region. Additionally, we increase from 31 to 34 the known species in the northeastern portion of the Atlantic Forest. We also present comments on their respective bat hosts, distribution, and associations.

We believed our manuscript not only offers important insights into the ecology of bat ectoparasites but also will be a valuable resource for bat researchers and will facilitate future research on these parasites.

This manuscript has not been published before and is not concurrently being considered for publication elsewhere. This manuscript does not violate any copyright or another personal proprietary right of any person or entity. The authors declare they have no conflicts of interest and all sources of funding are stated.

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Thank you for your consideration and I hope that you and the reviewers find this manuscript to be a worthy contribution for inclusion in *Revista Mexicana de Biodiversidad*.

Sincerely,



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