



## Two new species of the spider genus *Otiothops* MacLeay (Araneae: Palpimanidae) from Caxiuanã National Forest, Pará, Brazil

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### Abstract

Two new species of spiders of the genus *Otiothops*, *O. curua* sp. nov. and *O. puraquequara* sp. nov. (family Palpimanidae) are described from Caxiuanã National Forest, Portel/Melgaço, Pará, Brazil. The specimens were collected during structured inventories and natural history remarks are presented.

**Key words:** Amazonia, Neotropical region, taxonomy, Haplogynae

### Introduction

Prior to the current study, the spider genus *Otiothops* included 35 Neotropical species, distributed from Cuba to Argentina (Platnick, 2007). Twenty-one species have distribution ranges that include the Brazilian territory and six are known to occur in the Amazon, representing nearly 30% of the described Brazilian species. Only three species have been described from the state of Pará, *O. amazonicus* described by Simon (1887) and *O. baculus* and *O. facis*, both described by Platnick (1975).

In this paper we present the descriptions of two new sympatric species, *O. curua* sp. nov. and *O. puraquequara* sp. nov., both collected in the Caxiuanã National Forest, near the municipality of Melgaço, 350 km west of the city of Belém (Lisboa 1997). This is the fourth paper in a series of publications in which new spider species have been described from this reserve (Rheims et al. 2005; Bonaldo & Brescovit 2005; Bonaldo et al. 2006). The leaf litter spider communities of this area have been extensively sampled due to long term inventories carried out by three major researches initiatives, the “Large Scale Biosphere-Atmosphere Experiment in Amazonia” (LBA), the “Multi-Taxonomical Inventory of Caxiuanã” (IMC) and the “Brazilian Biodiversity Research Program” (PPBio). Caxiuanã National Forest is located on the western margins of the Caxiuanã Bay, upper Anapú River (01°42’30”S, 51°31’45”W) and occupies almost 33,000 hectares. The “Estação Científica Ferreira Penna” (ECFP), a 3,000 m<sup>2</sup> area maintained by the Museu Paraense Emílio Goeldi (MPEG) inside the national forest, is dedicated to scientific research (Lisboa 1997). Dense “Terra firme” (dryland) tropical forest covers almost 90% of the ECFP area. The remaining area is covered by inundated forests (Igapó and Várzea), savannah (cerrado) and secondary forests (Capoeira) according Lisboa et al. (1997).

### Material and methods

The specimens examined are deposited in the collections of the Museu Paraense Emílio Goeldi, Belém (MPEG, A.B. Bonaldo) and Instituto Butantan, São Paulo (IBSP, A.D. Brescovit). Descriptions and terminol-