ARBOVIRUSES IN THE BRAZILIAN AMAZON REGION

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Studies in the Amazon region of Brazil carried out between 1954 and June 1991 revealed the presence of 181 different November types of arboviruses, belonging to several antigenic and taxonomic some of which include certain viruses not transmitted bу groups, arthropods. Of these arboviruses, 157 were isolated for the first in Brazil and 87 of them have been confirmed to be new to the time world. Thirty-three of these viruses are known to cause illness in man. Clinical manifestations range from mild febrile, which may O۲ may not be accompagnied by skin rash and by arthralgia to severe and often fatal haemorrhagic fever. Four arboviral disease considered at important in public health are discussed: present as the most (ORO), Mayaro (MAY), Yellow fever (YF) and Dengue Oropouche (DEN). has caused extensive outbreaks involving thousands ORO virus of people. Although some patients were severely ill, there were no fatalities. MAY virus has caused fever with arthralgia and skin Cases of jungle Yellow fever are recorded almost every year; rash. they may occur sporadically or in outbreaks. DEN outbreaks have been Boa Vista, Roraima, involving the serotypes 1 and 4 reported in (*Note:* this was the first time for 50 years that DEN has been in Brazil) and in Araguaína, Tocantins where the serotype confirmed 2 was incriminated. It is important to emphasize that DEN virus type 2 was first isolated in Brazil from a human travelling from Luanda, Angola, in february 1989. Antibodies to eastern equine encephalomyelitis (EEE), Western equine encephalomyelitis (WEE), and St. Louis encephalitis (SLE), have been found in inhabitants of the region but only SLE has been isolated from humans, without encephalitis.

The maintenance cycles of arboviruses in the Amazon region often complex, involving wild vertebrates such as primates, are birds, rodents, bats, marsupials, sloths as well as reptiles and amphibians. The mosquitoes genera *Haemagogus, Culex*, Aedes, Sabethes and Wycomyia are important vectors of Fsorophora, in the region. Haemagogus janthinomys is the principal arboviruses both MAY and YF. Culicoides paraensis is the primary vector of of ORO virus during urban epidemics. The only means to solve vector the problem of epidemic dengue is actually the control of its vector Acdes acgypti, since a vaccine is not yet disponible.

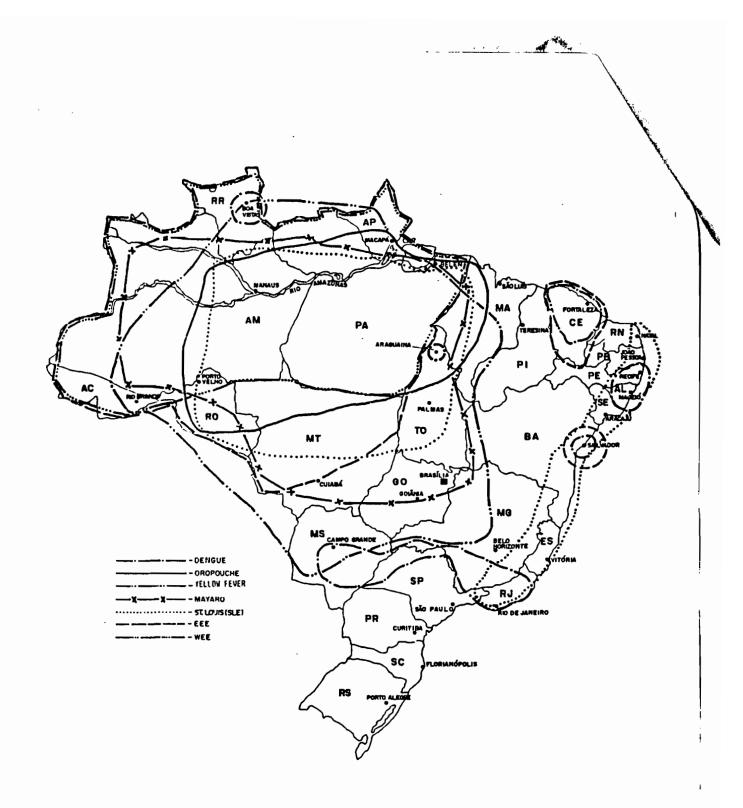


Fig. 1: Areas of YF, MAY, ORO, DEN, SLE, EEE & WEE viruses distribution in the Brazilian Amazon according to data from virological and serological studies at Instituto Evandro Chagas.

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DENGUE 4	+				+					+		
YELLOW FEVER	+				+	+				+		
ILHEUS	+			+	+	+	+			+		
St. LOUIS	+			+	+		+		+	+		
VIRIDAE												
Bunyavirus												
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BENEVIDES	+				+			+			
<u>Benfica</u> * Bushbush	+				+			+			
CAPIN	+				+			+			
<u>GUAJARA</u> #	+				+			+			
HORICHE					+						
Group Gamboa											
GAMBOA-LIKE	+					+					
Group Guama											
ANAN INDEUA*	+				+	+		+			
BIMITS	+				+			+			
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AR 496014*		+		
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ITUPIRANGA*	+			
TEMBE	+			
RHABDOVIRIDAE				
Vesiculovirus				
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MOSQUEIRO*	+			
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CUIABA*				
MARCO				
Group Timbo				
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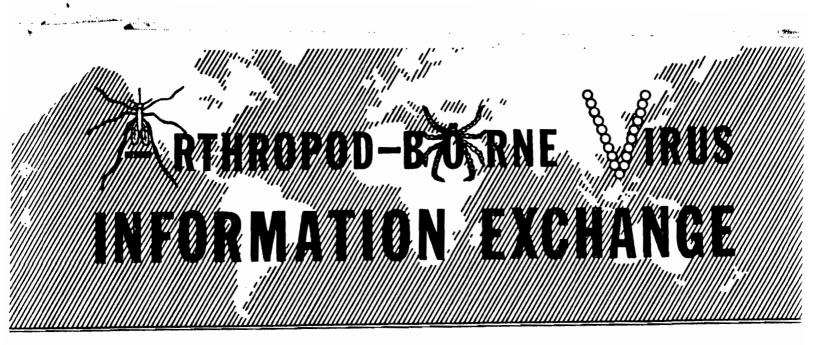
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CAJAZEIRA*						+	
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ITACALÚNAS#	*		+				
IRIRI		+	•				
JURUACA*						+	
PAPURAT		+					
Parixá*						+	
TROCARA#	+						
AR 478792#	+						
AR 492347*	+						

TOTAL	181
* Isolated at ist. time in Brazil	157
Confirmed as new types to the world	87



December, 1991

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