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EDITORIAL NOTE

Conservation Genetics is a very young multidisciplinary study field that uses molecular tools, statistic, and bioinformatics approaches to deepen the genetic knowledge of a species, and use this information to solve problems of conservation biology, transcending biological to social, economics, and cultural queries. The ever-increasing impacts over our biomes and biodiversity produced by the human activities make priority the conservation concerns. In this special issue, we enlisted a set of works which applied the genetic knowledge in different organisms and tried to answer a pool of questions of our biodiversity, yielding a first general picture of the state of art of the Brazilian Conservation Genetics. We were concerned with species characterization and populational structure, interpopulational and interespecific relationships, fragmentation of populations and gene flow, phylogeography, and phylogeny. We used cytogenetical and molecular tools to infer on patterns and processes of population and species evolution. We also infer on genetic and evolutionary units and units of management and conservation. We realized that we are in the infancy of this research area and we have a lot to do in this study field. Besides to make public our research results, we are hopeful that this special issue could motivate students and researchers on these topics and could be quite useful to the goals of the conservation biology.

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Guest Editor