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PREFACE

This special number of the Brazilian Journal of Biology® contains papers published by scientists actively engaged in research in Neotropical biodiversity. We thank Prof. Haffer and the Museum Emilio Goeldi for authorization for reproduction of the paper Haffer J. "HYPOTHESES TO EXPLAIN THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES IN AMAZONIA" first published in the book *Biological and Cultural diversity of Amazonia* – Ima Célia G. Vieira, José Maria C. Silva, David Conway Oren and Maria Ângela D’Incao – organizers of the book published by the Museu Emilio Goeldi.

The collection of papers in this special issue contains a variety of subjects from the Amazon and Pantanal biodiversity, to coastal lagoons, reservoir biodiversity and urban biodiversity. One paper refers to the invasion of *Limnoperna fortunei* in São Paulo reservoirs as an example of the impacts of biological invasions in tropical and subtropical ecosystems.

This number of the Brazilian Journal of Biology® is a special effort of the journal to improve, diversify – maintaining the focus – and emphasize the commitment of the Editorial Board to promote knowledge on Neotropical biology through qualified and outstanding publications.

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