7th Fluminense Symposium on Natural Products: Conservation, Sustainability, and Innovation Special Volume Editorial

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Over the years, the consolidation and advancement of the Natural Products field in the state of Rio de Janeiro have been driven by initiatives that foster dialogue and cooperation among institutions and across generations of researchers. In this context, the Fluminense Symposium on Natural Products have emerged as a privileged forum for scientific exchange, bringing together professionals, students, and research groups engaged in diverse areas of this broad and dynamic field (Ramos *et al*. 2023; Ferreira *et al*. 2023).

The 7th Fluminense Symposium on Natural Products, held at the Universidade Federal Fluminense from October 29 to 31, 2024, reaffirmed its commitment to academic excellence, thematic diversity, and scientific training. The event featured renowned speakers from various research institutions in the state of Rio de Janeiro and addressed key topics such as Medicinal Plant Anatomy, Medicinal Plant Taxonomy, Biotechnology of Natural Products, Chemical Ecology, Ethnobotany, Ethnopharmacology, Pharmacology of Natural Products, Molecular Modeling of Natural Products, Marine Natural Products, Natural Products Chemistry, Chemotaxonomy, Synthesis of Natural Products, and Technology of Natural Products.

One of the highlights of the meeting was the enthusiastic participation of students from technical, undergraduate, and graduate programs, who were encouraged to present their work through posters and oral communications. The event brought together approximately 260 participants, showcased 250 posters, and hosted six oral presentations, along with ten mini-conferences, a roundtable session, and three short courses.

Considering the significant scientific contributions presented, the Organizing Committee proposed the creation of a special volume of the Rodriguésia, with the aim of providing higher visibility and long-term impact for the research developed. The proposal was warmly welcomed by the editorial board of the Rodriguésia, published by the Rio de Janeiro Botanical Garden Research Institute, making this special edition possible. The guest editors of this issue were Dr. Davyson Moreira (JBRJ), Dr. Leilson de Oliveira Ribeiro (INT), and Dr. Ygor Jesse Ramos (UERJ/ UFBA).

This special volume brings together around 20 peer-reviewed articles, reflecting both the thematic richness and the scientific quality of the research presented during the Meeting. Notable contributions include studies in medicinal plant anatomy, medicinal plant taxonomy, natural products chemistry, pharmacology of natural products, synthesis of bioactive compounds, pharmaceutical technology of natural products, chemodiversity, chemophenetics, ethnopharmacology, among others.

This publication is, therefore, more than just a record: it stands as a testament to the vitality and creativity of the scientific community devoted to Natural Products, and as an invitation for new collaborations and ideas to flourish from this important gathering (Maximo *et al*. 2022).

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