

THE ENCHANTMENT OF A MULTIDISCIPLINARY JOURNAL

After being classified for more than three decades as a multidisciplinary journal in the WoS, *Interciencia* passed to be included as a journal in the field of ecology. This was the result, most likely, of the examination, looking at the trees but missing the forest, of issues published over a given period when, coincidentally, the fields of ecology and environment, of traditional and permanent presence in our journal, strongly predominated.

However, *Interciencia* has maintained its multidisciplinary nature and spirit, a fact that is well illustrated by the content of the current issue. Said content, having always an applied touch, spans from very fundamental agronomical research results to the design of research in psychology and education, as a response to the needs for dissemination of results and ideas of the notably diverse scientific community of the region.

The guiding principle, or basic requirement, for the admission of submitted papers, has continued to be that of pertinence to the development of our countries and the well-being of their people. Such pertinence is very obvious when the papers deal with staple foodstuff as maize and sugarcane, but less so when dealing with matters like marketing in the tourism industry. Nevertheless, if in the judgment of the consulted peer reviewers the research is valid, has been carried out properly and the results and conclusions are justified, all fields of knowledge handled with scientific rigor are equally valid for the knowledge society.

Yield increase in the production of corn cobs through the colonization of the roots of the plants by inoculated mycorrhizae results in obtaining a larger amount and better quality of a product that, in many of our countries, constitutes the most important foodstuff of the people. For some countries sugarcane production is a fundamental support of the economy, both as raw material of large industries and at the rural level, and the control of pests that attack the plant reducing its productivity is of utmost importance. In this issue we publish a study of apparent simplicity, but difficult execution, performed in order to answer the question: what is the hour of the day when the liberation of an insect that parasites the

larvae of a butterfly that causes heavy losses in sugarcane crops is most effective?

Also within the framework of applied biosciences, a paper explores the antimicrobial activity of leaf extracts, as part of the search for natural non-contaminating products that allow to reduce the risk of infections caused by bacteria in both animals and man, avoiding in this manner the excessive use of antibiotics that cause great damage to the microbiome.

On a very different intellectual aspect is found the paper dealing with the mathematical modeling of the life time of lithium rechargeable batteries, an item used in very diverse technological gadgets that have become essential for today's life.

The study of the education processes, from pre-school to university and professional levels, entails a universal interest. One study published herein approaches the sight displacements taking place in the communication process between teacher and pupil in rural and urban primary schools, while another analyzes the characteristics and skills of potential entrepreneurs, so as to aid in their training and support their activities.

Pertaining to more theoretical aspects of the nature of science and research, the reader will find two papers that explore the representation of science in the mind of university teachers of different areas of knowledge and the weight they assign to its different meanings and concepts of science, and in a second one, the authors review the different research design procedures utilized in the social sciences, specifically focusing on psychology.

Beyond and above divisions established between hard and soft, natural or social sciences, exact or not, *Interciencia* welcomes the most diverse fields of knowledge and makes an effort to equalize the rigorousness of selection and homogenize the forms of presentation.

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