

Editorial note

New wave

In the significant strides that the journal has taken, we have been highlighting the creativity of our authors in innovative publications, as well as the role of the new generation of researchers in disseminating knowledge related to the Zoology of the Cabo Verde Islands. In this dynamic ecosystem, the role of these new actors has been crucial. Despite history not being benevolent towards females, contributing to their invisibility in science and perpetuating the idea that science is predominantly a male field, today we are witnessing a new wave of female researchers producing high-quality knowledge. It is in this context that we present the current issue of *Zoologia Caboverdiana*, which includes three short notes, all led by a new generation of female researchers.

The first short note is entitled "*Presence of Evania appendigaster, a cockroach parasite, on the island of Boavista, Cabo Verde*". The authors highlight here the first documented presence of the species *Evania appendigaster* in Cabo Verde. This species, which is native to Asia, is a parasitic wasp whose larvae feed on cockroach eggs. It is found in various parts of the world, likely introduced along with the cockroach themselves. Despite being an exotic species, its presence in Cabo Verde may not necessarily be negative, as the likely impact will mainly affect non-native cockroaches.

In the second short note titled "*Caught in the web: spider diets as a window into arthropod diversity in remote areas*", the authors use DNA metabarcoding to analyse the diet of *Argiope sector* spiders. With a sample size of just nine specimens, the results revealed 11 families belonging to six insect orders that constitute the diet of this species. The authors demonstrate that the use of innovative methodologies can provide more information

about the diet of these predators, especially in remote locations where trophic resources are limited. The third and final short note reports, for the first time, the presence of the species *Phaethon lepturus* in the islands of Cabo Verde. The authors of the note "*First breeding record of the white-tailed tropicbird Phaethon lepturus in Cabo Verde*" were able to identify and photograph adult individuals of this bird species in the Integral Natural Reserve of Ilhéus do Rombo, in the southernmost area of Cabo Verde. The presence of the species in the archipelago was unknown until the first individual was discovered on the Cima Islet in July 2020. This discovery highlights the importance of the Integral Natural Reserve as a key location for seabirds, as well as emphasizes the need to monitor and protect these areas.

It is noteworthy the increasing number of manuscript submissions coming geographically from the south-west of the archipelago, which until recently were absent in the journal, thus bringing more diversity and broader national coverage. Having said all this, on behalf of the Editorial Committee, I wish you a nice read and hope that you will appreciate this issue.

Evandro Lopes
Interim Editor-in-Chief of
Zoologia Caboverdiana