Title: SURVEY OF THE FUNGAL MICROBIOTA ASSOCIATED WITH REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS OF THE CAATINGA IN THE CITY OF Acaraú, CEARÁ.

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Abstract: Fungi are ecologically important, ubiquitous, opportunistic and often pathogens. Animals are as habitat for mycological communities, highlighting the components of herpetofaunal, in which many of these microorganisms are part of the microbiota of these beings. It is noteworthy that the study of fungal microbiota in reptiles and amphibians is poorly understood, making the study of these organisms extremely important. Based on the above, this study aimed to characterize the fungal diversity associated with herpetofaunal of the Caatinga in the city of Acaraú - Ceará. Therefore, sampling of reptiles and amphibians were made through active search method in January and March 2015. Sterile swabs were used to collect the contents of the cloaca and oral cavity for reptiles and amphibians, and Skin amphibian also sampled by the same procedure. The samples were transported in sterile saline to the Laboratório de Biologia Ambiental e Microbiologia -LABIAM / IFCE- *Campus* Acaraú, for mycological processing. For fungal isolation, each sample was seeded in petri dishes containing Sabouraud agar plus chloramphenicol (0.5 g / L). The identification was made by macro and micromorphological analyzes and biochemical features. Were isolated 28 yeasts and 71 filamentous fungi to 26 animals, among them are, Amphibia, *Rhinella jimi*, *Scinax* sp., *Leptodactylus* sp., *Physalaemus cuvieri* and *Phyllomedusa Northeastern*; Squamata, *Ameivula ocellifera*, *Ameiva ameiva*, *Iguana iguana*, *Hemidactylus mabouia*, *Oxybellys aeneus*, *Micrurus ibiboboca*, *Tantilla melanocephala* and *Tropidurus hispidus*. They were isolated the genres *Hortaea*, *Aspergillus*, *Cladophialophora*, *Cladosporium*, *Peniccillium*, *Candida*, *Trichosporon* and *Rhodotorulla*. *Rhinella jimi* was the animal with the highest number fungal isolates (20/99) and Oxybellys aeneus was the animal with the less fungal isolates (1/99). From this analysis, it is believed that there is a specific diversity of fungi for each component of herpetofaunal, more studies are needed in the area, both to prove this diversity yeast reptiles and amphibians, as to specify that there are different variations of these microorganisms in times of the year, which reinforces the importance of studies of the fungal microbiota of this fauna.

Keywords: Herpetofaunal, ecology, mycology, environmental microbiology.