



Scientific Note

Carnivory in *Solaropsis* aff. *fairchildi* (Gastropoda, Solaropsidae)

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Abstract

A specimen of *Solaropsis* aff. *fairchildi* was collected at Tupaciguara, state of Minas Gerais, Brazil, on march 2010. In captivity only fresh meat was consumed, although foods of animal and vegetable food have also been offered.

Resumo

Um espécime de *Solaropsis* aff. *fairchildi* foi coletado em Tupaciguara, Estado de Minas Gerais, Brasil, em março de 2010. Em cativeiro apenas carne fresca foi consumida, embora alimentos de origem animal e vegetal também tenham sido oferecidos.

Introduction

The genus *Solaropsis* Beck, 1837 has undergone by taxonomic changes for a long time and the systematic confusion was probably due to the lack of information on the anatomies of the different species and the tradition of describing new species based only on shell characters (Cuezzo, 2002). *Solaropsis* is present from Costa Rica to northeastern Argentina and from western Colombia to Guyana and it's a characteristic inhabitant of rain forest regions, being more abundant in eastern South America, especially in Guyana,



Figs 1-2. specimen of *Solaropsis* aff. *fairchildi*. 1, dorsal view on the move; 2, eating flesh meat.

Brazil and Bolivia (Cuezzo, 2003). *Solaropsis fairchild* Bequaert & Clench, 1938 is distributed at state of Goiás and Minas Gerais, central Brazil (Simone, 2006:240) and data on their ecology are absent. Although carnivory has been considered a feeding strategy in some terrestrial gastropods groups (e.g., Spiraxidae and Streptaxidae) (Barker & Efford, 2002) this behavior never was observed to *Solaropsis* species. One specimen of *Solaropsis* aff. *fairchildi* (Figure 1-2) (voucher MZUSP) was collected at a rock on a riparian Forest off Tupaciguara (18°40'12"S, 48°30'47"W) near Uberabinha River (state of Minas Gerais) in march 2010. The snail was kept by around 60 days at a styrofoam box (35 x 25 x 30 cm). In the first week were offered fruit and vegetables such as banana, pear, lettuce, tomato and the snail did not eat anyone of them, however just chopped meat offered in the next weeks was accepted. Although the hunting behavior of a live prey was not observed, this species shows clearly a carnivorous feeding behavior.

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