



Aspectos entomológicos de la enfermedad de Chagas en Huallaga y Picota, San Martín, Perú [

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text (article)

Analítica

Introduction: There is little and not recent information on the presence of triatomine bugs in San Martín department, Amazon area of our country where Chagas disease has been reported by wild triatomine insects as vectors. **Objectives:** To determine the geographic distribution of hematophagous triatomine insects in Huallaga and Picota provinces, San Martín department, Peru. To determine the domiciliary infestation by triatomine vectors indexes, trypano-triatomine infection as well as their dispersion. To determine the insects feeding source and to genetically characterize the tripanosomatidae they carry. **Design:** Observational and descriptive study. **Setting:** Health and Laboratories region networks. National Institute of Health laboratories. **Participants:** Houses from 6 districts of Huallaga province and 9 from Picota province (San Martín department). **Interventions:** Triatomine insect's collection was carried out in 3 362 homes located in semi-urban and rural zones accounting for 30% of the total area of studied provinces. Feeding preferences were assessed by a precipitin test using specific antibodies against guinea pig, dog, cat, chicken and human beings sera. Trypanosomes were isolated by inoculation of stool samples from infected insects in Balb/c mice and using axenic culture media. Genetic characterization was done by PCR amplification of the genome by gene intergenic spacer of the minixon. **Main outcome measures:** To assess if Huallaga and Picota, San Martín, Peru, are Chagas disease risk areas. **Results:** In 46 of the 3 368 homes visited, 53 triatomine adults were collected belonging to the species *Rhodnius pictipes* (56,6%), *Panstrongylus geniculatus* (41,5%) and *Eratyrus mucronatus* (1,9%). For the first time, *P. geniculatus* was reported in both provinces included in the study. Domiciliary infestation index was 1,4%, trypano-triatomine infection index was 3,8% and dispersion index was 30,1%. For *R. pictipes* 5 sources of food were identified (chicken, human, d

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