



Editorial

The idea to prepare this special issue of *Genetics and Molecular Biology* on fish genetics appeared as a natural consequence of the state of art presently exhibited by this area in our country. Even pondering that the first studies involving the genetic characterization of fish species started only about forty years ago, the interest in this area can be demonstrated by the observed growth in the number of presentations in different scientific meetings and papers which have been published in important national or international scientific journals. The increasing interest in the biology of Neotropical fish species, some of them of growing economic importance, requires considerable further efforts, especially studies concerning their genetics, until all the fascinating diversity presented by this animal group can be covered.

The present special issue represents the outcome of a collaboration of researchers from different laboratories of Genetics and Cytogenetics in Brazil and abroad. The contributions presented here, far from exhausting the subject, address aspects of cytogenetics, molecular genetics, genome, population genetics and phylogeny, which mainly reflect particular interests of individual groups and demonstrate the current state of studies in this area. Moreover, it reveals the main groups of researchers involved in basic and applied genetic studies of the numerous species which constitute the diversified group of Neotropical fishes.

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