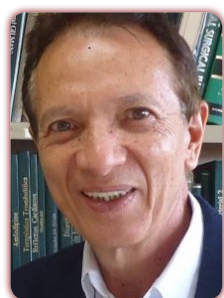


# PARASITOLOGY

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### Environmentally-related parasitic diseases in tropical countries

Climate change, deforestation, urbanization, migration and agricultural practices are some risk factors associated with increasing spreading of environmentally-related parasitic diseases mainly in tropical regions of South America, Asia and Africa. In Brazil, increasing temperatures, deforestation and the construction of highways allowing a higher flow of people, cars, animals and goods, thus linking endemic regions to free areas represent cornerstone risk factors. The western region of São Paulo state, with a population of about 850,000 inhabitants, has been facing important environmental changes in the last decades. The replacement of livestock breeding by extensive sugar cane plantations with spraying of insecticides and herbicides and the construction of artificial big lakes, highways and bridges linking dozens of small towns and villages are related. Furthermore, the region harbors the biggest number of rural settlements of the country. We showed environmentally contamination of rural settlements with *Toxocara* spp. eggs; *Taenia* spp. eggs; high seroprevalence of *Toxoplasma* spp. IgM and *Toxocara* spp. IgG antibodies associated to poverty, lack of sanitation and the presence of stray domestic animals, maintaining a highly contaminated habitat. The region is also an emerging focus of visceral leishmaniasis, moreover the alarming spreading of vectors and parasites are closely related to the warm climate, dry and sandy soil and the presence of infected dogs from endemic areas. Taken together, these environmentally-related parasitic diseases and risk factors have global relevance in developing countries sharing similar scenarios and public health policies.

### Biography

Luiz Euribel Prestes Carneiro was graduated in Medicine at Oeste Paulista University (UNOESTE) Brazil, Infectious Diseases Specialist at Ipiranga Hospital and has completed his PhD at São Paulo University, Brazil. He is currently a Professor of Medicine and the Coordinator of a Health Sciences-Medicine master's course of UNOESTE. He has published more than 25 papers in reputed journals and has been serving as Editorial Board Member of 2 Brazilian journals, 8 international scientific journals and acts as Reviewer for 22 scientific international journals.

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