



It is with great pleasure that the Brazilian Crustacean Society presents, as part of the 30th celebration, during the VII Brazilian Crustacean Congress, in Belém, Pará, Brazil, this special issue of *Nauplius*, dedicated in honor of Professor Petrônio Alves Coelho (4 November 1937-28 November 2011). Almost a year ago, Prof. Petrônio left orphaned the Brazilian carcinology. Over more than 50-years career built at the Department of Oceanography at the Federal University of Pernambuco, Recife, he devoted to the study of crustaceans from the South Western Atlantic, especially in the northern and northeastern regions of Brazil, where his studies were pioneer. His more than 170 published articles [see *Nauplius* vol. 19(2): 169-184] contributed greatly to the knowledge of the carcinology in this part of the globe, reporting the occurrence of species, describing new species - 29 species were described throughout his career - and seeking to understand the biogeographic patterns of the South Western Atlantic, or even contributing to basic research in the areas of fisheries biology and freshwater shrimp farming.

This special issue contains 12 articles, from

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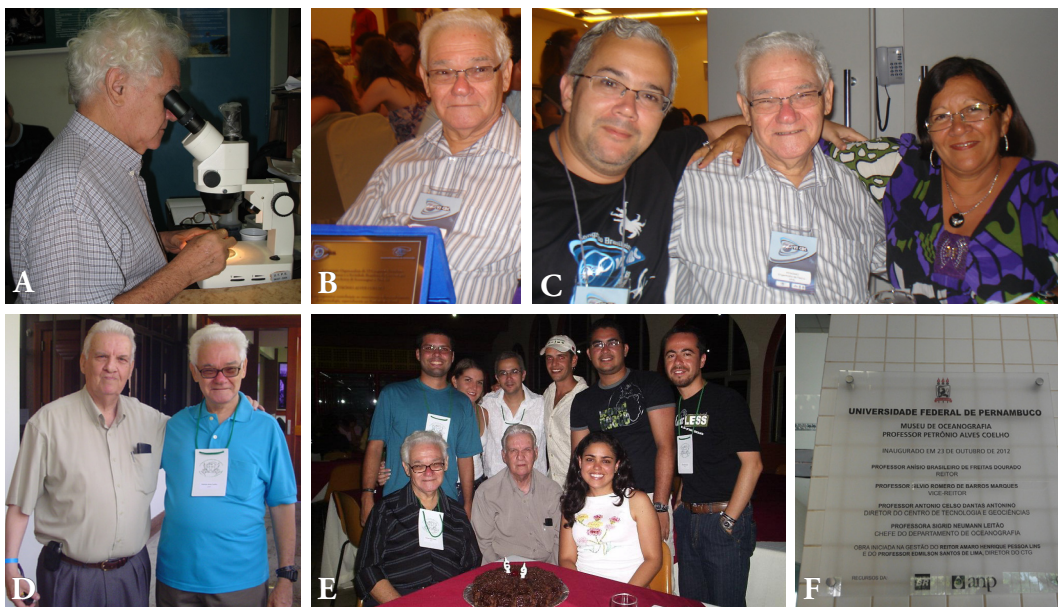


Figure 1. Dr. Petrônio Alves Coelho - (A) Working day routine in his office – 2005; (B) Award received in 2010 – VI Congresso Brasileiro sobre Crustáceos (CBC) Ilhéus, Bahia; (C) With his family – the son Petrônio Coelho Filho and the wife Maria José Costa Coelho; (D) With his close friend Dr. Gustavo A. S. de Melo in 2006 – IV CBC Guarapari, Espírito Santo; (E) With his students and friend during his 69th birthday 2006 – IV CBC, Guarapari, Espírito Santo; (F) The new name of Museu de Oceanografia of Federal University of Pernambuco (MOUFPE).

Brazilian authors and foreign co-authors. Included are five papers describing new species of peracarid crustaceans of the genus *Atlantoscia* (Isopoda), *Paratanais* (Tanaidacea), *Cheiriphotis*, *Ruffojassa* and *Melita* (Amphipoda) in honor of Prof. Petrônio. Also included is a paper of taxonomic revision of the species of fiddler crabs from South Atlantic Ocean, and another confirming the occurrence of the caridean shrimp *Janicea antiguensis* on northeastern and southeastern coast. In addition, a paper with new records of epialtid crabs in the Western Atlantic is covered and three papers provide lists of species of decapod crustaceans on dead coral rocks and mangrove on the coast of Bahia and Pernambuco, respectively, and one paper on stomatopod species deposited at the collection of the Oceanographic Museum of Federal University of Pernambuco named “Museum Petrônio Alves Coelho”.

The publication of this number would not have been possible without the collaboration of the 26 authors who promptly attended the call to participate in this tribute to Prof. Petrônio’s memory, many of them his former undergraduate, Masters and PhD students. Our gratitude to the 47 dedicated reviewers of these papers, and finally the valuable and unconditional support of the Brazilian Crustacean Society, that made a great effort to cover all costs of this special issue.