

Article

First report of *Amblyomma boeroi* Nava, Mangold, Mastropaolo, Venzal, Oscherov and Guglielmone (Acari: Ixodidae) from the Chacoan peccary, *Catagonus wagneri* (Artiodactyla: Tayassuidae), in Paraguay

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Abstract

All stages of the hard tick *Amblyomma boeroi* Nava, Mangold, Mastropaolo, Venzal, Oscherov and Guglielmone were found for the first time on two carcasses of the Chacoan peccary, *Catagonus wagneri*, in Paraguay, one from a site located 100 km west of Mariscal Estigarribia (S 21°29', W 61°22'), and the other from Destacamento Teniente Martínez (S 20°55', W 59°50'), Boquerón Department.

Key words: *Amblyomma boeroi*, *Catagonus wagneri*, 16S rDNA, Paraguay

Introduction

The Chacoan peccary, *Catagonus wagneri*, is an endangered species (Appendix I, CITES) that was described from sub-fossil material in northern Argentina (Rusconi 1930). This mammal was believed to be extinct until it was reported still surviving in Paraguay (Wetzel *et al.* 1975). It inhabits xerophytic thorn forests in western Paraguay, northwestern Argentina and eastern Bolivia (Mayer & Wetzel 1986). Within this area, *C. wagneri* is sympatric with the other members of the family Tayassuidae, namely the white-lipped peccary (*Tayassu pecari*) and the collared peccary (*Tayassu tajacu*). The tick *Amblyomma boeroi* Nava, Mangold, Mastropaolo, Venzal, Oscherov and Guglielmone is a newly described species that to date has been found on *C. wagneri* only in a restricted area of Argentine dry Chaco (Nava *et al.* 2009).

Materials and methods

In June of 2011, two females, two males, five nymphs and one larva of *A. boeroi* were found on a *C. wagneri* carcass at a site 100 km west of Mariscal Estigarribia (S 21°29', W 61°22'), Boquerón Department, Paraguay. All tick specimens were determined utilizing the original description of Nava *et al.* (2009). Twenty-one nymphs of the same species were collected on another *C. wagneri* carcass