This book is the first comprehensive treatment of the Brazilian scorpion fauna since Mello-Leitão’s 1945 monograph on South American scorpions. The scorpions of Brazil are comparatively well known thanks largely to the voluminous and thorough research of Dr. Wilson Lourenço himself. In the present lavishly illustrated guide, not only does the author provide keys to, and detailed descriptions of, the known scorpion fauna of Brazil, but he gives accounts of various aspects of scorpion ecology and biogeography which place the Brazilian species in a worldwide context. At the same time, he shows why certain species have recently become extinct while others are endangered throughout Tropical South America.

This book is far more than a guide to the identification of Brazilian scorpions. It is a stimulating introduction to the study of scorpions in general and well deserves the attention of all arachnologists, ecologists and research workers in the field of zoogeography.

Wilson R. Lourenço

Dr. Wilson Lourenço is a research fellow at the National Museum of Natural History in Paris, acting mainly on the fields of taxonomy, biology, ecology and biogeography of scorpions. He has published over 300 papers, and several monographs and books since 1974 when he started his research activities.

A field biologist, he collaborates with South American teams and is sought after for his vast expertise by various European institutions. He participates in inventory missions in Madagascar under the aegis of the WWF in collaboration with the Museum of Natural History in Chicago.

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