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Roger David Castillo Arteaga

Laboratory of bioproducts, Institute of Biomedical Sciences, University of São Paulo

rogerdavyd@usp.br

Dear Dr. Juan Carlos Salcedo Reyes

Please find enclosed for consideration the following manuscript entitled: “First steps for screening polyketide genes from a metagenomic library of Brazilian Atlantic forest soil”, by Roger David Castillo Arteaga Simone Ichiwaki Karen Massini Edith Mariela Burbano Rosero and Gabriel Padilla.

We feel this would be of interest to your audience because the production and search for new drugs have been extensively studied in soil microorganisms. The richness and diversity of secondary metabolism add valuable bioactive molecules with antibiotic, antifungal, antitumor, and immunosuppressive activity. In Brazil, the Mata Atlantica forest is considered to be one of the most important biosphere reserves, and it exhibits a high biodiversity. In this study we develop the first steps for obtain new natural products from environmental soil samples through metagenomics.

This paper has not been published previously and is not under consideration elsewhere. The authors are responsible for the reported research, and have participated in the concept and design, analysis and interpretation of data, drafting or revising of the manuscript, and have approved the manuscript as submitted. The data, models, and methodology used in the research are proprietary and comply with the legal requirements of state of São Paulo Brazil. State any conflicts of interest with other authors or reviewers,

Please recommend three scientists in the field as referee:

Profa. Dra Sandra Baena [Associated Professor Department of Microbiology Pontificia Universidad Javeriana /Environmental Microbiology, Metagenomics, Biotechnology, Molecular Biology] (email: baena@javeriana.edu.co)

Prof. Dr. Leticia Veras Costa Lotufo [Associated Professor Department of Pharmacology University of São Paulo /Natural products, Microbiology, Metagenomics] (email: costalotufo@usp.br)

Profa. Dolly Revelo Romo [Associated Professor Department of Biology University of Nariño /Biotechnology, Microbiology, Molecular Biology] (email: margo.revelo@gmail.com)

Thank you for your consideration of my work. Please address all correspondence concerning this manuscript to me by e-mail ([gpadilla@icb.usp.br](mailto:gpadilla@icb.usp.br) and [rogerdavyd@usp.br](mailto:rogerdavyd@usp.br))

Sincerely,

Roger David Castillo Arteaga MSc.

Attachment:

polyketides Manuscript. docx

Table 1.docx

Fig 1.docx