

FIRST CIRCULAR



VII LATIN AMERICAN CONGRESS OF ARACHNOLOGY

Universidad del Rosario, Quinta de Mutis Campus,
Bogotá, Colombia
June 16th - 21st 2024

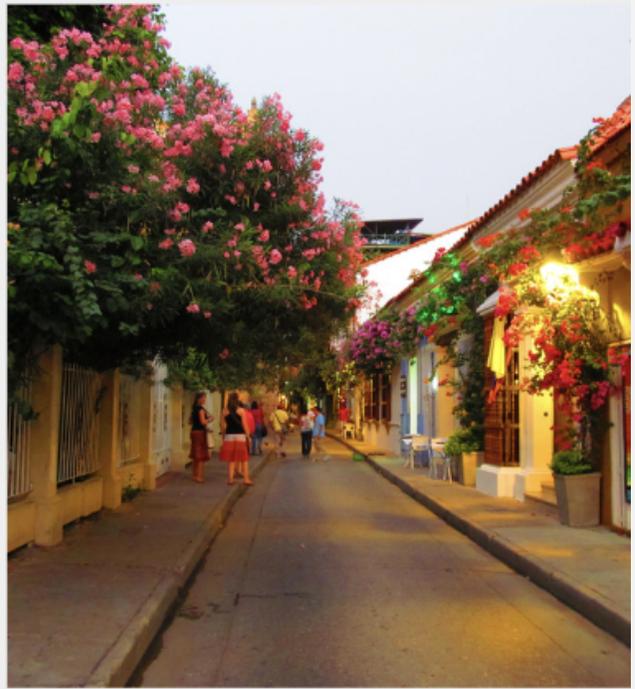
Dear colleagues,

We would like to extend a warm welcome to the Latin American and international arachnological community to join us for the upcoming edition of our most important regional scientific event and invite you to participate in this dynamic gathering that will foster interactions and collaborations.

Welcome to Colombia

 **Colombia, el país de la belleza.**

Colombia is not only an exciting destination for a scientific conference but also a captivating country to explore. While attending the VII CLA, you will have the opportunity to experience Colombia's rich biodiversity and stunning landscapes, from lush rainforests to high Andean peaks. Discover vibrant cities like Bogotá, Medellín, Cali and Cartagena, each offering unique cultural experiences, historical sites, and exquisite cuisine. Colombia's warm and welcoming people add to the charm, making it an ideal place to network and exchange ideas with fellow scientists. With its diverse ecosystems and fascinating history, Colombia promises a memorable experience beyond the conference sessions.



Parque Nacional el Cocuy, Boyacá. Getsemani, Cartagena. Villa de Leyva, Boyacá. Salto Tequendama, Cundinamarca. Laguna Verde, Nariño. Photos: Miguel A. Medrano.

The Venue: Bogotá and Universidad del Rosario (Quinta de Mutis campus)



Plaza Simón Bolívar, Catedral de Bogotá. Fotos de dicasdacolombia.com.br. Panorámica de Bogotá. Foto de Cepal.org. Universidad del Rosario, Quinta Mutis Campus, Bosque de los Magnolios, Salón audiovisual, plazoleta.

Bogotá is the capital city of Colombia and a destination hub in South America. It is the Colombian city with the largest number of international flight connections in the region, offering a convenient location for the VII CLA and reducing transportation costs by eliminating the need for connecting flights. In addition to benefiting from the academic and networking opportunities of the event, participants can explore the city's rich cultural heritage and vibrant atmosphere. Bogotá boasts a wealth of museums, art galleries, and historic sites, including the famous Gold Museum and Botero Museum. Exploring Bogotá

means savoring culinary delights from all regions of the country, all at affordable prices. Additionally, Bogotá is home to the largest collection of arachnids in the country, housed at the [Instituto de Ciencias Naturales](#) (ICN) from the Universidad Nacional de Colombia.

The Universidad del Rosario has generously provided us with the use of their facilities at the [Quinta de Mutis campus](#), including classrooms and auditoriums for this event. Their Quinta de Mutis campus is also equipped with the necessary infrastructure for virtualizing content. Moreover, in the campus vicinity, attendees will find a wide array of accommodation and dining options tailored to various budgets. Situated centrally within the city, the Quinta de Mutis campus offers a convenient location, just 20 minutes away from El Dorado International Airport and the Salitre transportation terminal.

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The Logo



Congreso Latinoamericano
de Aracnología

The organizing committee of the VII CLA, aiming to foster creativity and encourage participation within the Latin American arachnological community, organized a logo design contest to serve as the visual identity of the event. We received twenty-two proposals from eight different countries, and from these, five were selected as finalists. In a subsequent round of evaluation by our reviewers, the first-place was given to Carlos Miguel Araujo from the Dominican Republic. For more information, please click [here](#).

The VII Latin American Arachnology Congress

The VII CLA will be held at the Universidad del Rosario (Quinta de Mutis campus) from **June 16th to 21st, 2024**. On the afternoon of Sunday, June 16th, participants will be welcomed with a reception at the venue. Oral and poster sessions will take place from Monday, June 17th, to Friday, June 21st. We will feature five plenary talks and 10 invited lectures by Young Arachnologists. This congress will be the first Latin American Congress of Arachnology to be conducted in a hybrid format (in-person and virtual). Virtual attendees will be able to participate in the oral and poster sessions as presenters or viewers.

Call for Symposia

The Organizing Committee would like to invite you to propose symposia for the VII Latin American Congress of Arachnology. If you are interested in organizing a symposium, we invite you to submit a concise proposal to the Academic Committee.

Symposia are designed as 2 hour events (example: up to 5 speakers, each one of 15 min plus 15 min of discussion). Symposia can encompass any research area within the field of Arachnology (Arachnids and Human Health, Behavioral Ecology, Community Ecology, Conservation Biology, Educational Outreach, Molecular Ecology and Genetics, Paleoarachnology, Reproductive Biology, Public Perception, Systematics, Toxinology, Venom and Physiology, etc.).

Ensuring a diverse representation of scientists within the symposium is of paramount importance. By diversity, we mean striving for a balanced participation of individuals across gender identities, including those who identify as women, men, non-binary, or any other orientation, as well as representatives from Afro, Indigenous, and other marginalized communities. We believe that symposia, as integral components of the congress, should reflect and promote inclusivity, welcoming the perspectives and contributions of a broad spectrum of researchers.

We would also like to specially invite you to propose a symposium on inclusion and equality in arachnology, having in mind solving the racial and gender gaps and other exclusion issues that have been previously identified.

To submit your proposal, please complete the online form by clicking [here](#) **before December 12th**. For any inquiries regarding symposia, please don't hesitate to contact us at vii.claracnologia@gmail.com.

We look forward to receiving your symposium proposals and anticipate a stimulating and enriching congress in 2024!

Abstracts

Deadline for abstracts submissions: March 16th 2024

Additional information will be provided in the next circular.

Accommodation

The Quinta de Mutis campus of the Universidad del Rosario is situated in a central area of the city, making it easily accessible thanks to the abundance of public transportation options in the area. There are various accommodation choices available around the campus, including Airbnb, hotels, and hostels.

Getting to Colombia

International flights arrive at [El Dorado International Airport](#), located just 20 minutes from the event venue. Colombia is easily accessible from various parts of the world. South American travelers benefit from an extensive network of regional flights connecting Colombia to neighboring countries like Brazil, Peru, Ecuador, and Venezuela. Additionally, Colombia's strategic location in South America ensures good connectivity for travelers from across the continent, with numerous daily flights available to Colombian cities. Travelers from Europe can conveniently reach Colombia by taking direct flights to major Colombian cities such as Bogotá, Medellín, and Cartagena. North American visitors have several non-stop flight options from major U.S. cities, making it easy to reach Colombian destinations.

Please see the requirements for visiting Colombia:

https://www.cancilleria.gov.co/tramites_servicios/visa/lista-a-b-c

[Nationalities required to obtain a tourist visa for Colombia](#)

Collecting in Colombia

Scientific collections in Colombia and taking specimens out of the country are regulated by the Autoridad Nacional de Licencias Ambientales (ANLA). To obtain permits for specimen collections, you need to follow the steps provided at [Permiso-ANLA](#). Please carefully read the instructions for foreigners. For export permits follow the steps provided at [Exportación](#). If you plan to collect before or after the Congress, we strongly recommend applying for the permit as soon as possible.

Pre-registration form

If you intend to participate in the VII Latin American Arachnology Congress in Bogotá, Colombia, please complete the pre-registration form [here](#).

Coming soon

In the second circular, we will provide details regarding registration, abstract submission, the congress program, and our code of conduct.



Photo: Arthur Anker

Connect with us through:

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