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The role of environment in the spreading of Visceral Leishmaniasis in western São Paulo, Brazil

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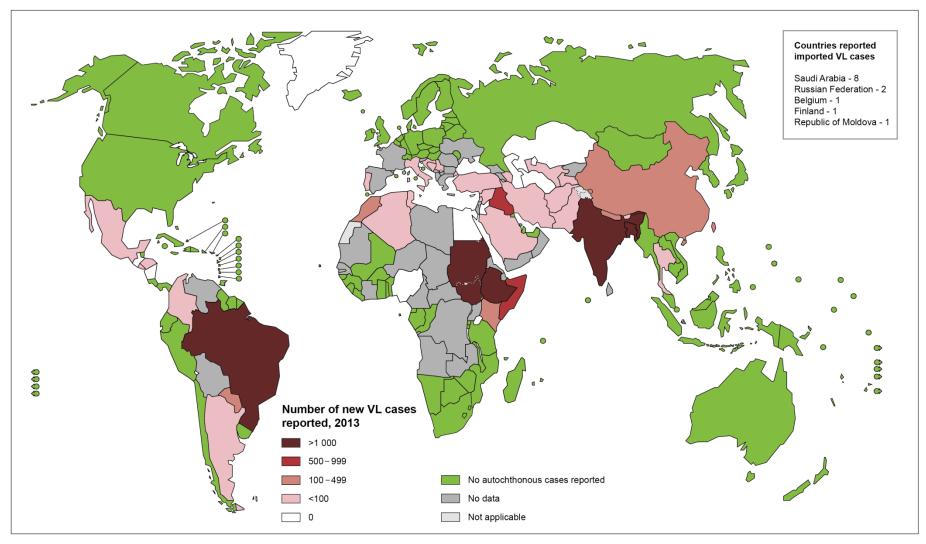
Background

- **≯** Visceral leishmaniasis (VL), emerging zoonosis
- **★** Geographic distribution: tropical and temperate regions
- **≯** Five countries harbor > 90% of the cases
- ★ In South America, sandflies Lutzomyia longipalpis (vector), Leishmania chagasi (parasite), dogs (reservoir) and humans (hosts) are involved in the biologic cycle.

Brazil: 90% of Visceral Leishmaniasis (VL) in Latin America

- **★ Most: Northeast region**
- **≯** Five regions and 21/26 states
- **≯** In 2015 reached the south region
- **≯** In São Paulo state, the first cases were described in 1999
- ★ The vector, parasites and infected dogs came from Bolivia

Status of endemicity of visceral leishmaniasis, worldwide, 2013



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Health Organization concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement. © WHO 2015. All rights reserved

Data Source: World Health Organization Map Production: Control of Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTD) World Health Organization

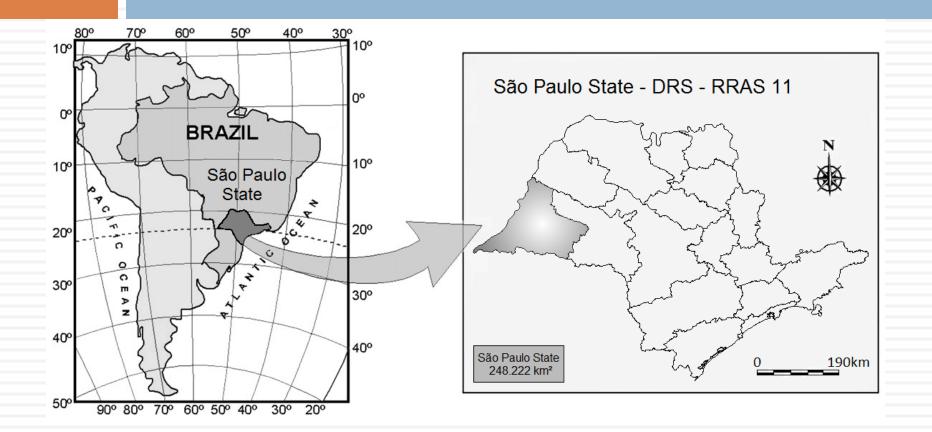




The biggest country of LA

Route of disease:
Bolivia to Corumbá-Campo
Grande-Tres Lagoas (Mato
Grosso do Sul) - western
region of São Paulo state

São Paulo State: the southeast region

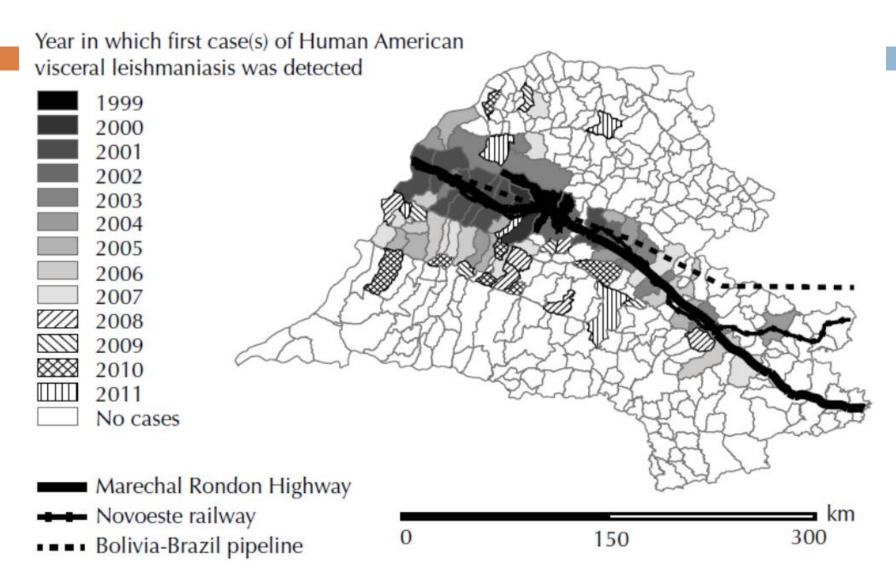


VL route

- **★** Coming to São Paulo from Bolivia
- **★ 1952: Novoeste railway construction**
- **★ 1980: Marechal Rondon highway (SP-300) construction**
- **★ 1998: Bolivia-Brazil pipeline (GASBOL) construction**
- **★ 2005: west region of São Paulo state through Mato Grosso do Sul (MS)**

state

Primary axis of VL in São Paulo state



Cardin MFM, Rev. Saúde Pública, 2013

Objective

We described the role of environment in the fast and worrying spread of VL in western São Paulo state, Brazil.

Hypothesis: SP-563 highway

We hypothesize that the primary axis of VL dissemination through the western region was the SP-563 highway, coming from endemic areas of Mato Grosso do Sul state and throughout the whole region, crowded by small and middle cities and connected by a large number of highways (1,480 miles).

Health Care Regional11 (RRAS11)



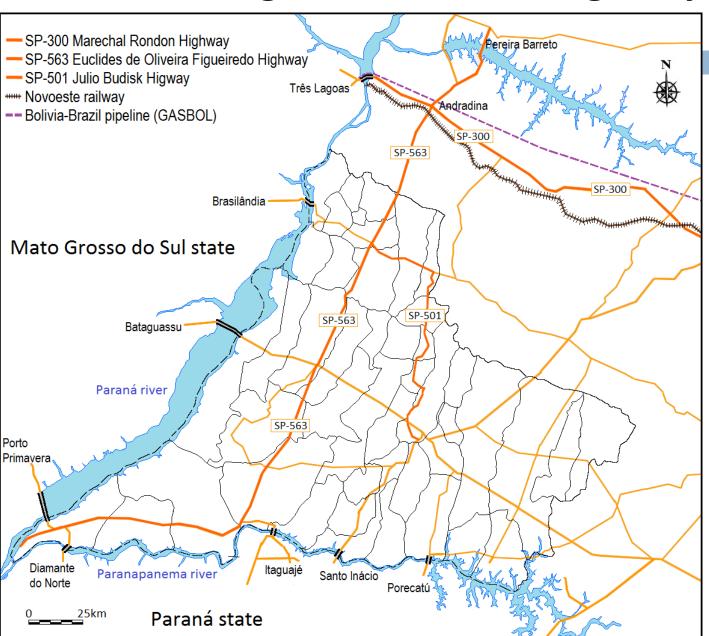
The West region: 5 sub-regions and 45 counties

Pontal of Paranapanema: the poorest region of São Paulo state

Environment risk factors

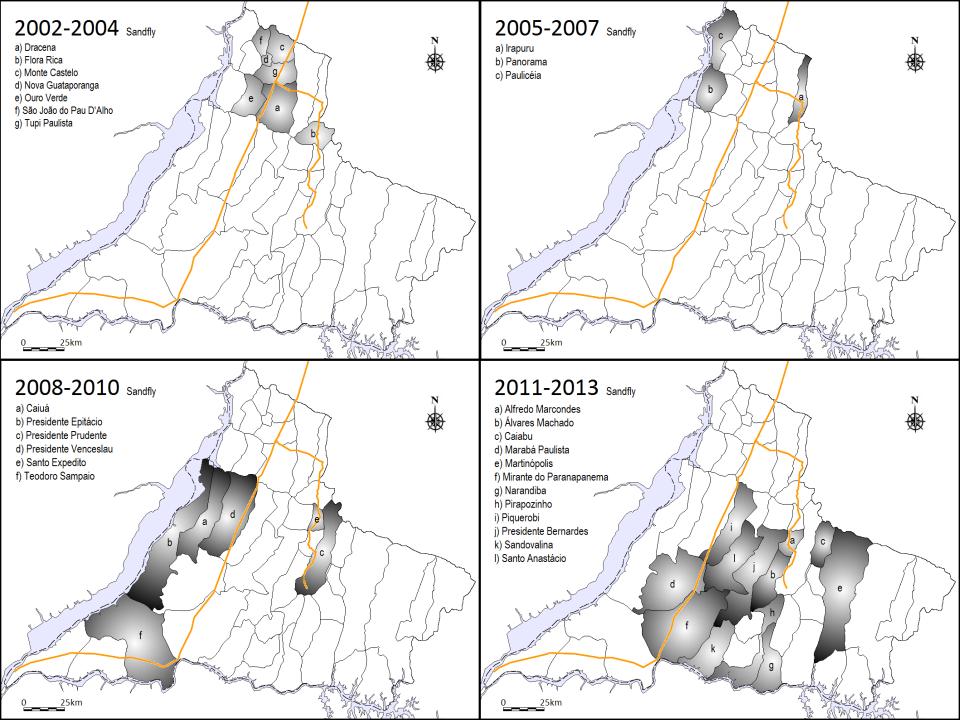
- **★** Sandy/dry soil in the winter and rainy/wet soil in the summer
- **★** Increasing temperatures in the last decades (average 23.5°C)
- ★ Extensive amount of watersheds flowing into Paraná, Paranapanema and Tietê rivers
- **★ Three biggest rivers of Southwest and Southern Brazil**
- **≯** Nine big lakes and a flooded area of 2,384 square miles
- **≯** Nine hydroelectric plants and bridges

The western region and SP-563 highway



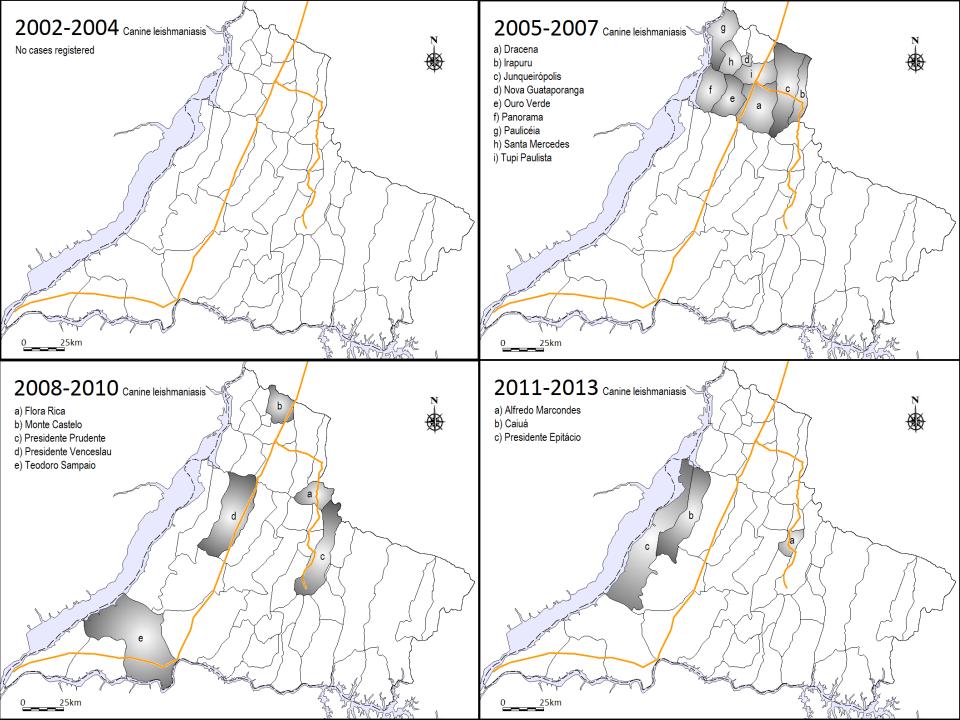
The route of the sandflies

- **≠** Vector: Lutzomyia longipalpis
- **≠** Transmission occurs by contiguity
- **≠** Presence determined in three years interval



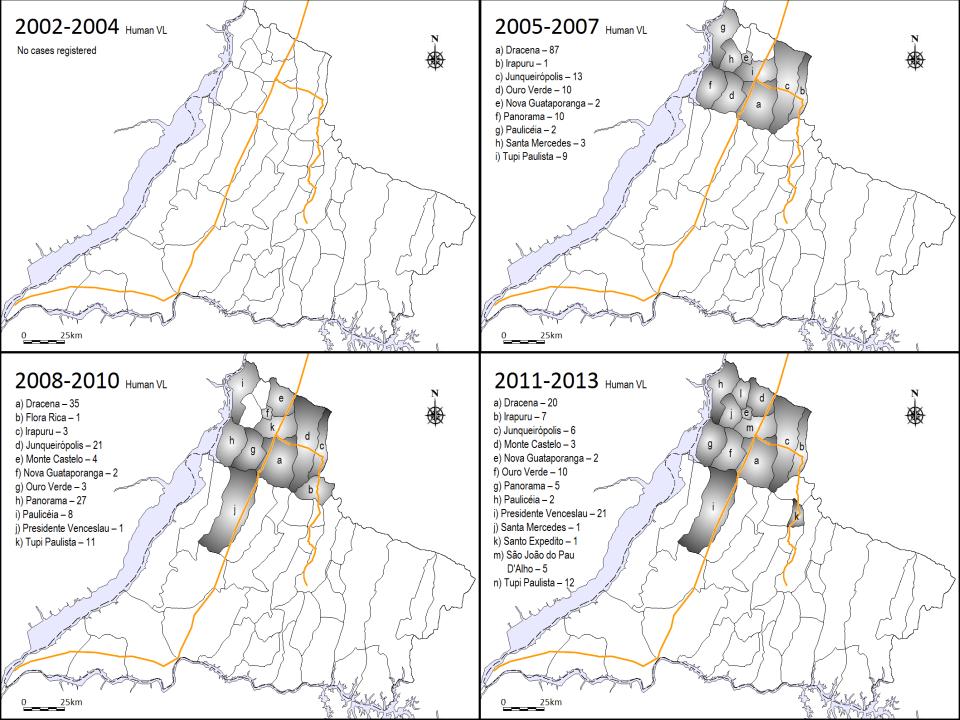
The canine VL footprints

- **‡** Canine visceral leishmaniasis
- **≠** Transmission occurs by contiguity
- ***** Presence determined in three years interval

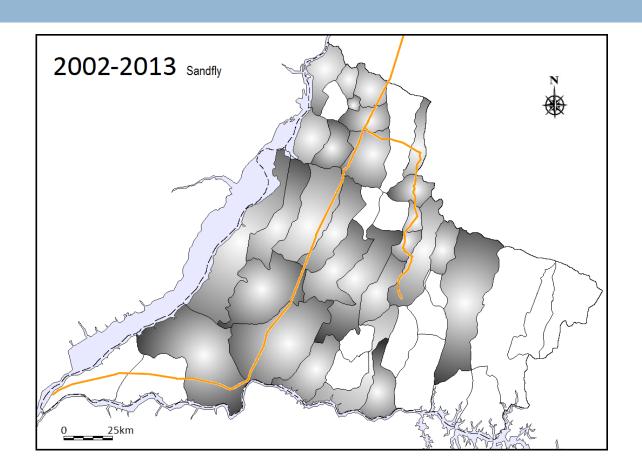


Human VL

- **≠** Human visceral leishmaniasis
- **≠** Transmission occurs by contiguity
- **≠** Presence determined in three years interval

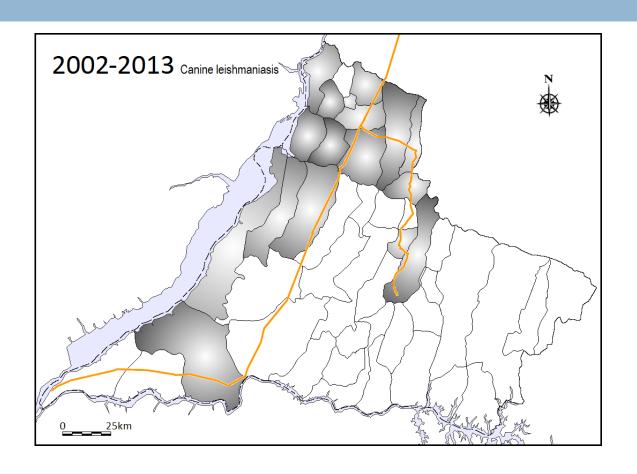


And now, an endemic area for VL sandflies



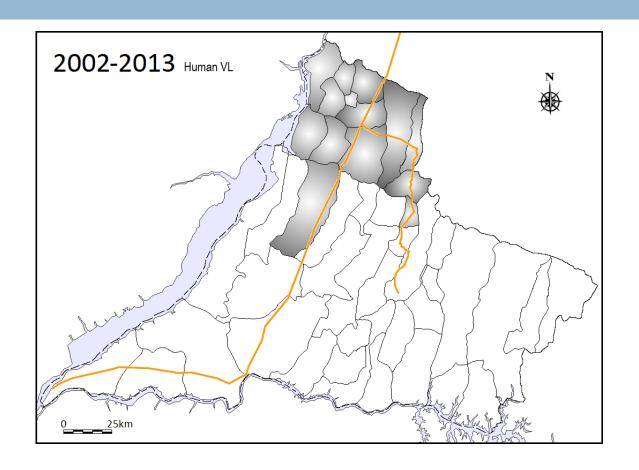
By 2013, 30 (66.7%) of the counties of RRAS11 reported the sandflies

... Canine leishmaniasis



By 2013, 18 (40%) of the counties of RRAS11 reported canine VL

...Human VL



By 2013, 14 (31.1%) counties of RRAS11 reported human VL, 348 cases and 19 deaths (2005-2013).

In conclusion

Poverty, tropical climate, extensive highway network, artificial big lakes linking endemic regions may endorse environment factors related to the spreading of VL in western São Paulo state.

Presidente Prudente, VL team



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