

1 **Nestedness patterns of Sand Fly (Diptera: Psychodidae) species in a neotropical semi-arid**  
2 **environment**

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11 **Running Head:** Sand Fly Species Nestedness

**12 Abstract**

13 A common pattern in neotropical *Leishmania* spp transmission is the co-occurrence of several sand fly  
14 (SF) species at endemic foci. We collected 13 SF spp. by direct aspiration in natural resting places (NRP)  
15 and 10 SF spp. with Shannon traps (ST), totaling 15 spp with both methods, at 6 locations within a semi-  
16 arid region with endemic visceral leishmaniasis transmission in Falcón State, Northwestern Venezuela.  
17 We used null model testing of species co-occurrence and nestedness metrics estimated with our field  
18 data to ask whether SF species composition was segregated/aggregated, and if aggregated whether  
19 there was nestedness, i.e., whether species composition across sampling locations could be described  
20 by ordered subsets of species from the most species rich location in a landscape. Results showed that SF  
21 species were aggregated ( $P < 0.05$ ), i.e., most species were present in species rich locations. Similarly, SF  
22 species were significantly nested ( $P < 0.05$ ). Differences in pairwise Sørensen and Simpson indices,  
23 estimated with the ST data and the combined ST and NRP data, were positively associated with the  
24 distance between sampling locations, suggesting that species nestedness might be partially shaped by  
25 dispersal limitation. Our data showed that three species of medical importance were common across  
26 the sampling locations: *Lutzomyia gomezi*, *Lu. panamensis* and *Lu. evansi*, supporting that vector species  
27 do not turnover in the studied setting.

28 **Key words:** Leishmaniasis, species co-occurrence, *Lutzomyia longipalpis*, null model tests, beta diversity

## 29        1. Introduction

30            Sand flies are a group of medical and veterinary important hematophagous insects responsible  
31 for the transmission of several protozoa and viruses (Maroli et al., 2013). The most notorious group of  
32 parasites transmitted by sand flies, from a medical perspective, are parasitic protozoa of the genus  
33 *Leishmania* spp. (Kinetoplastida: Trypanosomatidae), which cause leishmaniasis in humans and whose  
34 clinical forms range from cutaneous to visceral (Alvar et al., 2012). From a veterinary perspective sand  
35 flies are important vectors of vesicular stomatitis virus (Killmaster et al., 2010). A unique characteristic  
36 of sand flies in the neotropics is the co-occurrence of several species at endemic leishmaniasis  
37 transmission foci, where even several medically important species, i.e., with proven vectorial  
38 competence and capacity, often co-occur (Felicangeli, 1987; Ferro et al., 1995; Jimenez et al., 2000), a  
39 pattern also observed in foci where vesicular stomatitis virus affects domestic animals (Herrero et al.,  
40 1994). Nevertheless, little research has been done to study the structure of sand fly communities  
41 regarding their  $\beta$ -diversity patterns, i.e., the change in species composition across any environmental  
42 gradient (Baselga, 2010), a topic that has become increasingly studied in other vectors, mainly  
43 mosquitoes (Chaves et al., 2011; Hoshi et al., 2014; Laporta et al., 2013). Especially, knowledge about  $\beta$ -  
44 diversity patterns can be useful to predict species likely to become vectors, given that some species  
45 might have similar ecological patterns to those that are currently recognized as dominant vectors (Levins  
46 et al., 1994), the need for heterogeneous control strategies for dealing with different vector species in  
47 an endemic area (Chaves et al., 2013), or whether the co-occurrence of vector species with species  
48 without medical importance can be an indicator of the likelihood of disease transmission (Chaves et al.,  
49 2011; Laporta et al., 2013).

50            Null model tests of species co-occurrence and nestedness are ecological tools that have become  
51 increasingly useful to study  $\beta$ -diversity patterns. The underlying idea of these methods is to estimate

52 metrics measuring co-occurrence and/or nestedness using field data and compare this result with  
53 distributions of the same metric generated by simulations fulfilling certain constraints/assumptions  
54 (Gotelli, 2000; Ulrich and Gotelli, 2007). For example, a study using null model tests of co-occurrence  
55 showed that SF species composition was segregated across an altitudinal gradient and by ecosystems  
56 (Chaves and Añez, 2004). A similar segregation pattern was observed when studying sand flies at their  
57 resting habitats in a forest, a pattern that became random when looking at agricultural landscapes,  
58 where vector species became more abundant (Chaves, 2011). Nevertheless, one pattern that has not  
59 been studied is what happens in SF communities that are sampled in locations embedded in relatively  
60 homogenous landscapes. The western focus of visceral leishmaniasis in Venezuela (Añez et al., 2012)  
61 occurs across a semi-arid region where there is little diversity in the natural ecosystem, characterized by  
62 a low diversity of plant and animal species (Ewel and Madriz, 1968). An epidemiological study in this  
63 region showed that slightly over 5% of the individuals in *Lutzomyia longipalpis* and *Lu. evansi*  
64 populations were infected with *Leishmania infantum*, the etiologic agent of visceral leishmaniasis in  
65 Venezuela (Añez et al., 2012). Nevertheless, the understanding of SF  $\beta$ -diversity patterns in this endemic  
66 region is poor. Here, we use null models to ask whether sand fly vector species composition was  
67 segregated / aggregated, and if aggregated whether there was nestedness across locations from a semi-  
68 arid environment with endemic visceral leishmaniasis transmission in Falcón state, northwestern  
69 Venezuela. We found that species were both aggregated and nested, following null model tests ( $P <$   
70  $0.05$ ). Nestedness was both due to partial species turnover across sampled locations and to sampled  
71 locations having subsets of species from the more species rich sites. Species composition differences  
72 increased with distance, suggesting that species turnover might be partially shaped by dispersal  
73 limitation. Only one species without medical importance, *Lutzomyia venezuelensis*, was found across  
74 most of our study sites. By contrast, we found that three species of medical importance were common  
75 across the sampling locations: *Lu. gomezi*, *Lu. panamensis* and *Lu. evansi*, which supports the idea that

76 vector species do not turnover in the studied setting, and further supports that *Lu. evansi* could be a  
77 dominant vector of visceral leishmaniasis in the studied area.

## 78 **2. Materials and Methods**

### 79 2.1 Data Collection

80 Sand Flies were collected by direct aspiration from natural resting places (NRP) and with  
81 Shannon Illuminated traps (ST) at 6 localities (Fig. 1) in Northwestern Venezuela (10°18'08"-11°50'46"N  
82 and 68°14'28"-71°18'21"W) where visceral leishmaniasis is endemic (Añez et al., 2012). Both NRP and  
83 ST are standard methods for sand fly sampling (Alexander, 2000). We chose NRP and ST in order to  
84 compare species richness with data from sampling techniques targeting "active" (ST) and "resting" (NRP)  
85 sand flies. All our study locations are within a semi-arid environment characterized by a scarce annual  
86 rainfall, around 400 mm in total per year, with an average Relative Humidity (RH) 65% and an average  
87 temperature between 28 and 29 °C with minimal seasonal variability (Chaves and Vivas, 1972; Ewel and  
88 Madriz, 1968). We chose 6 sampling locations that were representative of the variability that mountain  
89 ranges (Fig. 1) create in an otherwise relatively homogenous semi-arid tropical environment (Chaves and  
90 Vivas, 1972). We also chose 6 locations because this a suitable number of locations for biogeographical  
91 comparison (MacArthur, 1984) and large enough for the proper estimation of regional species richness  
92 (Chao et al., 2009).

93 At each locality the sand fly sampling protocol was as follows: (i) NRP was conducted on the  
94 buttress of *Ceiba* spp. trees inside a 100 m perimeter from three peridomiliary goat pens. Goat pens  
95 were between 3 to 10 Km apart. We chose the buttress of *Ceiba* spp. trees because they are preferred  
96 resting places for phlebotomine sand flies (Christensen and de Vasquez, 1982; Rutledge and Mosser,  
97 1972) and ubiquitous in the studied environment. Aspirations were carried out by two people between  
98 7-9 h and 16-8 h (ii) in each of the three goat pens a ST was used to collect sand flies. The ST consisted of

99 a 2m X 2m white linen and a 120 w light. Sampling was performed by two collectors between 19-21h.  
100 NRP at each site was performed on two different days per month, one day sampling in the morning and  
101 afternoon, the other day only sampling in the afternoon. ST sampling was performed twice at each  
102 sampling site, on the same month that NRP sampling was performed. Sampling of the sites occurred  
103 between July 2009 and August 2012, in a temporally sparse manner, i.e., due to logistic constrains not  
104 all of the six locations were sampled at once. However, all locations had a homogenous ST sampling effort.  
105 Collected sand flies were killed by freezing recently collected samples at -20 °C for 10 min, and  
106 subsequently preserved in 70% ethanol until used for identification. For each location and collection  
107 method we summarized sand fly abundance by species. We identified sand flies using the male genitalia  
108 and female spermathecae as taxonomic characters following Young and Duncan (1994) and used the  
109 classification system of Lewis *et al* (1977) over competing ones, given its economy of genera (Vences et  
110 al., 2013) and also to ease comparison with previous studies on sand flies from the Neotropics. Sand fly  
111 voucher specimens are available at Centro de Investigaciones Parasitológicas “J.F. Torrealba”,  
112 Universidad de Los Andes, Mérida, Venezuela.

## 113 2.2 Statistical Analysis

114 We estimated the total number of species based on sampled species abundance by each  
115 collection method using the Chao2 estimator (Chao et al., 2005). This was done in order to ensure that  
116 we performed an appropriate sampling of the sand fly metacommunity species richness, i.e., that the  
117 number of species we collected with each method was representative of species richness in the region  
118 comprised by our six sampling locations. For robustness, we also estimated species richness with species  
119 accumulation curves by rarefaction (Colwell and Coddington, 1994), which are expected to flatten when  
120 most species have been sampled with a given technique.

121 We then compiled data on the presence/absence of sand fly species at each site and proceeded  
122 with the estimation of C-score (Stone and Roberts, 1990) for data obtained with each collection method,  
123 as well as, with a combined dataset based on collections from both NRP and ST. The C-score is a metric  
124 used to investigate whether species aggregate or segregate across habitats, i.e., sampling locations in  
125 our study. Species aggregation indicates that most species tend to be concentrated in at least a sampling  
126 location, while species segregation means that species do not frequently co-occur across a set of  
127 sampling sites (Gotelli, 2000). Briefly, the inference for aggregation (or segregation) is based on whether  
128 an estimated C-score is below (or above) the distribution of simulated C-scores (Stone and Roberts,  
129 1992).

130 For datasets that showed aggregation, we further investigated whether species were nested  
131 across sites, i.e., whether species composition changed in a fashion where some species were  
132 widespread while, nevertheless, species richness varied across sampling locations (Ulrich and Gotelli,  
133 2007). For this end we estimated the nestedness metric based on overlap and decreasing fills (NODF)  
134 proposed by Almeida-Neto et al (2008), which determines whether there is nestedness (NODF-Global),  
135 and which can also quantify whether nestedness is due to the partial segregation of less frequent  
136 species from the most frequent (NODF-Species), often referred as partial species turnover (Baselga,  
137 2010), and whether sampling locations progressively decrease species richness when compared to more  
138 species rich locations (NODF-Locations). The NODF metrics inference for nestedness is based on  
139 whether estimates from the field data are significantly above the distribution of the simulations (Ulrich  
140 and Gotelli, 2007).

141 We tested C-scores and NODF metrics employing null model tests (Gotelli, 2000; Ulrich and  
142 Gotelli, 2007). We simulated matrices assuming the number of times a species appeared across the  
143 sampling locations was constant, but the probability of sampling a species was the same across sites,

144 and we only considered the presence/absence of species (not their abundance) when implementing the  
145 simulations, in order to make sound comparisons between the three datasets. Repeating the  
146 simulations 10000 times we built a distribution for each index that was then compared to the estimate  
147 from the original datasets.

148         Given that our study locations were separated in space we further inquired to what extent  
149 dispersal limitation might have played a role on the species richness patterns that we observed. We  
150 therefore employed the multi-site Sørensen species dissimilarity index derived by Baselga (2010) which  
151 is expected to be positively associated with the distance between sampling locations when dispersal  
152 limitation plays a role on shaping diversity differences across sites. The multi-site Sørensen species  
153 dissimilarity index has the advantage of being furtherly decomposed into the Simpson index which is  
154 expected to increase with geographical isolation when there is a species turnover across localities, and  
155 the nestedness-resultant index which is expected to increase with distance if locations are nested in a  
156 manner where species richness progressively decreases. We then estimated the association between  
157 index dissimilarity and geographical distance using the Pearson correlation (Chaves et al., 2011). For  
158 statistical inference we performed a 999 randomizations Mantel test, in order to account for the lack of  
159 independence in our data (Chaves, 2010).

160         The null-model simulations were performed using the program Co-Occurrence described by  
161 Ulrich et al (2009). All other analyses were performed using the package “vegan” in the statistical  
162 language R, version 3.1.0.

### 163         **3. Results**

164         Combining results from the two collection methods we found a total of 15 species (Table 1).  
165 Three species of medical importance were found in at least five of the six sampled localities: *Lutzomyia*  
166 *evansi*, *Lu. panamensis* and *Lu. gomezi*, the first one a vector of visceral *Leishmania* spp parasites



167 (Felicangeli et al., 1999), the second and third vectors of cutaneous *Leishmania* spp parasites (Calzada  
168 et al., 2013; Christensen et al., 1983). No sand fly species was found in all the sites. Of the 15 species 13  
169 were collected by NRP and 10 by ST. The most species rich site was Colina with 13 species, followed by  
170 Unión with 10. Two species: *Lu. ovallesi* and *Lu. migonei* were only sampled with ST, while *Lu. walkeri*, *Lu.*  
171 *micropyga*, *Lu. pilosa*, *Lu. venezuelensis* and *Lu. punctigeniculata* were only sampled by NRP. The  
172 remaining eight species were sampled with both collection methods (Table 1).

173 A total 1675 sand flies were caught by NRP (Table 1). The most abundant species was *Lu. evansi*  
174 with 644 individuals. The location where most sandflies were collected was Buchivacoa. The Chao2  $\pm$  S.E.  
175 was  $19.00 \pm 6.48$  species, which indicates that the 13 species we collected, which is within the 95% CI of  
176 the estimate, are an exhaustive sample of the number of species that could be found using NRP as a  
177 collection method in our study setting, a result confirmed by the species accumulation rarefaction curve  
178 (Fig. 2A).

179 A total 2243 sand flies were caught with ST (Table 1). The most abundant species was *Lu. evansi*,  
180 which accounted for nearly half of the samples with 1044 individuals. The location where most sandflies  
181 were collected was Colina. The Chao2  $\pm$  S.E. was  $12.66 \pm 3.49$  species, which indicates that the 10  
182 species we collected are an exhaustive sample of the number of species that could be found using ST as  
183 a collection method in our study setting, a result also observed in the species accumulation rarefaction  
184 curve (Fig. 2B).

185 Results for the C-score analysis are presented in Table 2. They show that in all cases the  
186 estimated C-scores were significantly smaller ( $P < 0.05$ ) than the simulations, indicating that species were  
187 aggregated.

188 Since all three datasets showed aggregated patterns of sand fly species co-occurrence, we  
189 proceeded with the nestedness analysis for each dataset. Results for the NODF metrics are presented in

190 Table 2. All NODF-Global metrics were significantly larger than expected by random ( $P < 0.05$ ), indicating  
191 that sand fly communities were nested independently of the collection method. Similarly all NODF-  
192 Location metrics were significantly larger than expected by random ( $P < 0.05$ ). This result indicates that  
193 there was a significant progressive nestedness between species rich and poor sites, as suggested by  
194 Table 1. Similarly, the NODF-Species was significantly larger than expected by random ( $P < 0.05$ ), a result  
195 supporting some degree of species turnover. This last result is further illustrated by a cluster analysis of  
196 the Sørensen dissimilarities when employing results from both collection methods (Fig. 3), which shows  
197 that Acosta had the poorest sand fly fauna, and the clustering of Unión and Colina and of Federación  
198 and Buchivacoa, supports a partial degree of species turnover.

199 Tests for the impact of dispersal limitation on the nestedness/turnover of species (Fig. 4)  
200 suggested that species dissimilarities in the sand fly fauna collected with both NRP and ST (Fig. 4A,  
201  $P < 0.05$ ) and with STs (Fig. 4D,  $P < 0.05$ ) had patterns influenced by the distance between sampling  
202 locations, and that species turnover was likely influenced by dispersal limitation (Fig. 4B and Fig. 4E,  
203  $P < 0.05$ ).

#### 204 4. Discussion

205 Results from the Chao2 estimates using the NRP and ST datasets support a thorough sampling of  
206 the sand fly meta-community in the studied region, since predictions of 15 to 16 species in the region  
207 fits the 15 species we found when combining both methods. In that sense, we can affirm that our  
208 analysis is based on a high quality dataset, with data systematically collected and using standard  
209 sampling methods (Alexander, 2000). The fact that SF species were aggregated, independently of the  
210 sampling methodology, suggests that sites harboring the largest number of species might have more  
211 diverse habitats that supports a larger diversity of SF species (Stone and Roberts, 1992), a possibility re-  
212 inforced by the systematic nature of the sampling.

213 SF species were nested across the sampling locations, independently of the sampling  
214 methodology, and with a pattern of progressive species richness decrease from the most species rich  
215 site, i.e., Colina (13 spp), to the site with least species, i.e., Acosta (3 spp). This pattern might reflect the  
216 diversity associated with geographical differences (MacArthur, 1984) in our study site. Colina and Unión,  
217 the most species rich sites (Fig. 1) in our study region lie in the piedmont of the San Luis mountain range  
218 (Chaves and Vivas, 1972). By contrast, the other four sites tend to be in flat areas next to the San Luis  
219 mountain range (Fig. 1), where ecosystem biodiversity is more restricted (Ewel and Madriz, 1968). This  
220 fact could also explain why the clustering of species by sites when considering data from all methods did  
221 not correspond with the geographical distance between the samples sites.

222 The partial turnover of species detected by the NODF-Species is related to rare species that  
223 were only found in the most species rich sites, specifically *Lu. pilosa* and *Lu. puntigeniculata* were only  
224 collected in Colina and *Lu. micropyga* and *Lu. hernandesi* which were only collected at Unión.  
225 Interestingly, three species of medical importance were common across the sampling locations: *Lu.*  
226 *gomezi* (Saldaña et al., 2013), *Lu. panamensis* (Christensen et al., 1983), and *Lu. evansi* (Travi et al.,  
227 1996). *Lu. ovallesi*, a vector of *Leishmania* spp parasites causative of cutaneous leishmaniasis  
228 (Felicangeli et al., 1988) and *Lu. longipalpis*, a vector of *L. infantum* the etiologic agent of visceral  
229 leishmaniasis (Young and Duncan, 1994) were only presented in the most species rich sites, suggesting  
230 that in the studied area vector species did not turnover. Only one species without medical importance,  
231 *Lu. venezuelensis*, was common across most sampling sites, suggesting nestedness in the community  
232 was mainly driven by medically important species.

233 The impact that a dispersal limitation (Baselga, 2010) might have on species turnover, requires  
234 further study. Although, the existence of species turnover in the meta-community of sandflies across the  
235 studied sites is a robust result, given similar inferences from the three datasets we analyzed, the

236 significant impact of distance on SF species dissimilarity sampled with ST might reflect the fact that ST  
237 attract active sand flies, as opposed to NRP which samples resting SF species. This result also highlights  
238 trade-offs of different SF collection methods (Alexander, 2000), while ST is easy to standardize, it might  
239 miss some species, and as we implemented NRP, we could not standardize the number of treebuttruss  
240 that we sampled. Thus, while concerns about an adequate sampling of SF species richness is not an issue  
241 when using several collection methods, problems might arise by the lack of consensus in results for  
242 other ecological analysis. A possible solution in our study setting will be sampling with an additional  
243 method that collects active SF species, for example CDC or similar light traps (Calzada et al., 2013;  
244 Rutledge et al., 1976; Rutledge et al., 1975).

245 Finally, the next step from this study will be to test how robust are inferences about co-  
246 occurrence and nestedness exclusively based on adult data when compared with results from sand flies  
247 sampled at the larval stage (Rutledge and Mosser, 1972), a task that is becoming feasible given advances  
248 in traps designed to sample immature sand flies (Casanova, 2001). This step is fundamental, since only a  
249 detailed sampling including several collection techniques can give a complete idea of species richness in  
250 a vector meta-community (Hoshi et al., 2014). Similarly, understanding the potential association  
251 between species composition nestedness and phylogenetic relationships of sand flies, (Vamosi et al.,  
252 2009) placing special attention to the context where vector species tend to be more widespread than  
253 species without medical and/or veterinary importance.

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#### 259 **Author's declaration of interests**

260 No competing interests have been declared by all authors.

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## Figure Legends

**Fig. 1 Study Locations.** Each dot shows the sampling locations. Distances ranged from 46 km (Unión and Federación) to 272 km (Mauroa and Acosta).

**Fig. 2 Rarefaction curves for sand fly species.** Species were sampled by (A) Direct Aspiration at Natural Resting Sites (B) Shannon Traps. The black line indicates the estimate number of species for rarefaction and the gray polygon represents the 95% confidence limits of the estimate.

**Fig. 3 Cluster of species similarities between sampling locations.** This agglomerative cluster is based on the Sørensen pair-wise dissimilarity, the agglomerative coefficient was 0.31 and the axis indicates dissimilarity, i.e., farther away locations across the axis shared less species.

**Fig. 4  $\beta$ -diversity patterns for Sand Fly species by collection method.** Results for sand flies collected by direct aspiration at natural resting places: (A) Sørensen  $\beta$ -diversity dissimilarity, (B) Simpson  $\beta$ -diversity dissimilarity and (C) Nestedness resultant  $\beta$ -diversity dissimilarity as function of geographic distance. Results for sand flies species collected with Shannon traps: (D) Sørensen  $\beta$ -diversity dissimilarity, (E) Simpson  $\beta$ -diversity dissimilarity and (F) Nestedness resultant  $\beta$ -diversity dissimilarity as function of geographic distance. Results for Sand Fly species collected with both Shannon traps and by direct aspiration at natural resting places: (G) Sørensen  $\beta$ -diversity dissimilarity, (H) Simpson  $\beta$ -diversity dissimilarity and (I) Nestedness resultant  $\beta$ -diversity dissimilarity as function of geographic distance. Inside the panels the Pearson's correlation coefficient ( $r$ ) is indicated and its significance ( $P$ ) was obtained with a Mantel test, given constraints on the independence of observations.

Figure 1



Figure 2

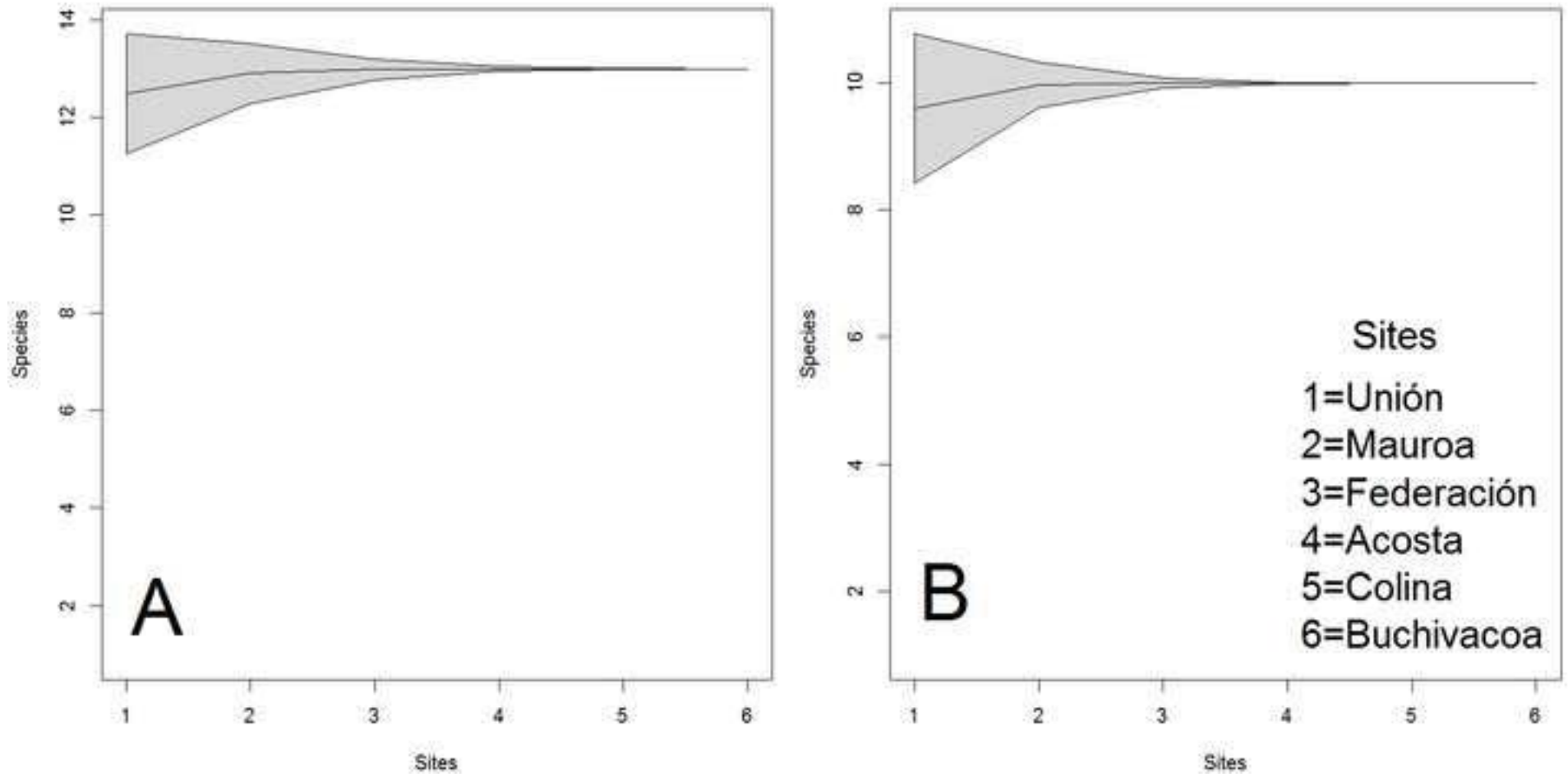


Figure 3

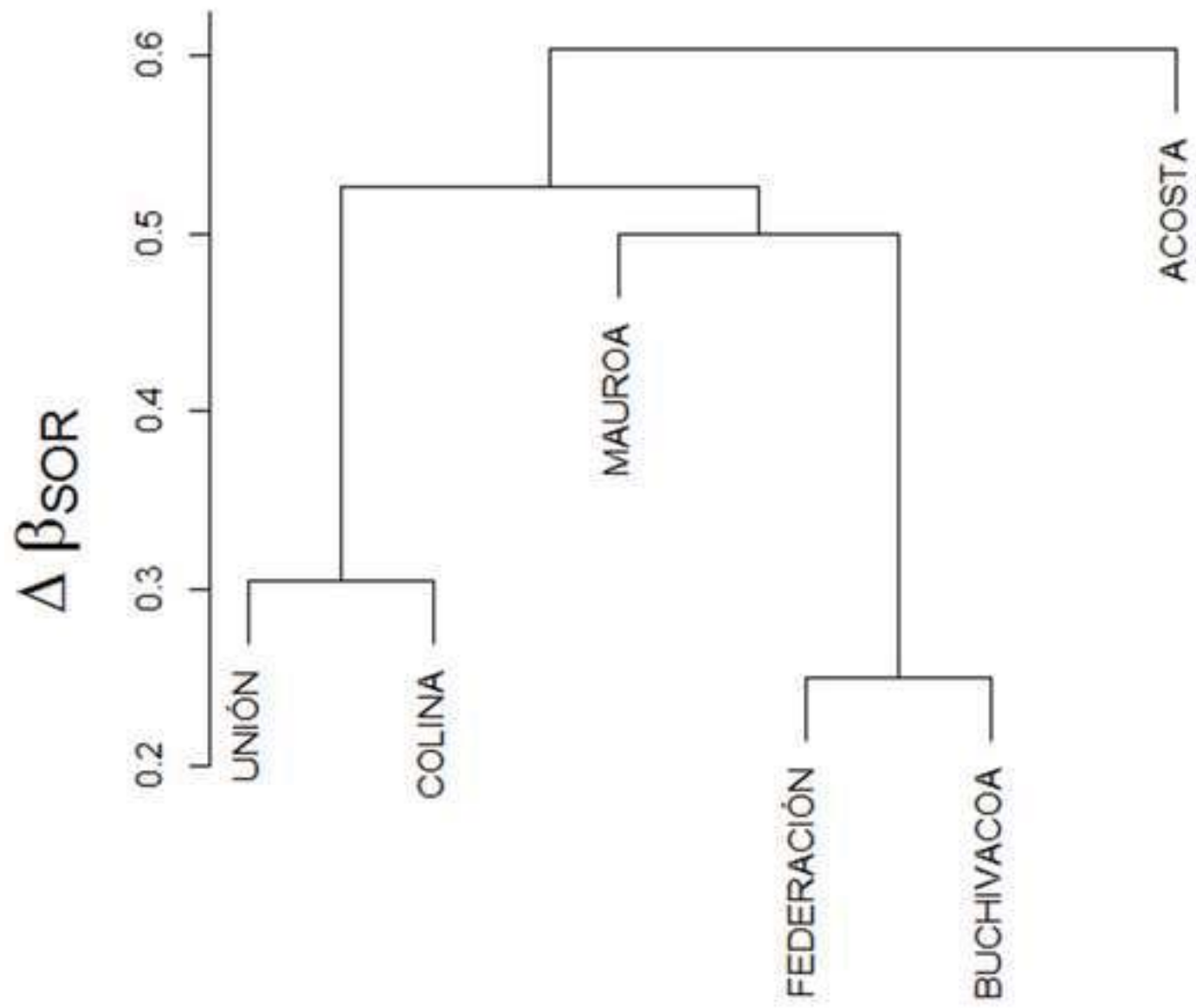
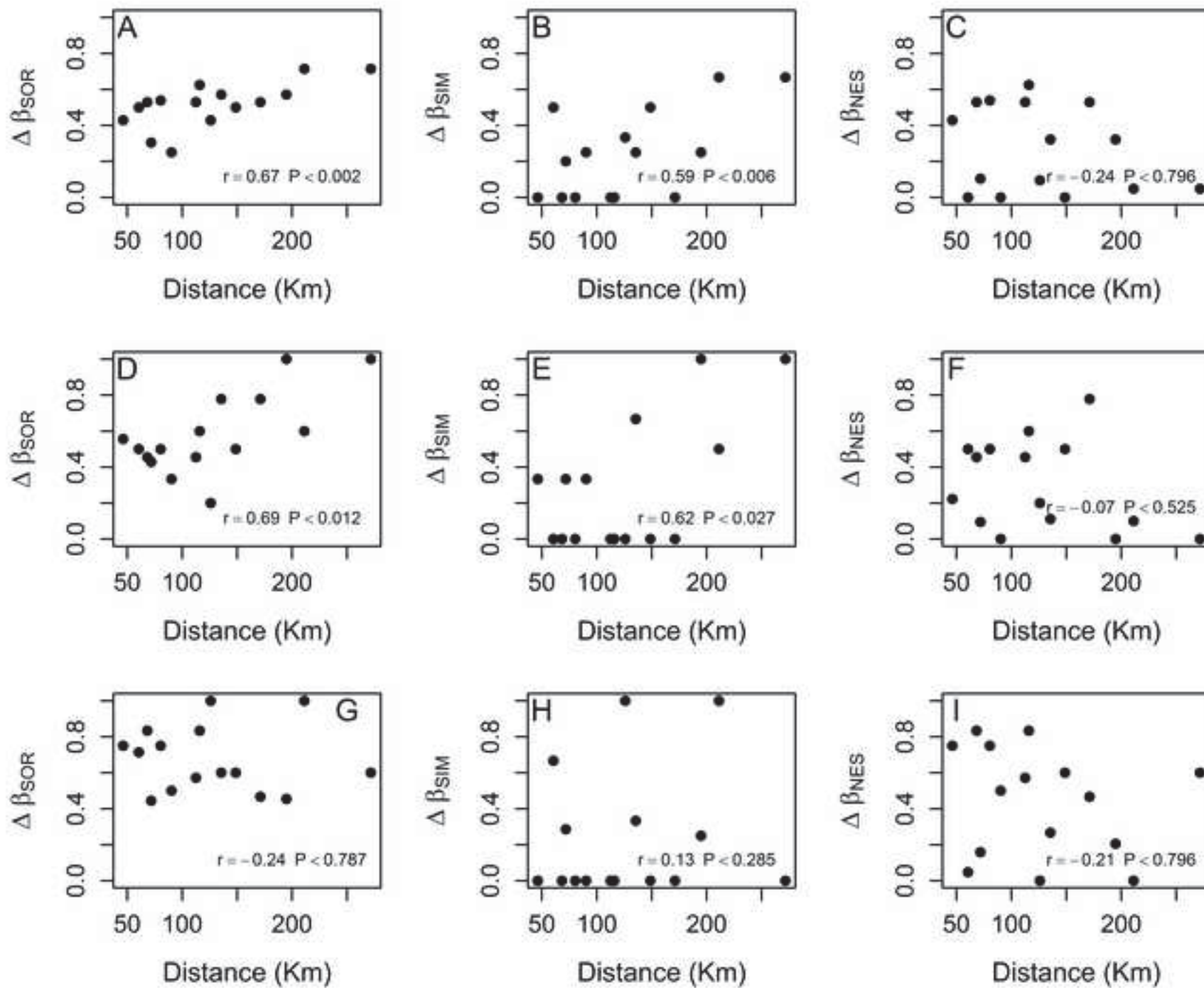


Figure 4



**Table 1** Species Abundance by location and sampling method. ST indicates Shannon trap and NRP indicates direct aspiration of natural resting place and Both indicates absence(0)/presence (1) by either NRP or ST.

Location Sampling method/Species	Colina			Unión			Mauroa			Buchivacoa			Federación			Acosta		
	ST	NRP	Both	ST	NRP	Both	ST	NRP	Both	ST	NRP	Both	ST	NRP	Both	ST	NRP	Both
<i>Lutzomyia flaviscutellata</i> (Mangabeira)	0	53	1	12	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Lu. walkeri</i> (Newstead)	0	33	1	0	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Lu. gomezi</i> (Nitzulescu)	177	52	1	0	7	1	18	13	1	11	0	1	7	0	1	0	0	0
<i>Lu. longipalpis</i> (Lutz & Neiva)	41	73	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	267	339	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Lu. atroclavata</i> (Knab)	8	54	1	14	53	1	0	25	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	44	1
<i>Lu. micropyga</i> (Mangabeira)	0	0	0	0	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Lu. pilosa</i> (Damasceno & Causey)	0	45	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Lu. trinidadensis</i> (Newstead)	12	10	1	0	0	0	0	25	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Lu. venezuelensis</i> (Floch & Abonnenc)	0	39	1	0	7	1	0	14	1	0	11	1	0	25	1	0	0	0
<i>Lu. migonei</i> (Franca)	38	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Lu. hernandezi</i> (Ortiz)	0	0	0	10	8	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Lu. evansi</i> (Nuñez-Tovar)	376	27	1	66	9	1	0	0	0	412	608	1	100	0	1	90	0	1
<i>Lu. ovallesi</i> (Ortiz)	65	0	1	52	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Lu. punctigeniculata</i> (Floch & Abonnenc)	0	49	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Lu. panamensis</i> (Shannon)	201	39	1	89	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	63	0	1	114	0	1
Total	918	474	13	243	97	10	18	77	4	690	958	4	170	25	4	204	44	3

**Table 2** C-score and NODF estimates for sand fly species sampled by direct aspiration at natural resting places (NRP), Shannon traps (ST) and by the combination of both methods (Both).

Metric	Sampling Method	Estimated	Simulation mean $\pm$ SD	95 % CI
C-score	NRP	0.40*	1.42 $\pm$ 0.17	(1.04, 1.68)
	ST	0.73*	1.39 $\pm$ 0.23	(0.87, 1.76)
	Both	0.45*	1.36 $\pm$ 0.15	(1.02, 1.60)
NODF-Global	NRP	69.23*	41.23 $\pm$ 4.30	(33.80, 50.41)
	ST	65.69*	46.48 $\pm$ 5.68	(36.39, 58.36)
	Both	69.49*	49.45 $\pm$ 3.56	(43.06, 57.11)
NODF-Locations	NRP	76.43*	40.58 $\pm$ 7.78	(23.89, 55.48)
	ST	67.78*	46.67 $\pm$ 9.56	(26.67, 64.78)
	Both	64.22*	51.00 $\pm$ 8.06	(31.43, 65.23)
NODF-Species	NRP	67.84*	41.35 $\pm$ 4.10	(33.97, 50.53)
	ST	65.00*	46.42 $\pm$ 5.30	(36.67, 58.33)
	Both	70.24*	49.22 $\pm$ 3.26	(43.33, 56.19)

\*Statistically significant (P<0.05)