

**Title: EVALUATION OF GROWTH RATES OVER 20 YEARS IN THE
CRUSTOSE LICHEN *HAEMATOMMA ERYTHROMMA* AT ELEPHANT
ISLAND, SOUTH SHETLAND ISLANDS, ANTARCTICA**

Jair Putzke¹, Margeli Pereira de Albuquerque¹, Filipe de Carvalho Victoria¹, Adriano
Luis Schünemann¹ & Antonio Batista Pereira^{1*}

¹*Núcleo de estudo da Vegetação da Antártica – NEVA, Universidade Federal do Pampa. UNIPAMPA. Rua Aluizio Barros Macedo, BR. 290, km 423 Bairro Pirai, 97300-000, São Gabriel, RS, Brasil.*

Correspondence author:

Antonio Batista Pereira: anbatistape@gmail.com.

Dear Editor,

The manuscript “Evolution of growth rates over 20 year in the crustose lichen *Haematomma erythromma* at Elephant Island, South Shetland Islands, Antarctica”. This works aim to estimate growth of the *Haematomma erythromma* (Nyl.) Zhlbr. sociation in Antarctica. There were chosen 8 sites in Stinker Point, Elephant Island, Antarctica, which were drawn in plastic sheets in 1992 (25x25 cm²), with re-sampling in 1994 to interpret first growth data and all redrawn in 2012, to try to understand the growth of species in this community in 20 years, which has been prepared and reviewed by all listed authors. This is an unpublished work for Antarctica and not yet published. The authors listed below and their respective signature indicate their agreement with the norms of Oecologia Australis Journal and confirm that this manuscript was submitted only to this journal.

Also were included five (5) referees names indicated in accordance from authors, as below:

Carlos Enersto Schaefer – UFV carlos.schaefer@ufv.br

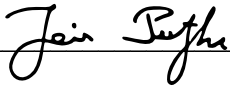
Lubomir Kovacik – Comenius University lubomir.kovacik@uniba.sk

Yocie Valentin – UFRJ yocie@biologia.ufrj.br

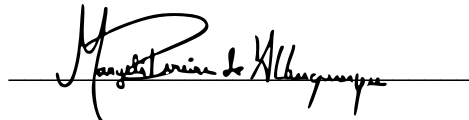
Adriano Afonso Spielmann – UFMS spielmann.adriano@gmail.com

Erli Costa Schneider – UERGS erli-costa@uergs.edu.br

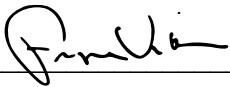
Sincerely,



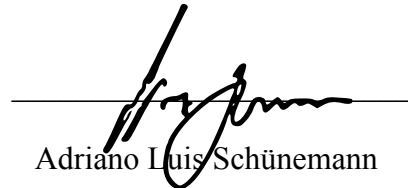
Jair Putzke



Margeli Pereira de Albuquerque



Filipe de Carvalho Victoria



Adriano Luis Schünemann



Antonio Batista Pereira