

TITLE: MICROBIOLOGY IN MIDDLE SCHOOL: PORTRAIT OF THE SCHOOLS OF THE SERTÃO DO SÃO FRANCISCO FIELD

AUTHORS: COELHO, G.M.P.; MOURA, J.I.S.; SOUZA, R.F.S.; COSTA, M. M.

INSTITUTION: FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF THE SÃO FRANCISCO VALLEY, PETROLINA, PE (AVENIDA JOSÉ DE SÁ MANIÓBA, S / N - CENTRO, PETROLINA - PE, 56304-917).

SUMMARY:

The study of microorganisms coats itself in importance for interfering in the everyday life of the population resident of the field. The instruction in the field of microbiology allows a critical view on the importance of these beings for human health, for ecological balance, beside identifying its commercial use and economical importance. In this context, the professors of the disciplines of Biology are challenged to minister such a vast content, in a significantly way to their students. This study presents and discusses the results of na investigation carried out in nine public schools in the countryside of an irrigated area of the Submédio São Francisco, located in the surroundings of the Accounting Sciences Department of the Federal University of the São Francisco Valley (Univasf), in the city of Petrolina-PE. The research aimed to describe the teaching of Microbiology in rural schools. Questionnaires were applied to students and teachers in high school, with queationns involving aspects related to the teaching process, the concept and importance of microbiology in daily life. Teachers recognized the relevance of the theme and the students could relate it to their daily life. Regarding the use of practical activities , a large portion of the teachers stated that they don't use this pedagogical technique, fact that was ratified by the students. The difficulties in teaching microbiology, according to the questionnaire analysis, also include structural, material and management factors, as also the complexity of the nomenclature, which behave as obstacles in learning. However, most students enrolled for practical activities to improve understanding of the subject. In view of the results, it is necessary the development of new didactic strategies, for the purpose of improving the teaching-learning process of Microbiology in the field, the indispensable contents to be taught and discussed in the classroom.

Key words: Biology teaching, Field schools, Microorganisms.

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