



XX CONGRESSO BRASILEIRO DE PALEONTOLOGIA

21 A 26 DE OUTUBRO DE 2007 - BÚZIOS

ANAIS

A PALEONTOLOGIA CELEBRANDO A VIDA



DINOSAUR ICHNOCOENOSIS FROM SOUSA AND UIRAÚNA-BREJO DAS FREIRAS BASINS, NORTHEAST BRAZIL

Giuseppe Leonardi¹ & Ismar de Souza Carvalho²

¹7, Av. Chemin de la Forêt, Place Commerciale Ma Campagne, Kinshasa/Ngaliema République Démocratique du Congo;

²Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Instituto de Geociências - CCMN - Deptº de Geologia, 21949-900, Cidade Universitária - Ilha do Fundão - Rio de Janeiro-RJ - Brasil

gi-leonardi@simbatel.com, ismar@geologia.ufrj.br

Sousa and Uiraúna-Brejo das Freiras are two Cretaceous basins located on the west of Paraíba State, Northeast Brazil, and their origin are related to fault movements of the basement, during South Atlantic Ocean opening. Among the clastic continental sediments of these basins, dinosaur footprints are the most abundant paleobiological evidence. The main tetrapod ichnofauna comprises isolate footprints and trackways of large and small theropods, besides ornithopods. Sousa and Uiraúna-Brejo das Freiras basins comprise 32 ichnofossiliferous sites with at least 90 ichnofossiliferous levels. The dinosaurian ichnofaunas of these basins have the same stratigraphic-time-paleogeographical context, and represent parts of a widespread megatracksite. Altogether, the classified dinosaurian is more than 491 individuals. The environmental setting at that time (Berriasian to lower Barremian) was influenced by the initial development of the equatorial Atlantic seaway, with an endemic biota living nearby ephemeral rivers and shallow lakes under hot climatic conditions.