

Morphology of the genital accessory glands of the capuchin monkey (*Cebus apella* LINNAEUS, 1758)

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In the last thirty years, researches about the non-human primates have been developed with great interest, possibly because of the anatomical, physiologic and etiological similarity of these animals with the human species. The knowledge of their anatomy can represent an important factor for their preservation, protection and understanding of their evolution. The destruction of the capuchin monkey habitat has been progressively threatening, the survival of the species of the *Cebus* gender, due to this reason the study of these primates' life in captivity has its importance emphasized. The *Cebus apella* monkeys inhabit the forests of the South American continent and are geographically distributed along the Brazilian territory. The aim of this work is to study macro and microscopic aspects of the genital accessory glands (prostate, vesicular glands and bulbourethral) of the mentioned, species trying to contribute to enlarge the existent information as well as to supply subsidies for the anatomo-functional interpretations of this animal. Four adult males (of approximately seven years of age) have been used. Two were submitted to the macroscopic analysis procedures and the other two used in the histological preparations for light microscopy. The results showed relevant differences as for the form, however, the disposition and the location of their organs are identical when compared with the other non-human primates. By means of the light microscopy it was verified that the accessory genital glands present a differentiated architecture in relation to other previously studied species of primates, including man. *Cebus apella* comparative analyses of the structural components of the prostate, vesicular glands and bulbourethral glands have been performed in this work, and when results were compared to the other non-human primates, it has being evidenced a strong similarity among the representatives of the different species.