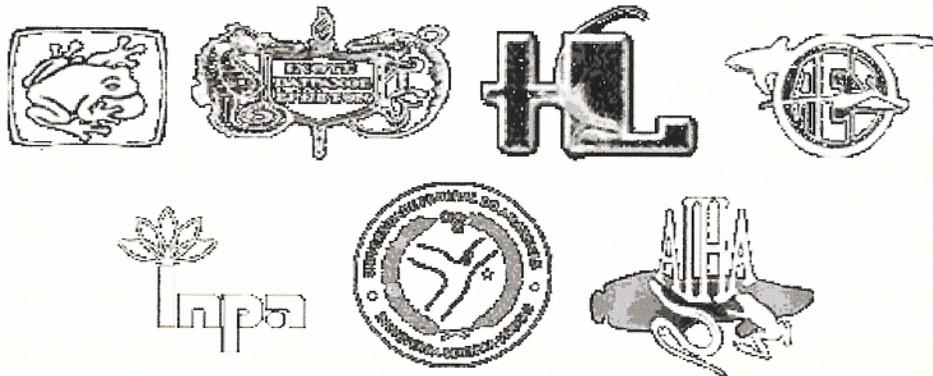




The Tropical Hotel Conference Center in Manaus, Amazonas, Brazil

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In caves the sun also rises: circadian rhythms among cave, surface, and hybrid *Astyanax fasciatus*

We studied the circadian rhythms in juveniles (< 6 mo.) of cave (troglomorphic), surface (eyed), and hybrids (F1 cave X surface) populations of the characid *Astyanax fasciatus* (Pisces: Characidae) raised under both, light and darkness conditions. Surface fish showed a marked circadian rhythms; cave fish were much more active than surface ones and although their circadian rhythms was less pronounced than for surface fish, it was still present. Hybrids showed a great deal of variability in their circadian activity. In general all fish were more active during daylight time. These results strongly suggest that circadian rhythms appear early on during development. They are also consistent with the close genetic affinity among these populations despite widely phenotypic differentiation.