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## DEMETRA ranked as B1 on CAPES' Report "Qualis Periódicos"

## DEMETRA avaliada como B1 no "Qualis Periódicos" da CAPES

We have received excellent news: DEMETRA has been assessed and ranked as B1 in the field of Social Service by the Coordination for the improvement of Higher Education Personnel (Capes). It is now one of the best Brazilian scientific journals!

A wonderful end-of-the-year gift: recognition for the serious academic work as well as the consistent focus on transdisciplinarity that we have been devoting to since 2006, especially in the interface between Food and Nutrition and Human Sciences!

Capes's "Qualis Periódicos" journal ranking system has been published since the end of 2016. This system ranks scientific journals in which professors and researchers of Brazilian *stricto sensu* graduate programs have recently published their articles. At DEMETRA, we are overjoyed to realize that our journal has been listed in several fields of Capes's Evaluation: we are reaching several fields of knowledge production, which meets the goals of our transdisciplinary editorial perspective. We are also happy about the higher ranking we have received from "Qualis Periódicos" in comparison with the last ranking in 2012, when we were listed in only a few fields of health sciences and were ranked as B4 or B5. Capes adopts a journal ranking system which identifies journals in descending order of relevance for each field of assessment: A1, A2, B1, B2, B3, B4 and B5. Journals ranked between A1 and B1 are the most appreciated and considered as having the "best quality" or "excellence"; thus, the authors of articles published therein, the graduate programs and the corresponding journals gain significant scientific capital.

We highlight the words of Rita Barata<sup>1</sup> in an article where she presents and discusses some points of the ranking system as regards journals ranked as C.

BARATA, Rita de Cássia Barradas. RBPG, Brasília, v. 13, n. 30, p. 13-40, Jan./Apr. 2016. Citation on pages 19 and 20.

Some fields of assessment use the C rank to disregard scientific articles published in non-indexed journals or journals that do not meet the minimum criteria established by Capes's Evaluation Committee. Therefore, production ranked as C would automatically be rejected. Also, there are a few fields that use the C rank to reject all production published in journals whose scope does not belong to the field of knowledge under evaluation. This is a questionable procedure because current science is increasingly interdisciplinary, and tight disciplinary limits often do not accurately reflect the knowledge that is being produced. Fortunately, there are few areas of assessment whose approach is so exclusively disciplinary. After all, a decision of this nature by the coordinator of the field of assessment or the evaluation committee may have deleterious effects on the possibilities of interdisciplinary cooperation.

The table below shows the inconsistency of this process: how can the same journal be considered as very good in one field (and ranked as A1, A2 and B1 on the assessment scale of Capes's "Qualis Periódicos") and ranked as C, concomitantly, in another field? The article mentioned above also points out this contradiction in the evaluation process of CAPES and highlights its tougher approach to interdisciplinary journals, precisely, as exemplified with the C ranking.

Ranking of journal *DEMETRA: Alimentação, Nutrição & Saúde* in some fields of assessment by Capes, Brazil, 2015.

Subject fields of Graduate Programs assessed by CAPES	QUALIS Periódicos Ranking in 2015
Social Service	B1
Sociology Anthropology / Archeology Business Administration	B3
Nursing Teaching Nutrition Odontology	B4
Biotechnology Agricultural Sciences I Applied Social Sciences I	B5
Biological Sciences I Pharmacy Medicine I	С

Source: Plataforma Sucupira. QUALIS Journals. Available (In Brazilian Portuguese) at: https://sucupira.capes.gov.br/sucupira/public/consultas/coleta/veiculoPublicacaoQualis/listaConsultaGeralPeriodicos.jsf. Accessed on: 12-30-2016

A serious problem that often poses obstacles to both the advancement of science geared towards Brazilian issues and the advancement of Brazilian scientific journals is disciplinarization of science. It has become increasingly hegemonic in fields situated within fields of knowledge within natural sciences, including Biomedicine. In addition, the Government has recently made announcements and adopted measures that betray the ideals of academic excellence. We are going through very difficult times in public universities. It is widely known that the State University of Rio de Janeiro, for example, has been victim to the outcomes of so-called economic austerity measures, with unpredictable negative academic implications in the medium and long term.

Yet, in the midst of adversity (whether economic, political or governmental, or even epistemological), we keep striving, and it is our deliberate intention to offer channels for dissemination of studies conducted in diverse scientific fields, focusing on both nutritional aspects and food-mediated social relations.

For these accomplishments and for our strength, congratulations to all of us!!

May the new year foster better and better disciplinary work!!!

Shirley Donizete Prado and Fabiana Bom Kraemer

**Editors**