

Embrapa researchers demand dismissal of Evaristo de Miranda



Sinpaf, the union that represents Embrapa workers, asked the company's management "to immediately dismiss Evaristo de Miranda from the advisory board of Embrapa's presidency", through a note published on Friday (28).

Last Tuesday (12), the The agronomist was denounced by scientists, in a scientific article in the Biological Conservation journal, as the author of false controversies and the driver of setbacks in the country's environmental policy.

"The attack on environmental policies was driven by an effort systematic and veiled process of a small group of opponents to misinform decision-makers and society", says the article, which mapped the tactics of Evaristo de Miranda's group to disseminate false information and also identified its impact on the weakening of public policies the last three decades.

The study shows, for example, how Miranda overestimated in 309% data on conservation action of riparian forests in a text by 2008. The publication was used by ruralist parliamentarians, the following year, as an argument to ask for the amendment of the Forest Code. In 2012, Congress approved a new version of the law with amnesty to 58% of illegal deforestation carried out until 2008.

The article also points out Miranda's influence on presidential speeches. When addressing the UN General Assembly in 2019, President Jair Bolsonaro used data from the author. At that time, Itamaraty guidelines sent to diplomats abroad also followed Miranda's data.

The research also analyzed the agronomist's curriculum on the Lattes platform. Although it mentions the publication of 28 texts as full scientific articles, only 17 of them were published in scientific journals. Among these, only ten articles are indexed in databases recognized by scientists.

Led by professor Raoni Rajão, from UFMG (Federal University of Minas Gerais), the study was produced by a group of 12 scientists from USP (University of São Paulo), Inpe, UnB (University of Brasília), UFSC (Federal University of Santa Catarina) and from the Autonomous University of Barcelona (Spain).

"There is a lot of evidence and proof that the performance of Evaristo de Miranda has been historically biased, manipulating data and information to support the elaboration of proposals and projects of laws with the objective of loosening and dilapidating the environmental legislation in favor of agribusiness", says the note from Sinpaf (National Union of Agricultural Research and Development Workers).

Embrapa has not commented on the case. In addition to the exoneration, the union asked the agency for "a public institutional position and the investigation of ongoing complaints through due legal process".

Sought after, Evaristo de Miranda did not return to the reporter's contacts.

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