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# Adolpho Ducke

**Adolpho Ducke** (October 19, 1876 – January 5, 1959), (also referred to as **Adolfo Ducke** and occasionally misspelled "**Duque**"), was a notable entomologist, botanist and ethnographer specializing in Amazonia. According to family records, he was an ethnic German with roots in Trieste Austro-Hungary (now in Italy). German was his first language; that is, the German commonly spoken in Trieste in the 19th century. Most of his books were written in German.

Recruited by Emílio Goeldi, Ducke began his work in Amazônia as an entomologist for the Museu Paraense Emílio Goeldi, but due to the influence of botanists Jacques Hüber and Paul Le Cointe, he switched to botany. He traveled throughout Amazônia to study the complicated tree system of the rainforest. He published 180 articles and monographs, primarily on the Leguminosae, and he described 900 species and 50 new genera. In 1918, while continuing his work for the Paraense Museum, he collaborated with the Rio de Janeiro Botanical Garden and the Instituto Agronômico do Norte. In the first half of the 20th century, he became one of the most respected authorities on the Amazonian flora. In 1954, his concerns about the future of the Amazonian forest led him to make a suggestion to the National Institute of Amazonian Research (INPA) for the creation of a nature reserve. He died in Fortaleza in 1959 before witnessing the fulfillment of his dream: In 1963, the Reserva Florestal Adolpho Ducke was established and named in his honour. Also named in his honour is a botanical garden east of Manaus, and the phytochemical research laboratory at the museum in Belém.

Ducke's entomological material is currently located at the Museu Paraense Emílio Goeldi in Belém, the Natural History Museum of Bern, the Museu de Zoologia of the University of São Paulo, and The Natural History Museum, in London. Ducke's general classification of the Neotropical social wasps is still used. Additionally, Ducke is known for his findings on the species *Melipona subnitida*, a species which he discovered and did significant field research on.<sup>[1]</sup>

## Honours

Adolpho Ducke	
<b>Born</b>	October 19, 1876 <div>Trieste, <u>Austria-Hungary</u></div>
<b>Died</b>	January 5, 1959 (aged 82) <div><u>Fortaleza</u>, <u>Ceará</u>, <u>Brazil</u></div>
<b>Citizenship</b>	<u>Brazilian</u>
<b>Known for</b>	Taxonomy of Amazon wasps, bees, and trees
<b>Awards</b>	<u>Reserva Florestal Adolpho Ducke</u> (in <u>Manaus</u> ) <div>Adolpho Ducke's Botanical Garden (in <u>Manaus</u>)</div>
Scientific career	
<b>Fields</b>	<u>Entomology</u> and <u>Botany</u>
<b>Institutions</b>	<u>Museu Paraense Emílio Goeldi</u> <div><u>Rio de Janeiro Botanical Garden</u></div>
<b>Doctoral advisor</b>	<u>Heinrich Fries</u>
<b>Influences</b>	<u>Jacques Hüber</u> & <u>Paul Le Cointe</u>
<b>Influenced</b>	<u>João Murça Pires</u>
<b>Author abbrev. (botany)</b>	Ducke

Adolpho Ducke has been honoured in the naming of several genera of plants including; *Duckea* (in 1958 <sup>[2]</sup>), *Duckeanthus* (in 1934 <sup>[3]</sup>), *Duckeella* (in 1939 <sup>[4]</sup>), *Duckeodendron* (in 1925 <sup>[5]</sup>) and *Duckesia* (in 1961 <sup>[6]</sup>).<sup>[7]</sup>

<b>Author abbrev.</b>	Ducke
<b>(zoology)</b>	

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