



TROPICAL DERMATOLOGY

BLASTOMICOSIS SUDAMERICANA

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Paracoccidioidomycoses is a systemic mycosis produced by *P. brasiliensis* that primarily involves the lung and can spread to mucous membranes, lymph nodes, skin and adrenal glands. About 10 million people live in the endemic areas that correspond to tropical humid forest areas in Latin America; more than 80% of the cases are in Brazil, Colombia and Venezuela. Patients are men farmers between 18 and 60 years old.

P. brasiliensis is a dimorphic fungus that grows at room temperature in the form of white cottony colonies with abundant chlamydospores. At 37 degrees develops the yeast form with multiple narrow-based daughter cells attached to the mother cell classically described as "micky mouse cells" or "cells in boat rudder", easily identifiable with 10% KOH.

Here we present the case of a 32 year old man farmer who has lost 30 kg in the last 4 months and has disseminated skin lesions. Except for anemia, the other tests were normal. In the direct examination of skin lesions, paracoccidioidomycoses yeasts were evidenced. 200 mg of itraconazole were daily administered for 8 months with recovery of the patient.

