

ABSTRACT
SPELEO BRAZIL 2001

Brasília DF, 15-22 de julho de 2001

13th International Congress of Speleology
4th Speleological Congress of Latin América and Caribbean
26th Brazilian Congress of Speleology

Laboratório II: Uma nova cavidade no bairro da Serra Iporanga/SP

Francisco José Sarpa LIMA & Maurício de Alcântara MARINHO

Grupo Pierre Martin de Espeleologia, entidade filiada à Sociedade Brasileira de Espeleologia

Web-Site: www.gpme.org.br e-mail: gpme@gpme.org.br

In 1995 the GPME (Pierre Martin Speleology Group) undertook an exploratory job after the "Ressurgência das Areias" Cave siphon, better known as "Gruta do Laboratório" (Laboratory Cave), previously mentioned in R. Krone's researches by the end of the 19th century. After the crossing of the siphon, a topographical and exploratory undertaking took place which resulted in the discovery of the cave's continuity, reaching 920m (3,018 ft) in development and 72m (236 ft) in depth. Its morphological axis is parallel to the previously known segment and has been denominated "Laboratório II". It consists in a cavity characterized by large salons where the ground collapsed and galleries ornamented by both monumental speleothemes and extremely delicate formations, creating an environment of rare beauty. This work describes the cave's exploration and documentation historical, touristic and visiting issues, as well as its scientific research potential.