

Underwater world

Various fish swim among the corals where they live, sometimes in large schools. They are unaware that their habitat was only recently discovered and has just been christened "Coralline Hills." These reefs are composed of calcareous algae and grow on volcanic seamounts in the Vitória-Trindade chain, an underwater mountain range hundreds of kilometers long off the central Brazilian coast and located at depths of approximately 60 meters. "The configuration and diversity are different to what we have seen in other locations," says marine biologist Hudson Pinheiro.

Image submitted by Hudson Pinheiro of the Center for Marine Biology at the University of São Paulo (CEBIMAR-USP)