A list of \_\_ potential observation sites for *Dolomedes dondalei* within the Waikato region was constituted according to its currently known habitats. As fishing spiders are known to be more active at night, each sites surveys were led at night to assess the presence of the species. In addition, night surveys enabled to easily localize the individuals thanks to the light reflection of their eyes. For each site where *Dolomedes dondalei* (see Results) was present, regular weekly surveys were performed at night too. At each survey, as much individuals as possible were caught, sexed and their development stage estimated, before being released. Duration of fieldworks remained constant each week. Furthermore, mature individuals were weighted and sized before being released. Finally, penultimate individuals were collected and brought back to laboratory for mating experiments.

In laboratory,