

# Bat survey of the lower Juruena River and five new records for the state of Mato Grosso, Brazil

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## ABSTRACT

The northern Brazilian state of Mato Grosso is considered an important biogeographical region, but has many sampling gaps. Apart from the well-documented non volant mammal community in the region, the bat fauna still poorly recorded. The aim of this study was to record the bat species of Juruena National Park, northern Mato Grosso, Brazil. Nineteen sites were sampled using mist-nets placed at ground level and near potential bat roosts. We collected 115 individuals belonging to 35 species and five families, which increased the number of species known for Mato Grosso's Amazon from 86 to 91. The five new records were: *Peropteryx kappleri*, *Peropteryx leucoptera*, *Lonchorhina inusitata*, *Tonatia saurophila*, and *Artibeus concolor*. Our results pointed out the necessity of more studies in order to better estimate the bat diversity in northern Mato Grosso.

**KEYWORDS:** Chiroptera, diversity, range extension, southern Amazon

## Fauna de morcegos no baixo Rio Juruena, com cinco novos registros para o estado do Mato Grosso, Brasil

## RESUMO

O norte do estado do Mato Grosso é uma importante região para estudos biogeográficos com muitos hiatos de amostragem sendo a fauna de morcegos pobemente conhecida. O objetivo deste estudo foi fornecer uma lista de morcegos para o Parque Nacional do Juruena, norte do Mato Grosso, Brasil. Foram amostrados 19 sítios e empregadas redes-de-neblina ao nível do solo e próximos a abrigos potenciais de morcegos. Foram coletados 115 indivíduos representando 35 espécies e cinco famílias, aumentando de 86 para 91 o número de espécies conhecidas para a Amazônia no Mato Grosso. Houve cinco novos registros para a porção amazônica do estado: *Peropteryx kappleri*, *Peropteryx leucoptera*, *Lonchorhina inusitata*, *Tonatia saurophila* e *Artibeus concolor*. Os resultados indicam a necessidade de mais estudos para uma melhor estimativa da diversidade no norte do Mato Grosso.

**PALAVRAS-CHAVE:** Chiroptera, diversidade, extensão de distribuição, sul da Amazônia

The southern and western Brazilian Amazon has long been considered a high priority area for scientific investigations, including basic information about its biodiversity (Bernard *et al.* 2011a; Louzada *et al.* 2015). Southern Brazilian Amazonia encompasses basically the southern portions of the states of Amazonas and Pará, and northern Mato Grosso. Since the 1970's this area has been subject to a variety of anthropogenic impacts, including logging, mining, and the expansion of commercial and subsistence agriculture (Ferreira *et al.* 2014). Mato Grosso has lost approximately 13 million hectares of forest (35 % of a total of 37 million hectares deforested in the Brazilian Amazônia) from 2001 to 2009 (MDIC 2012). The rapid regional expansion of human activities contrasts strongly with the paucity of data on biological communities in the area (Bernard *et al.* 2011a). As a result of the few studies conducted there, northern Mato Grosso was considered to have about 11 to 22 species of bats (Miranda-Ribeiro 1914; Bernard *et al.* 2011a). Recently, and applying a higher sampling effort, Miranda *et al.* (2015) recorded 33 species along the middle Teles Pires River, which is a more realistic bat richness for an Amazonian site in Mato Grosso State.

Here we present data on a bat survey conducted during a REA (Rapid Ecological Assessment) in Juruena National Park (PNJu), northern Mato Grosso, which includes five new bat records for the state. PNJu has 1.9 million hectares and encompasses the municipalities of Apiacás, Nova Bandeirantes, Colniza and Crotiguáçu (Mato Grosso State), and Apuí and Maués (Amazonas State). The study site ( $8^{\circ}55'35.32''S$ ,  $58^{\circ}34'27.75''W$ ) is located in a transitional zone between the rainforest of the Amazon biome and the savannah of the Cerrado biome.

The region is characterized by a flat topography with small patches of hilly terrain (elevation ranges from 40 m to 457 m, mean of 185 m a.s.l.). PNJu lies mostly within the Tapajós River basin, which is formed by two secondary sub-basins: the Juruena and Teles Pires-Arinos, but includes a small part of the Madeira River basin (Santos and Irgang 2008). The Park is covered predominantly with terra firme dense forest and flooded alluvial ombrophylous forests. Small patches of savannah and seasonal semi-deciduous forest also occur. An equatorial climate dominates the region, with temperatures between 24°C and 26°C. Rains are abundant and regular, with annual rainfall ranging from 2,000 to 2,500mm during a short dry season (June to September) and a rainy season from October to April. The annual mean humidity varies between 80% and 90% (ICMBio 2011).

Bats were sampled from 12 to 28 November 2007 and from 25 February to 15 March 2008, both during the rainy season. Bats were captured with mist nets placed in the understory, between flooded and terra-firme forests. Nets were operated on average for two nights per study site (19

study sites sampled; Table 2), totaling 38 sampled nights. Three seven meter nets were operated from 18:00 h until 00:00 h and total capture effort was 4,872 net-meter-hours. Some individuals were collected by searching diurnal roosts in tree cavities, foliage, culverts, and abandoned buildings. Bats were collected following the protocols of Sikes *et al.* (2011). Captures occurred under permission number SISBIO # 12171. Voucher specimens are presently housed at the Mammal Collection of the Universidade Federal de Lavras (CMUFLA) (Appendix 1).

A total of 115 individuals were collected (Table 1). Of the total collected specimens, 82 were captured in mist nets and 33 were captured in roosts (Tables 1 and 2). Thirty-five species from five families were recorded (Table 1), which is a number slightly higher than Miranda *et al.* (2015) (33 species and five families) for the middle Teles Pires River (MT). As in many other Amazonian bat inventories (e.g., Simmons and Voss 1998; Lim *et al.* 2005; Miranda *et al.* 2015) the most diverse groups recorded were frugivore phyllostomids (14 species), animalivore phyllostomids (nine species), and insectivorous emballonurids (six species). Among the recorded species there are five new records for the state of Mato Grosso and a range extension for the southern Amazon basin, increasing the bat diversity from 86 (Bernard *et al.* 2011b; Louzada *et al.* 2015) to 91 species (Table 1) for Amazonian Mato Grosso. The new records are: *Peropteryx kappleri*, *P. leucoptera*, *Lonchorhina inusitata*, *Tonatia saurophila*, and *Artibeus concolor*. Though Bernard *et al.* (2011b) included *Carollia castanea* in their list of bats for the Brazilian Amazon, Nogueira *et al.* (2014) excluded that species from the Brazilian list and we therefore do not consider it to be present in Mato Grosso. Regarding the new records for the state of Mato Grosso, the closest record of *P. kappleri* is Beni (Bolivia) roughly 1,000 km southwest of PNJu; for *P. leucoptera*, Alter do Chão (Pará, Brazil) is 850 km northeast; for *L. inusitata*, Porto Velho (Rondônia, Brazil) is about 560 km west; for *A. concolor*, Altamira, Xingu river (Pará, Brazil) is 930 km northeast; and for *T. saurophila*, Cachoeira Nazaré (Rondônia, Brazil) is about 370 km west (Gardner 2008).

There were three specimens of *Platyrrhinus angustirostris* collected from here that were first mentioned in Nogueira *et al.* (2014) after identification confirmation by P. Velazco. The specimens had most of the diagnostic characters such as U-shaped uropatagium, metacarpal V longer than IV, and three stylar cusps on PM4. Some traits, however, were distinct from the original description of the species (Velazco *et al.* 2010), in particular the reduced number of vibrissae (six instead eight) around the noseleaf.

PNJu has a strategic position in the Corredor de Conservação da Amazônia Meridional, ensuring environmental connectivity between protected areas in the far north of Mato

**Table 1.** List of bat species recorded to Juruena River, Mato Grosso State, Brazil. Roost = active search on the roosts; net = captured by mist-nets. Nomenclature and classificatory arrangement follows Nogueira *et al.* (2014).

Taxa	N	Capture	Taxa	N	Capture			
<b>Family Emballonuridae</b>								
<i>Peropteryx kappleri</i> Peters, 1867*	3	roost (hollow logs)	<i>Carollia benkeithi</i> Solari & Baker, 2006	2	net			
<i>Peropteryx leucoptera</i> Peters, 1867*	1	roost (hollow logs)	<i>Carollia brevicauda</i> (Schinz, 1821)	5	net			
<i>Peropteryx macrotis</i> (Wagner, 1843)	10	roost (hollow logs)	<i>Carollia perspicillata</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	15	net			
<i>Rhynchoycteris naso</i> (Wied-Neuwied, 1820)	3	roost (leaning tree trunk over water)	<b>Subfamily Rhinophyllinae</b>					
<i>Saccopteryx bilineata</i> (Temminck, 1838)	6	roost (buttresses in tree trunks)	<i>Rhinophylla pumilio</i> Peters, 1865	2	net			
<i>Saccopteryx leptura</i> (Schreber, 1774)	1	roost (over standing tree trunk)	<b>Subfamily Stenodermatinae</b>					
<b>Family Phyllostomidae</b>								
<b>Subfamily Micronycterinae</b>								
<i>Micronycteris microtis</i> Miller, 1898	2	net	<i>Artibeus concolor</i> Peters, 1865*	1	net			
<b>Subfamily Lonchorhininae</b>			<i>Artibeus lituratus</i> (Olfers, 1818)	9	net			
<i>Lonchorhina inusitata</i> Handley & Ochoa, 1997*	2	net	<i>Artibeus obscurus</i> (Schinz, 1821)	4	net			
<b>Subfamily Phyllostominae</b>			<i>Artibeus planirostris</i> (Spix, 1823)	5	net			
<i>Chrotopterus auritus</i> (Peters, 1856)	1	net	<i>Chiroderma trinitatum</i> Goodwin, 1958	1	net			
<i>Lophostoma silvicolum</i> D'Orbigny, 1836	6	net	<i>Chiroderma villosum</i> Peters, 1860	2	net			
<i>Phylloderma stenops</i> (Peters, 1865)	2	net	<i>Dermanura gnoma</i> (Handley, 1987)	6	net			
<i>Phyllostomus hastatus</i> (Pallas, 1767)	2	net	<i>Mesophylla macconnelli</i> Thomas, 1901	1	net			
<i>Phyllostomus elongatus</i> (Geoffroy, 1810)	1	net	<i>Platyrrhinus angustirostris</i> Velazco, Gardner & Patterson, 2010	3	net			
<i>Trachops cirrhosus</i> (Spix, 1823)	1	net	<i>Uroderma bilobatum</i> Peters, 1866	2	net			
<i>Tonatia saurophila</i> Koopman & Williams, 1951*	1	net	<i>Vampyressa thyone</i> Thomas, 1909	1	net			
<b>Subfamily Glossophaginae</b>			<b>Family Mormoopidae</b>					
<i>Glossophaga soricina</i> (Pallas, 1766)	3	net	<i>Pteronotus parnellii</i> (Gray, 1843)	4	roost (hollow logs)			
* First record for the Mato Grosso State								
<i>Pteronotus personatus</i> (Wagner, 1843)								
<b>Family Noctilionidae</b>								
<i>Noctilios albiventris</i> Desmarest, 1818	2	net	<b>Family Vespertilionidae</b>					
<i>Myotis nigricans</i> (Geoffroy, 1824)								
4 roost (hollow logs)								

**Table 2.** Localities, habitats, and bat species collected in the Juruena National Park, northern Mato Grosso State.

Locality name	Coordinates	Habitat	Bat species
Prainha – Left margin of Juruena River (camping)	8°54'32.0"S 58°33'27.6"W	Ombrophilous dense forest	<i>M. microtis</i> , <i>L. silvicolum</i> , <i>P. stenops</i> , <i>T. cirrhosus</i> , <i>C. perspicillata</i> , <i>A. lituratus</i> , <i>P. parnellii</i> , and <i>P. personatus</i>
Right Margin of Juruena River	8°54'14.9"S 58°33'30.2"W	Ombrophilous dense forest	<i>C. perspicillata</i> and <i>A. concolor</i>
Serra do Apiacás	8°56'17.4"S 58°33'39.6"W	Ombrophilous dense forest	<i>P. macrotis</i> , <i>S. leptura</i> , <i>P. hastatus</i> , <i>G. soricina</i> , <i>C. perspicillata</i> , <i>C. trinitatum</i> , <i>M. macconnelli</i> , <i>P. angustirostris</i> , and <i>U. bilobatum</i>
Ilha do Juruena	8°53'25.0"S 58°33'47.4"W	Ombrophilous dense forest	<i>C. perspicillata</i>
São João River trail	8°57'02.7"S 58°32'41.4"W	Ombrophilous dense forest/open forest	<i>P. leucoptera</i> , <i>R. naso</i> , <i>S. bilineata</i> , <i>L. inusitata</i> , <i>L. silvicolum</i> , <i>A. lituratus</i> , <i>N. albiventris</i> , and <i>M. nigricans</i>
Murilândia	9°00'43.3"S 58°36'02.1"W	Ombrophilous dense forest/open forest	None
Cedro trail	8°50'57.5"S 58°28'17.1"W	Ombrophilous dense forest/open forest	<i>C. auritus</i> , <i>P. elongatus</i> , <i>T. saurophila</i> , and <i>A. obscurus</i>
Campinarana	8°47'51.3"S 58°26'03.5"W	Ombrophilous dense forest/open savannah	<i>C. villosum</i>

Locality name	Coordinates	Habitat	Bat species
Casa de Palha (Camping)	8°08'41.8"S 58°17'51.4"W	Ombrophilous dense forest/forested savannah	<i>P. kappleri</i> , <i>P. macrotis</i> , <i>L. silvicolum</i> , <i>C. perspicillata</i> , and <i>A. planirostris</i>
São Tomé River, right margin	8°12'06.0"S 58°11'18.1"W	Ombrophilous dense forest/open forest/forested savannah	<i>C. perspicillata</i> and <i>A. planirostris</i>
São Tomé River, left margin	8°12'27.2"S 58°12'11.3"W	Ombrophilous open forest/forested savanna/open savannah	<i>C. perspicillata</i> and <i>P. parnellii</i>
Juruena River, manioc plantation	8°06'44.1"S 58°17'20.1"W	Ombrophilous dense forest/open forest/forested savannah	<i>L. silvicolum</i> , <i>P. hastatus</i> , and <i>A. concolor</i>
São Simão Archaeological Site	8°13'28.3"S 58°19'02.4"W	Fluvio-lacustrine vegetation/forested savannah	None
Camping	7°36'57.2"S 57°56'54.6"W	Ombrophilous dense forest/open forest	<i>L. silvicolum</i> , <i>C. benkeithi</i> , <i>C. perspicillata</i> , and <i>A. planirostris</i>
Taperinha Igapó	7°39'24.3"S 57°56'26.9"W	Ombrophilous dense forest/open forest	None
Morrote	7°34'05.1"S 57°57'56.2"W	Ombrophilous dense forest/open forest	<i>P. kappleri</i> , <i>A. planirostris</i> , and <i>V. thyone</i>
Fruit plantation (camping)	7°17'19.5"S 58°10'38.9"W	Ombrophilous dense forest/open forest	<i>C. benkeithi</i> , <i>C. brevicauda</i> , <i>A. obscurus</i> , <i>A. planirostris</i> , and <i>U. bilobatum</i>
Surucucu, Vila de Colares (camping)	6°58'41.9"S 58°21'56.6"W	Ombrophilous open forest/forested savanna	<i>C. brevicauda</i> and <i>A. planirostris</i>
Taboca Road (Trilha do Garimpo)	6°58'14.9"S 58°23'38.0"W	Ombrophilous open forest/forested savanna	<i>P. kappleri</i> and <i>P. macrotis</i>

Grosso, and making it one of the most effective strategies in controlling deforestation and conservation of Amazonian ecosystems (BRASIL 2004). In this sense, estimation of diversity and other basic information on fauna can be useful for conservation purposes, and despite the low sampling effort, which is common in Rapid Ecological Assessments, species richness was relatively high, and the highest for a single study site in Mato Grosso, to date. These results reinforce the need for inventories in areas with gaps in biogeographical and ecological knowledge, such as southern Amazonia. Furthermore, this enhances the role of PNJu for biodiversity conservation in the Southern Amazon.

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**APPENDIX 1 – LIST OF VOUCHER SPECIMENS  
THAT ARE FLUID-PRESERVED AND HOUSED AT  
CMUFLA.**

*Artibeus concolor*: 1296; *Artibeus lituratus*: 1286, 1291, 1300, 1303, 1306-1308, 1311, 1312; *Artibeus obscurus*: 1287, 1288, 1301, 1302; *Artibeus planirostris*: 1279, 1280, 1286, 1292, 1294; *Carollia benkeithi*: 1238, 1239; *Carollia brevicauda*: 1242, 1246, 1257-1259; *Carollia perspicillata*: 1240, 1241, 1243-1245, 1247-1256; *Chiroderma trinitatum*: 1284; *Chiroderma villosum*: 1290, 1299; *Chrotopterus auritus*: 1270; *Dermanura gnomus*: 1278, 1281, 1283, 1293, 1295, 1304; *Glossophaga soricina*: 1321-1323; *Lophostoma silvicolum*: 1260, 1261, 1263, 1271, 1273, 1275; *Lonchorhina inusitata*: 1264, 1265; *Mesophylla macconnelli*: 1297; *Micronycteris microtis*: 1266; *Myotis nigricans*: 1324-1326; *Noctilio albiventris*: 1313, 1314; *Peropteryx kappleri*: 1218, 1221, 1226; *Peropteryx leucoptera*: 1320; *Peropteryx macrotis*: 1220, 1222-1225, 1233, 1234; *Phylloderma stenops*: 1276, 1277; *Phyllostomus elongatus*: 1274; *Phyllostomus hastatus*: 1267, 1272; *Platyrrhinus angustirostris*: 1298, 13009, 1310; *Pteronotus parnelli*: 1315, 1316, 1318, 1319; *Pteronotus personatus*: 1317; *Rhinchonycterys naso*: 1227-1229; *Rhinophylla pumilio*: 1236, 1237; *Saccopteryx bilineata*: 1217, 1230-1232, 1235; *Saccopteryx leptura*: 1327; *Tonatia saurophila*: 1269; *Trachops cirrhosus*: 1262; *Uroderma bilobatum*: 1282, 1305; *Vampyressa thyone*: 1285.