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Predation of *Chironius flavolineatus* (Squamata: Colubridae) by *Nystalus maculatus* (Piciformes: Bucconidae)

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RESUMO. Predação de *Chironius flavolineatus* (Squamata: Colubridae) por *Nystalus maculatus* (Piciformes: Bucconidae). Em 24 de junho de 1994, na região de Três Lagoas - MS (20° 59' S, 51° 46' W), os autores capturaram com rede de nylon um indivíduo de *Nystalus maculatus*, tendo em seu bico uma serpente *Chironius flavolineatus*. O registro adiciona este item alimentar na dieta deste Bucconidae.

PALAVRAS-CHAVE: Bucconidae, *Chironius*, *Nystalus*, predação.

KEYWORDS: Bucconidae, *Chironius*, *Nystalus*, predation.

The diet of *Nystalus maculatus* (Aves, Bucconidae) consists of lizards and insects (Sick 1985), caught on the ground from perching position in trees (Dubs 1992). During the course of a banding project in an area of *cerrado* (Brazilian savanna) in Três Lagoas, Mato Grosso do Sul State, Brazil (20°59'S, 51°46'W), an individual of *Nystalus maculatus* was captured on June 24, 1995 at 11:30 with a mist net (12 x 2m, 36 mm mesh). The bird was 183 mm long and was marked with a metal band from CEMAVE/IBAMA (H28161) and released.

At the moment of the capture, the bird was ingesting a female *Chironius flavolineatus* (Squamata: Colubridae) 442 mm long and weighting 5 g. The bird had already ingested about one-fourth of the snake, head first. The head of the snake was severely damaged, suggesting that the bird directed its attack to that region.

The snake was collected and deposited at the Natural History Museum at Campinas State University (UNICAMP), in Campinas, São Paulo state, Brazil

(ZUEC 01835). This is the first record of predation of this snake by *Nystalus maculatus*.

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