

New record of *Tyrannus dominicensis* for Brazil

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ABSTRACT: *Tyrannus dominicensis*, a boreal migrant from the northern hemisphere, was observed and photographed in an area of “terra firme”, at Tefé, Amazonas state, substantiating the presence of this species in the state. This is the southernmost record of the Grey Kingbird in Brazil.

KEY-WORDS: Amazon, Grey Kingbird, Migrant, North America, Tefé.

The Grey Kingbird, *Tyrannus dominicensis*, is a boreal migrant with populations migrating from south-east North Carolina, Georgia, south-east Mississippi and Florida (USA) to the Caribbean, Panama and northern South America (Dittmann *et al.* 2006, Doyle 2013). Besides the southern USA, its breeding range covers the Antilles, including Bahamas, Cuba, Jamaica and Turks and Caicos (Phillips, 1994), where the species is largely resident; some authors include northern Colombia and Venezuela as well (Post, 2013).

The first record in Brazil was made by Moscovits *et al.* (1985) in Roraima state, but as it lacked documentation it was included by the Brazilian Ornithological Records Committee in its secondary list (Naka *et al.* 2006). Recently, Olmos *et al.* (2013) obtained the first documented record for Brazil in Amapá state. Here, we present a new record of *T. dominicensis* for Brazil from Tefé, Amazonas state, northern Brazil.

The region of Tefé holds several important conservation units in the central Amazon, such as the Tefé National Forest (NF), Catuá-Ipixuna Extractive Reserve (ER), Amaná Sustainable Development Reserve (SDR), and Mamirauá SDR. The first three reserves are mostly on “terra firme” forest and the last on a floodplain forest or “várzea” (Ayres, 2006; Amazonas, 2010). Both SDR’s and the ER have been surveyed for birds and species lists are available, although the NF has only a preliminary one (Mamirauá 2014). None of the bird surveys made in these conservation units so far mention *T. dominicensis* in their lists.

On 27 February 2015, a *T. dominicensis* individual was seen on the grounds of the Mamirauá Sustainable Development Institute (3°21'S, 65°16'W), located in

the town of Tefé, Amazonas state. The area is a mix of secondary and mature “terra firme” forest surrounding the black water Tefé Lake (Figure 1). The bird was perched on the edge of a secondary forest, behaving as other congeners of the genus *Tyrannus* and foraging by sailing for insects in an open area.



FIGURE 1. A Grey Kingbird, *Tyrannus dominicensis*, recorded on 27 February 2015 at Mamirauá Sustainable Development Institute, Tefé, Amazonas. Photo^o P. M. Nassar.

The diagnosis of the species was possible through the gray belly, chest and throat, grey cap contrasting with the black mask, light yellow crissum and broad thick bill (Figure 1), the bird being very distinctive from other species of *Tyrannus* (*T. melancholicus*, *T. albogularis*, and *T. savanna*) recorded in the area.

Our record documents the presence of the *T. dominicensis* in the Amazonas state and so far is the southernmost one for Brazil. All previous three records of the Grey Kingbird in Brazil are from the Amazon region (Moscovits *et al.* 1985, Olmos *et al.* 2013, present paper).

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