

# A new southern limit for the distribution of the Thrush-Like Wren, *Campylorhynchus turdinus* (Aves: Troglodytidae)

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**ABSTRACT:** We report the first record of the Thrush-like Wren *Campylorhynchus turdinus* (Wied, 1831) in the Rio Grande do Sul state, at the city of Santa Maria, Brazil. The record, in which the individual vocalized and changed its perch constantly, was held on April 2015. We extend the known distribution range of the *C. turdinus*, and establish a new southern limit for its geographic distribution, approximately 460 km from the previous record in Paraná. For the state of Rio Grande do Sul, Helmut Sick reported the presence of the *C. turdinus* in 1972. However, the occurrence was considered hypothetical because did not agree with its distribution pattern. Therefore, our record of *C. turdinus* for the state of Rio Grande do Sul update the list for this state.

**KEY-WORDS:** Brazil, occurrence, record, Rio Grande do Sul.

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The Thrush-like Wren, *Campylorhynchus turdinus* (Wied, 1831), is a polytypic species of Troglodytidae distributed across Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Paraguay and Brazil (Ridgely & Tudor 1994, review in Sick 1997, Narosky & Yzurieta 2003, Sigrist 2009). In Brazil, the Thrush-like Wren occurs at higher altitudes in humid forests throughout western Amazonia as well as in a strip of Atlantic coastal forest in Brazil (Ridgely & Tudor 1994, review in Sick 1997, Sigrist 2009). The only record in southern Brazil was in the state of Paraná (Bencke *et al.* 2008). However, after observing one individual in the wild, we confirm the presence of this species in Rio Grande do Sul, the southernmost state in Brazil. Therefore, we extend the known distribution range of the *C. turdinus*, and establish a new southern limit for its geographic distribution, approximately 460 km from the record in Paraná.

The current *C. turdinus* record occurred on 26 April 2015, in the urban area of Santa Maria city (29°40'25"S; 53°47'52"W). Santa Maria is located in an ecotone area, surrounded southwards by the Pampa Biome and northwards by the Atlantic Forest Biome (Marchiori 2009, IBGE 2016). The region where the bird was photographed is located in the northeastern urban zone of the city, bordering hills of part of the slope of the Plateau of Rio Grande do Sul. It belongs to the hydrological basin

of the Jacuí River, and is mainly covered by secondary Semideciduous Seasonal Forest (Marchiori 2009).

The observed individual (Figure 1) vocalized and changed its perch constantly. It was observed together with an individual of Southern House Wren, *Troglodytes musculus* (Naumann, 1823), both moving through tree branches. It was also sighted under attack by a House Sparrow, *Passer domesticus* (Linnaeus, 1758).

For the state of Rio Grande do Sul, Helmut Sick recorded the presence of the *C. turdinus* (in Belton 1994). However, Bencke *et al.* (2010) mentioned the occurrence of the *C. turdinus* in Rio Grande do Sul as hypothetical, given that it was based on unreliable information, and noted that its occurrence did not agree with its distribution pattern (Bencke *et al.* 2010). In 2008, individuals of the *C. turdinus* were observed in the state of Paraná (Bencke *et al.* 2008). According to Bencke *et al.* (2008), sighting at western Paraná was not unexpected, given that Rey & Zurita (2004) recorded specimens in the province of Misiones, Argentina, which borders the state of Paraná. We hypothesize that the distribution of *C. turdinus* varies in its southern region, as attested by reports of the species from western Paraná. However, it was expected that the first current records of the Thrush-like Wren would occur in northwestern Rio Grande do Sul, *e.g.* at the Turvo State Park. This Park, whose forest is connected to that



FIGURE 1. Thrush-Like Wren, *Campylorhynchus turdinus*, photographed at Santa Maria, Rio Grande do Sul state, on 26 April 2015.



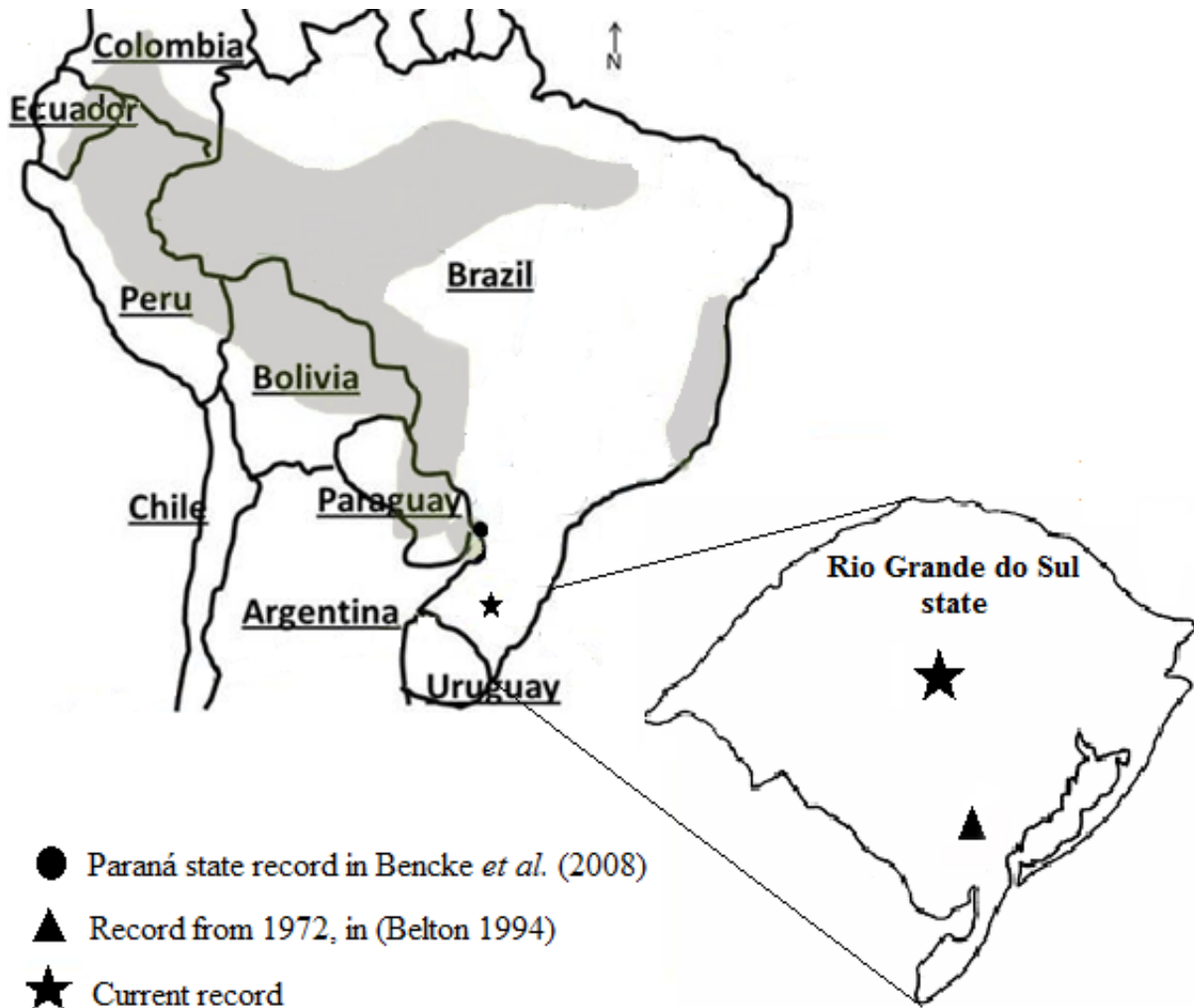


FIGURE 2. Distribution map of *Campylorhynchus turdinus* (shaded area) and records mentioned in the text. Map based on www.birdlife.org and Belton (1994). Base map: Google Maps.

of the province of Misiones, has provided suitable habitat for several bird species occurring along the Paraná Valley, e.g. *Buteo platypterus* (Vieillot, 1823) (Meller & Bencke 2012), *Falco rufigularis* (Daudin, 1800) (Meller 2013), *Turdus flavipes* (Vieillot, 1818) (Meller 2013), and *Harpia harpyja* (Linnaeus, 1758) (Meller & Guadagnin 2016).

We reject the hypothesis that the observed individual originated from illegal trade or casual release for two reasons. First, Helmut Sick observed individuals of *C. turdinus* on 26 November 1972, in Invernada farm, near Canguçu city (31°23'44"S; 52°41'11"W) (Belton 1994). Second, the species is absent from lists of seizure of wild birds illegally traded (Ferreira & Glock 2004, Araujo *et al.* 2010, RENCITAS 2011, Destro *et al.* 2012, Felker *et al.* 2013). Moreover, several residents from the city of Santa Maria (where the individuals were sighted in 2015) asserted not to know the bird. The record of the *C. turdinus* for the state of Rio Grande do Sul update the list of birds for this state (Bencke *et al.* 2010), as this species was assumed to be hypothetical for this state, but had been documented in the current study.

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