

First record of *Anous minutus* in the state of Amapá, Brazil

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ABSTRACT: We present the first record of *Anous minutus* for the state of Amapá, Brazil, and only the second for the whole Amazonian region. Within Brazil *A. minutus* is restricted as a breeder to Fernando de Noronha, Atol das Rocas, São Pedro and São Paulo and Martin Vaz/Trindade archipelagos, with records of vagrants from the states of Ceará and São Paulo. We photographed a single bird at the Maracá-Jipioca Ecological Station, on the 10 December 2015, west of the Maracá do Sul Island in an area known as Ponta Sul. To our knowledge this is the first record from Amapá and only the second from northern Brazil and the Amazon region.

KEY-WORDS: black noddy, Maracá-Jipioca Ecological Station, seabirds, vagrancy.

The Black Noddy *Anous minutus* Boie, 1844 has a wide distribution, occurring in tropical and subtropical islands in the Caribbean, mid-Atlantic, western and central Pacific, northeast Indian Ocean (Gauger 1999). In Brazil, it breeds on Fernando de Noronha, Atol das Rocas, São Pedro and São Paulo, and Martin Vaz, near Trindade Island (Murphy 1915, Antas 1991, Sick 1997, Both & Freitas 2004, Mancini *et al.* 2016). Along the Brazilian coast there are records of vagrants from Fortaleza, state of Ceará and the Ilha Comprida in the state of São Paulo (Girão *et al.* 2008, Barbieri *et al.* 2010). The only record for the Amazon region is a male, collected at Vigia Beach, Pará state, in 20 January 1926, and housed at the Museu de Zoologia, Universidade de São Paulo (MZUSP No. 12096).

We discovered the first *A. minutus* for the state of Amapá (Figure 1) during a survey of vertebrates at the Maracá-Jipioca Ecological Station. This station (*Estação Ecológica Maracá-Jipioca - EEMJ*) is a Conservation Unit under full protection and consists of Maracá Island, which is divided into Maracá do Norte and Maracá do Sul by the Igarapé do Inferno Channel and the Jipioca Island, which receives a high diversity of migratory birds (Xavier & Boss 2011). The individual was sighted west of Maracá do Sul Island in an area known as Ponta Sul (01°52'09"N; 050°26'03"W), on 10 December 2015 at 11:00 h and observed for 17 min. During this time, the bird was observed in flight and resting on the water as well as along the margins of the island (Figure 1). Separation from Brown Noddy (*Anous stolidus*) was based

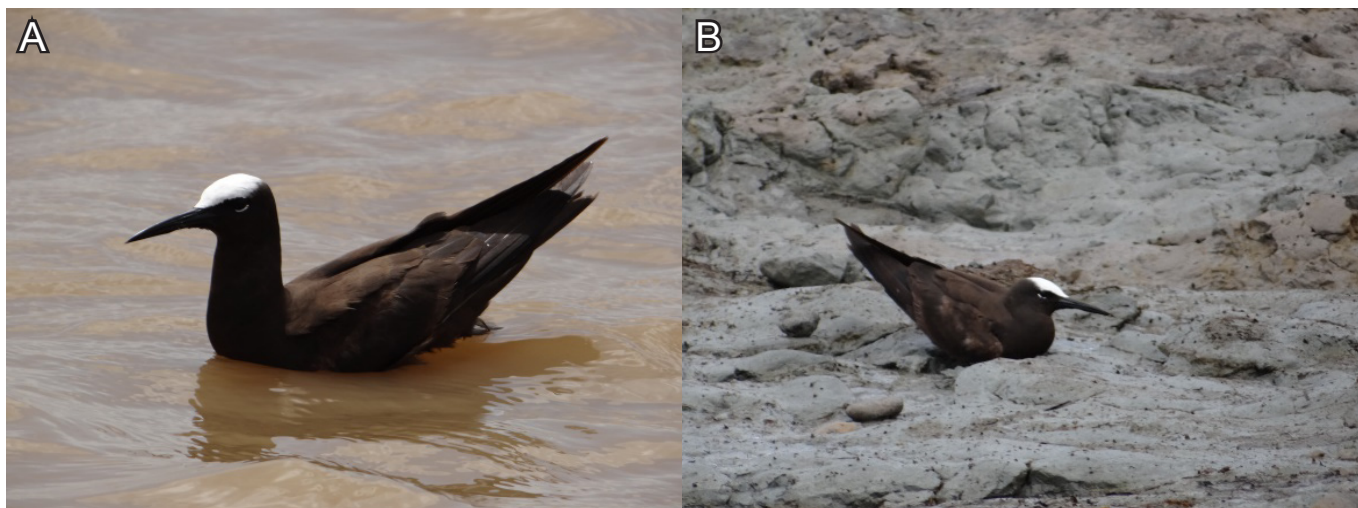


FIGURE 1. Black Noddy *Anous minutus* recorded at Maracá-Jipioca Ecological Station, Amapá state, Brazil, on 10 December 2015, roosting on water (A) and on land (B).

on its extremely long, slender and droopy bill, its white cap with its rear border well-defined without fading.

It seems likely that this first sighting of *A. minutus* for Amapá represents a storm-driven vagrant. It is unclear at present whether the species may be regular over the continental shelf in the Amazon region as there is a lack of pelagic bird surveys.

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