

## New bird records to the Estação Ecológica de Águas Emendadas, Planaltina, Distrito Federal

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Recebido em 18 de maio de 2004; aceito em 06 de abril de 2005

**RESUMO. Novos registros de aves para a Estação Ecológica de Águas Emendadas, Planaltina, Distrito Federal.** São apresentados 14 novos registros de aves para a Estação Ecológica de Águas Emendadas, uma das mais importantes Unidades de Conservação da região do Cerrado: *Platalea ajaja*, *Leptodon cayanensis*, *Geranospiza caerulescens*, *Accipiter bicolor*, *Aratinga leucophthalmus*, *Coccyzus americanus*, *C. cinereus*, *Heliomaster furcifer*, *Aphantochroa cirrhochloris*, *Monasa nigrifrons*, *Hylocryptus rectirostris*, *Suiriri islerorum*, *Phaeomyias murina* e *Sporophila leucoptera*. Dentre as espécies identificadas, *A. bicolor*, *C. cinereus* e *S. islerorum* constituem também novos registros para o Distrito Federal.

**PALAVRAS-CHAVE:** Estação Ecológica de Águas Emendadas, Cerrado, Distrito Federal.

**KEY WORDS:** Estação Ecológica de Águas Emendadas, Cerrado, Distrito Federal.

The Estação Ecológica de Águas Emendadas (hereafter ESECAE) is one of the best-studied Brazilian Conservation Units, in large part because of its proximity to the Universidade de Brasília. It is located in Planaltina, Distrito Federal (15°29'12''S-15°36'57''S and 47°41'19''W-47°31'36''W), with 10,500 ha. Its vegetation is typical of the Cerrado region, the largest, richest, and possibly most threatened tropical savanna in the world (Oliveira and Marquis 2002, Silva and Bates 2002). Details about the ESECAE flora and fauna can be found in Silva Jr. and Felfili (1996), Marinho-Filho *et al.* (1998) and IEMA (1998).

From 1991 to 1998, Marcelo Araújo Bagno conducted a meticulous inventory of the ESECAE avifauna, in a total sampling effort close to 8,000 h (Bagno 1998). Bagno identified 287 species, registering 14 Cerrado endemic birds (*sensu* Silva and Bates 2002), what projected this area as one of the most representative Conservation Units of the Cerrado. This paper presents new bird species recorded to the area during an intensive bird banding and bird census conducted between September 2002 and January 2004, in a 100 ha grid and its vicinities (a brief description of the grid area can be found in Lopes and Marini in press). The area (1040 m a.s.l.) encompasses a vegetation mosaic that extends from *campos limpos* (a grassland with few or no shrubs or trees) through *cerrado denso* (a dense and closed woodland) *sensu* Ribeiro and Walter (1998). We also conducted non-systematic observations in Lagoa Bonita, a small natural lake, as well as in the many trails and dirty roads dispersed across all the ESECAE area.

We registered 14 species new to the ESECAE. Except when indicated, all records are from the grid area: *Platalea*

*ajaja*: three observed in flight in 03 October 2003 and two in the Lagoa Bonita area in 28 October 2003; *Leptodon cayanensis*: one in the gallery forest of the Caponga stream in 18 May 2003; *Geranospiza caerulescens*: one flying in October 2002 and another perched in 05 and 06 October 2003; *Accipiter bicolor*: one adult mist netted in December 2003; *Aratinga leucophthalmus*: flocks with up to ten individuals in 05 and 12 September and in 25 and 26 October 2003; *Coccyzus americanus*: one in 17 October 2002 and another in December 2003; *Coccyzus cinereus* two records for 28 September and 25 October 2003; *Heliomaster furcifer*: one mist netted in June 2003; *Aphantochroa cirrhochloris*: one mist netted in 11 October 2003; *Monasa nigrifrons*: a small group heard near the Cascarra stream in 9 May 2003. *Hylocryptus rectirostris*: two couples observed and heard in the gallery forest of the Brejinho stream. *Suiriri islerorum*: a common resident in the grid area (more information about this record can be found in Lopes in press); *Phaeomyias murina*: two mist netted in 19 and 20 December 2002; *Sporophila leucoptera*: recorded in the Lagoa Bonita area in May 2003 and 28 October 2003.

The records of *Hylocryptus rectirostris* and *Suiriri islerorum* raised for 16 the number of Cerrado endemic species recorded in the ESECAE. This represents roughly 53% the total number of Cerrado endemic birds, reinforcing the importance of the ESECAE to the conservation of Cerrado's fauna. Furthermore, *Accipiter bicolor*, *Coccyzus cinereus* and *Suiriri islerorum* were also recorded by the first time for the Distrito Federal (Negret *et al.* 1984, Bagno and Marinho-Filho 2001).

In spite of its conservationist importance, the ESECAE

suffers several threats. Groups up to six domestic dogs were observed more than 20 times during the fieldwork. Footprints of domestic dogs were also observed daily in the study area, suggesting that dogs could act as important nest predators in the area (Lopes *et al.* 2004). The ESECAE also suffers with illegal hunting, which resulted in the local extirpation of the *Rhea americana* (Bagno 1998). Actually, the main hunters' concerns are the capibaras (*Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris*), deers (*Ozotoceros bezoarticus*, *Mazama gouazoubira* and *M. americana*), armadillos (e.g. *Dasypus septemcinctus*, *D. novemcinctus*, and *Euphractus sexcinctus* among others), tapirs (*Tapirus terrestris*), and even Tinamous (Tinamidae). This last group has special interest to local population as a food source (R.G. pers. observ.). In consequence of those practices, we work constantly exposed to the fire gun traps set by hunters. Illegal pet trade is also another source of threat to the area. Capture of songbirds, such as *Turdus* spp., and of nestlings of *Amazona aestiva* have been observed (L.E.L. and R.G. pers. observ.). During 2003, the ESECAE also suffered three human-set fires, which burned around 550 ha of its area. Finally, the researchers' lodge were forced and robbed several times, indicating that security is one of the biggest troubles experienced by researchers in Conservation Units near big cities in Brazil, a problem much serious than observed in more distant and isolated reserves.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We are grateful to ESECAE/SEMARH for permitting to conduct this study in the area. An anonymous reviewer presented important comments on an earlier draft of this manuscript.

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