

First record of Hyacinth Macaw *Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus* (Latham, 1790) for the state of Amazonas, Brazil

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RESUMO: Primeiro registro da arara-azul-grande (*Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus*) para o estado do Amazonas, Brasil. Apresentamos o primeiro registro da espécie para o estado do Amazonas, ampliando sua distribuição a oeste da Amazônia. Foram registrados três adultos da espécie no município de Parintins, AM.

PALAVRAS-CHAVE: Arara-azul-grande, Amazônia, Amazonas.

KEY-WORDS: Hyacinth Macaw, Amazonia, Amazonas State, Range extension.

The Hyacinth Macaw, *Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus*, is the largest representative of the Psittacidae family, with over 1m in length. It occurs mainly in Central Brazil and adjacent areas of Bolivia and Paraguay (Sick 1997, Alvaringa 2007). Due to a large reduction in population size over the last century, conservation programs, such as the Hyacinth Macaw Project have tried to move this bird out of the Brazilian list of endangered species (Marini and Garcia 2005), but BirdLife International (2009) still regards this species as “Endangered” due to ongoing hunting and illegal trafficking.

According to Olmos (2005), the distribution of *A. hyacinthinus* in Brazil is centered in the Pantanal, with scattered populations in the Cerrado and southern of Amazonia, where it prefers open forest types and clearings. In the Pantanal, *A. hyacinthinus* roosts and nests in large trees such as *Sterculia striata* (Guedes 2006) and feeds of fruits of basically two palm species: *Scheelea phalerata* and *Acrocomia aculeata* (Cardozo *et al.* 2000, Pinto and Ribeiro 2009).

In the Amazon, this species has been recorded in the Brazilian states of Mato Grosso, Tocantins, Maranhão, and Pará (Pacheco and Olmos, 2005, Guedes *et al.* 2006, Birdlife International, Fávoro and Flores 2009), including a breeding population at Serra dos Carajás, southern Pará reported by Presti *et al.* (2009), which roosts and breeds in *Sterculia pruirens* holes and feeds on fruits of

essentially two palm species: *Attalea funifera* and *Syagrus coronata*.

On November 28, 2009, during a bird survey at “Assentamento Vila Amazônia” (02°37’56”S; 56°37’01”W), in the municipality of Parintins, State of Amazonas, three adult individuals of *A. hyacinthinus* were observed and photographed while flying over an open field. The macaws landed in a large tree on the forest border (Figure 1), and remained calling and interacting with each other for over five minutes, flying off to the east afterwards. No other records with *A. hyacinthinus* were obtained at this locality in the subsequent days, despite our efforts. This represents the first published record of *A. hyacinthinus* for the Brazilian State of Amazonas, indicating a wide distribution in southeastern Amazonia than previously thought.

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FIGURE 1: Two of the three individuals of *Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus*, recorded in Parintins, state of Amazonas. Photo by Marcelo Barreiros.

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