Puerto Iguazú, Argentina 2017

Ornithological Congress of the Americas

XVII RAO / XXIV CBO / XCV AFO

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

AUGUST 8-11 · PUERTO IGUAZÚ, MISIONES PROVINCE, ARGENTINA · CENTRO DE EVENTOS Y CONVENCIONES DEL IGUAZÚ, HOTEL AMERIAN

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Welcome to the

Ornithological Congress of the Americas!

Puerto Iguazú, Misiones, Argentina, from 8–11 August, 2017

Puerto Iguazú is located in the heart of the interior Atlantic Forest and is the portal to the Iguazú Falls, one of the world's Seven Natural Wonders and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The area surrounding Puerto Iguazú, the province of Misiones and neighboring regions of Paraguay and Brazil offers many scenic attractions and natural areas such as Iguazú National Park, and provides unique opportunities for birdwatching. Over 500 species have been recorded, including many Atlantic Forest endemics like the Blue Manakin (*Chiroxiphia caudata*), the emblem of our congress. This is the first meeting collaboratively organized by the Association of Field Ornithologists, Sociedade Brasileira de Ornitologia and Aves Argentinas, and promises to be an outstanding professional experience for both students and researchers. The congress will feature workshops, symposia, over 400 scientific presentations, 7 internationally renowned plenary speakers, and a celebration of 100 years of Aves Argentinas!

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(CABA, 34°33’26’’S, 58°29’57’’W), that instantly occupied an artificial burrow installed in April 2015. During two years (2015-2017) the nest was visited at least twice per week to register number of individuals, reproductive events and during 2016 pellets were also collected (n = 299). Two reproductive events were observed each summer: three were successful and one failed, with a total of 6 successful chicks per year. During the second summer, both breeding events were successful, something scarcely registered for this species. Pellet analysis showed that the main prey item were anuran amphibians (total consumed biomass: >90%) and several species of arthropods (absolute frequency: >60%). Our results suggest that installation of artificial burrows in the parks of this city can replace the lack of natural burrows. In addition, recommendations are presented for the protection of nesting sites in urban environment.

10303 IMPORTANCE OF FORESTS AND URBAN AREAS FOR NON-MIGRATORY THRUSHES

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Thrushes are widely distributed species and have an important role in maintaining biodiversity and landscape connectivity, mainly due their high abundance, movement capability and degree of frugivory and seed dispersal. In this study, we compared the use of the landscape by these birds in two different environments: rural and urban. Sampling was conducted in a rural area in Itatiba city and another in an urban area in Rio Claro, within the State of São Paulo, southeastern Brazil, Two species of thrushes of the genus *Turdus* spp. were monitored (*T. leucomelas* and *T. rufiventris*) by radio telemetry (n = 10, rural; n = 12, urban). The habitat selection (Research Selection Function) as evaluated using homerange areas and following the protocol designs II and III. Six landscape classes were measured: forest, construction, pasture, abandoned pasture, agriculture and water; and for the rural area forest edge distance was also calculated. There was no significant difference between the two species. In urban environments the selection is positive for forest areas, showing a dependency for forest structure. For rural areas, the selection was positive for both forest and urbanized areas, showing a wider range in the choice of habitat, and their adaptability. The selection was positive when approaching the forest edges in rural areas. We conclude that, despite being considered generalists, both species are plastic and select mainly forest formations in spite of their context (rural vs urban), primarily in rural areas.

10338 DO FARMERS CONSIDER BIRD SCAVENGERS AS A PROBLEM? EVALUATION OF THE PERCEPTIONS OF DIFFERENT RURAL COMMUNITIES

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The conflict between humans and potential predators of livestock exists since the domestication of livestock. The negative perception of some livestock producers about carnivorous mammals (for example pumas) is well known. However, studies on human perception about scavenger birds are scarce. Our aim is to take an ethnozoological approach on the knowledge and attitudes of Patagonian rural worker (indigenous and criollos farmers), to identify possible conflicts between bird scavengers (obligate and facultative) and agricultural production in northwestern Patagonia. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with people in three focus groups: the mapuche community, the criollo community (<500 cattle) and cattle ranches (> 500 cattle). Almost all of the interviewees indicated at least one species as harmful to livestock. Southern Caracara (*Caracara plancus*) and Black-chested buzzard eagle (*Geranoaetus melanoleucus*) were the most common scavenger birds pointed out by criollo and mapuche communities. However, the Andean condor (*Vultur gryphus*) an obligate scavenger bird was also considered harmful in mapuche communities. On the other hand, the cattle ranches indicate as harmful C. plancus and the obligate scavenger bird, Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*). The three groups of people responded to the problem by eliminating the birds, as about half of the interviewees expressed this strategy as the most appropriate to reduce the predation damage perceived. We present a preliminary analysis of the perception of these social groups to be able to contrast it empirically in the field with possible predation, which can then be used to develop strategies to reduce conflict.

10369 RAPTORS AND FEAR OF HUMANS: VARIATION ON THE DEGREE OF AVERSION IN RELATION TO URBANIZATION

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Fear of humans is a behavioral feature that could determine the presence and establishment of certain species in an urbanized environment. This behavioral feature has been quantified in birds as Flight Initiation Distance (FID). We tested whether urbanization has an effect on the degree of fear of human presence in La Pampa's raptors population. We obtained a total of 95 FIDs from 13 towns with different population sizes (573-57,669 inhabitants). The sampled environments were rural (N=23), suburban (N=55) and urban (N=17). Only *Athene cunicularia* (N=35), *Caracara plancus* (N=8), *Falco sparverius* (N=5) and *Milvago chimango* (N=47) were taken into account for data processing. The FID was 22.26 ± 23.12 m (Min = 2.5, Max = 168.29). Generalized Linear Models were constructed; which have detected the environment as the most significant variable that accounts for the FID variation, whereas the distance