

## First report on bird species collected by two Brazilian museums at Distrito Federal, central Cerrado

Dárius Pukenis Tubelis

Departamento de Ecologia, Instituto de Biociências, Universidade de São Paulo  
CEP 05508-900, São Paulo – SP, Brazil  
dtubelis@yahoo.com

Submetido em 01/02/2008  
Aceito para publicação em 10/06/2008

### Abstract

A list of unpublished records of bird species collected in Brazil's Federal District was elaborated. It included specimens deposited in collections of the Museu de Zoologia da Universidade de São Paulo, in São Paulo, and of the Museu de Ornitologia, in Goiânia. Employees of these two museums collected a total of 94 species in Brasília and Planaltina, mainly during the 1960s. Eleven of these species were considered by previous publications as having no specimens collected in the Federal District. Two species (*Knipolegus cyanirostris* and *Pachyramphus castaneus*) had not been recorded at the Federal District by previous studies.

**Key words:** bird, Cerrado, *Knipolegus cyanirostris*, *Pachyramphus castaneus*

### Resumo

**Primeira publicação sobre espécies de aves coletadas por dois museus brasileiros no Distrito Federal, Cerrado central.** Uma listagem de registros não publicados de espécies de aves coletadas no Distrito Federal foi elaborada. Esta incluiu espécimes depositados em coleções do Museu de Zoologia da Universidade de São Paulo, em São Paulo, e do Museu de Ornitologia de Goiânia, em Goiânia. Equipes destes dois museus coletaram um total de 94 espécies em Brasília e Planaltina, principalmente durante a década de 1960s. Onze dessas espécies foram consideradas por publicações anteriores como não tendo espécimes coletados no Distrito Federal. Duas espécies (*Knipolegus cyanirostris* e *Pachyramphus castaneus*) não haviam sido registradas no Distrito Federal por publicações anteriores.

**Unitermos:** aves, Cerrado, *Knipolegus cyanirostris*, *Pachyramphus castaneus*

Avian inventories at Brazil's Federal District were initiated with a collection made by E. Sneath near Planaltina, in the 1920s (Sneath, 1928). The next expedition to this Cerrado region was conducted during the construction of Brasília (Sick, 1958). Published records of posterior collections were less expressive, concerning few species (Ruschi, 1959; Sick, 1979).

The first checklist of bird species found in the Federal District brought important data on habitat use by 429 species, but provided no information on which species had been collected (Negret et al., 1984). More recently, Bagno and Marinho (2001) elaborated a checklist of 451 species, in which species that had specimens collected and deposited in ornithological collections of national museums were identified.

However, Bagno and Marinho (2001) did not include in their work the bird collections of the Museu de Zoologia da Universidade de São Paulo and the Museu de Ornitologia de Goiânia.

This study aimed to report on bird specimens deposited in the ornithological collections of these two museums in order to improve knowledge on the species composition found in the Federal District.

The Federal District of Brazil is situated in central Cerrado. Vegetation associated with water courses, such as gallery forests, wet grasslands and marshes, usually occurs in valleys. Uplands are dominated by open vegetation, including cerrado *sensu stricto*, *campo cerrado*, *campo sujo* and *campo limpo*. Forests (*cerradão* and dry forests) also occur in uplands, as small patches (Eiten, 1972). Altitudes in the region range from 750 to 1,300m above sea level. The climate is strongly seasonal, with most of the annual precipitation (mean of 1,500mm) falling from October to April. The dry season usually occurs between May and September, and precipitation can be zero during some months. Other general information about the region can be found in Eiten (1972).

The ornithological collections of two Brazilian museums were considered in this study: 1) Museu de Zoologia da Universidade de São Paulo (MZUSP), in São Paulo; 2) Museu de Ornitologia de Goiânia (MOG), in Goiânia. Their registration books were researched in August and November 2000, respectively. In February (MOG) and April (MZUSP) 2007, the skins of some of the specimens were examined to confirm identification. This inspection included only species (with “\*” in Table 1) considered as having no birds collected in the Federal District by previous literature (Bagno and Marinho, 2001). The nomenclature and sequence of bird species followed Sigris (2006).

MZUSP houses skins of 38 species collected in Brasília and 48 species obtained in Planaltina. They total 77 species collected during the dry seasons of 1963 and 1979 by Hidasi, Ollala and Dente (Table 1). On the other hand, MOG obtained 21 species in Brasília during several months between 1958 and 1985, and four species in Planaltina in June and July 1963. Together, they total 25 species collected by Hidasi in the Federal District (Table 1).

Therefore, a total of 94 species were collected by MZUSP and MOG in the Federal District. The majority of these species were collected by Hidasi in the early 1960's. Eleven of these species (followed by an asterisk in Table 1) had been considered by the most recent checklist (Bagno and Marinho, 2001) as having no specimens collected in the Federal District. Two of these species had not been reported for the Federal District by previous literature. They are:

***Knipolegus cyanirostris*** (MZUSP 54764) – Collected on 1 July 1963. This migratory species occurs from Uruguay and north-eastern Argentina to western and eastern Mato Grosso do Sul, and most of southeastern Brazil, not reaching the northern limits of Minas Gerais (Pinto, 1944; Ridgely, 1989; Sick, 1997; Sigris, 2006). This record at the Federal District represents a considerable northwestern range extension for this species. As *Knipolegus lophotes*, *Knipolegus nigerrimus* and *Knipolegus franciscanus* also occur in the Federal District (Negret et al., 1984; Bagno and Marinho, 2001; Bornschein et al., 2004), *K. cyanirostris* is the fourth species of this genus to be recorded in this region.

***Pachyramphus castaneus*** (MOG 458) – Collected on 27 May 1963. This species has two subspecies separated by the Cerrado, Chaco and Caatinga provinces (Pinto, 1944; Ridgely, 1989; Sigris, 2006). *Pachyramphus castaneus amazonus* has its center of distribution in Amazonia, while *P. c. castaneus* occurs mainly in southern and south-eastern Brazil (Pinto, 1944; Ridgely, 1989; Sigris, 2006). This skin deposited at MOG belongs to the southern subspecies - *P. c. castaneus* (*sensu* Pinto, 1944; Sigris, 2006). This subspecies had been recorded in southern Goiás, near the Federal District (Pinto, 1944; Ridgely, 1989; Sigris, 2006).

Considering the exhaustive list elaborated by Bagno and Marinho (2001), recent records of three bird species at Estação Ecológica de Águas Emendadas (Lopes et al., 2005), and the results of my study, a richness of 456 bird species has been found to date in the Federal District. Although the Federal District harbors the most studied avifauna in the Cerrado region (Silva, 1995), further collections and inventories are necessary for a better knowledge of its bird species composition.

TABLE 1: Bird species collected at two localities (Brasília and Planaltina) in the Federal District, and deposited at MZUSP and MOG. Species followed by an asterisk (\*) were considered by previous literature as having no specimens collected in the Federal District. The sequence and nomenclature of species followed Sigrist (2006).

Species	MZUSP		MOG	
	Brasília	Planaltina	Brasília	Planaltina
<i>Nothura maculosa</i>	May 1963			
<i>Taoniscus nanus</i>			March 1963	
<i>Cariama cristata</i>	July 1963			
<i>Sarkidiornis sylvicola</i> *			March 1963	
<i>Falco sparverius</i>		July 1963	June 1963	
<i>Caracara plancus</i>	May 1963			
<i>Rhinoptynx clamator</i>			no date	
<i>Leptotila verreauxi</i>				June 1963
<i>Columbina talpacoti</i>	June 1963	June 1963		
<i>Piaya cayana</i>		July 1963		
<i>Guira guira</i>	June 1963			
<i>Crotophaga ani</i>	May, June 1963			
<i>Ara ararauna</i> *			April 1963	
<i>Aratinga aurea</i>		July 1962, 1963		
<i>Brotogeris chiriri</i>	May 1963	July 1963		
<i>Pionus maximiliani</i> *		June 1963	March 1963	
<i>Eupetomena macroura</i>		July 1963		
<i>Calliphlox amethystina</i>			July 1964	
<i>Anthracothorax nigricollis</i>		July 1963		
<i>Colibri serrirostris</i>	May 1963	July 1963		
<i>Trogon surrucura</i>		June 1963		
<i>Nystalus chacuru</i>	June 1963			
<i>Picumnus albosquamatus</i>	July 1963			
<i>Picoides mixtus</i>			March 1963	
<i>Colaptes campestris</i>	May 1963			
<i>Campephilus melanoleucos</i>		June 1963		
<i>Lepidocolaptes angustirostris</i>	July 1963			
<i>Dendrocolaptes platyrostris</i>		June 1963		
<i>Geositta poeciloptera</i>		June 1963	June 1963	
<i>Phacellodomus ruber</i>				June, July 1963
<i>Anumbius annumbi</i> *		July 1963		
<i>Philydor rufum</i>			September 1964	
<i>Thamnophilus caerulescens</i>			April 1963	
<i>Conopophaga lineata</i>	May 1963		April 1963	
<i>Scytalopus novacapitalis</i>	July 1979			
<i>Phyllomyias fasciatus</i>	July 1963			
<i>Todirostrum cinereum</i>		July 1963		
<i>Platyrinchus mystaceus</i>				June, July 1963
<i>Elaenia flavogaster</i>	May, June, July 1963	July 1963		
<i>Elaenia chiriquensis</i>	May 1963			
<i>Elaenia obscura</i>	July 1963			
<i>Camptostoma obsoletum</i>		July 1963		
<i>Tolmomyias sulphurescens</i>		July 1963		

			June, July 1963
<i>Lathrotriccus euleri</i>			
<i>Myiophobus fasciatus</i>		July 1963	
<i>Contopus cinereus</i>		July 1963	
<i>Knipolegus lophotes</i>		July 1963	
<i>Knipolegus cyanirostris</i> *		July 1963	
<i>Xolmis cinereus</i>		July 1963	
<i>Colonia colonus</i>	June 1963		
<i>Xolmis velatus</i> *	June 1963	July 1963	1973
<i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i>	May 1963		
<i>Megarynchus pitangua</i>	June 1963	June 1963	
<i>Suiriri islerorum</i>	May, July 1963		
<i>Suiriri suiriri</i>		June 1963	
<i>Myiarchus tyrannulus</i>	May 1963		
<i>Myiarchus ferox</i>	July 1963		
<i>Casiornis rufus</i>	June 1963		
<i>Pachyramphus castaneus</i> *			May 1963
<i>Tityra inquisitor</i> *		July 1963	
<i>Cyanocorax cristatellus</i>		June 1963	
<i>Antilophia galeata</i>	July 1963		
<i>Cyclarhis gujanensis</i>	June 1963		
<i>Thryothorus leucotis</i>		July 1963	
<i>Polioptila dumicola</i>		July 1963	
<i>Turdus albicollis</i>		July 1963	
<i>Turdus leucomelas</i>	July 1963		
<i>Turdus amaurochalinus</i>	May, June 1963		
<i>Hemithraupis guira</i> *		July 1963	
<i>Thlypopsis sordida</i>			April 1963
<i>Tangara cayana</i>		July 1963	
<i>Dacnis cayana</i>		June, July 1963	
<i>Thraupis palmarum</i>		July 1963	
<i>Piranga flava</i>		June 1963	
<i>Tachyphonus rufus</i>		July 1963	
<i>Trichothraupis melanops</i>		July 1963	
<i>Neothraupis fasciata</i>		July 1963	
<i>Cypsnagra hirundinacea</i>		June, July 1963	
<i>Emberizoides herbicola</i>	June 1963	June, July 1963	
<i>Arremon flavirostris</i>			October 1985
<i>Charitospiza eucosma</i>	May 1963	June, July 1963	
<i>Ammodramus humeralis</i>	July 63		
<i>Sicalis flaveola</i> *		June 1963	
<i>Carduelis magellanica</i>			March 1963
<i>Saltator similis</i>		June 1963	
<i>Anthus lutescens</i> *			February 1958
<i>Basileuterus leucophrys</i>	June 1963		April 1963
<i>Basileuterus hypoleucus</i>		July 1963	April 1963
<i>Geothlypis aequinoctialis</i>	July 1963		
<i>Basileuterus flaveolus</i>	May 1963		
<i>Cacicus cela</i>	June 1963		
<i>Pseudoleistes guirahuro</i>		July 1963	March 1964
<i>Gnorimopsar chopi</i>	May 1963	July 1963	
<i>Euphonia chlorotica</i>		July 1963	

## Acknowledgements

I thank José Hidasi (MOG) and Sérgio A. Vanin (MZUSP) for providing access to the collections under their care. Dr Paulo Hofmann, Dr Luís Silveira and two anonymous reviewers made constructive suggestions for this manuscript. FAPESP provided a research grant (no. 05/00773-3) for the realization of this study.

## References

- Bagno, M. A.; Marinho, J. 2001. A avifauna do Distrito Federal: uso de ambientes abertos e florestais e ameaças. In: Ribeiro, J. F.; da Fonseca, C. E. L. & Souza-Silva, J. C. (eds). **Cerrado, caracterização e recuperação de matas de galeria**. Embrapa, Planaltina, Brazil, p.492-528.
- Bornschein, M. R.; Cáceres, N. C.; Ferreira, W. V.; Freitas, D. R.; Pichorim, M. 2004. Primeiro registro de *Knipolegus aterrimus* Kaup, 1853 no Brasil (Tyrannidae). **Ararajuba**, **11**: 141-144.
- Eiten, G. 1972. The cerrado vegetation of Brazil. **Botanical Review**, **38**: 205-341.
- Lopes, L. E.; Leite, L.; Pinho, J. B.; Góes, R. 2005. New bird records to the Estação Ecológica de Águas Emendadas, Planaltina, Distrito Federal. **Ararajuba**, **13**: 107-108.
- Negret, A.; Taylor, J.; Soares, R. C.; Cavalcanti, R. B.; Johnson, C. 1984. **Aves da região geopolítica do Distrito Federal**. Ministério do Interior, Secretaria Especial do Meio Ambiente, Brasília, Brazil, 26pp.
- Pinto, O. M. O. 1944. **Catálogo das aves do Brasil, 2ª parte. Ordem Passeriformes (continuação): superfamília Tyrannoidea e Subordem Passeres**. Secretaria de Agricultura de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil, 326pp.
- Ridgely, R. S. 1989. **The birds of South America. The Oscine Passerines**. University of Texas Press, Austin, USA, 516pp.
- Ruschi, A. 1959. A trochilifauna de Brasília, com descrição de um novo representante de *Amazilia* (Aves). E o primeiro povoamento com essas aves aí realizado. **Boletim do Museu de Biologia Professor Mello Leitão**, **22**: 1-16.
- Sick, H. 1958. Resultados de uma excursão ornitológica do Museu Nacional à Brasília, novo Distrito Federal, Goiás, com a descrição de um novo representante de *Scytalopus* (Rhinocryptidae, Aves). **Boletim do Museu Nacional**, **185**: 1-41.
- Sick, H. 1979. Notes on some Brazilian birds. **Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club**, **99**: 115-120.
- Sick, H. 1997. **Ornitologia brasileira**. Editora Nova Fronteira, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 862pp.
- Sigrist, T. 2006. **Aves do Brasil. Uma visão artística. Birds of Brazil. An artistic view**. Fosfertil, São Paulo, Brazil, 672pp.
- Silva, J. M. C. 1995. Birds of the Cerrado region - South America. **Steenstrupia**, **21**: 69-92
- Snethlage, E. 1928. Novas espécies e subespécies de aves do Brasil Central. **Boletim do Museu Nacional**, **4**: 1-7.