

Bird richness and composition in a Cerrado fragment in the State of São Paulo

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Abstract

Bird species richness is an important measure for monitoring biodiversity changes. We analysed avifauna richness and composition in a 472 ha protected cerrado fragment and surroundings at Fazenda Canchim (RL-CPPSE), São Carlos, in the State of São Paulo (SP). We carried out 95.1 hours of observation (22 visits) at irregular intervals from May 2004 to December 2006. Qualitative surveys were done walking through tracks inside the fragment and on the roads at its edge. We recorded 160 species, six of which were endemic to Cerrado domain, 22 migratory, seven threatened within the State of São Paulo, and two globally threatened. We found 28 species in the cerradão, 110 in the cerrado sensu stricto, 13 in the gallery forest, 26 in the reservoir border, 26 in pasturelands and sugar cane monoculture and 55 in an anthropic area. Most of the species had low frequency of occurrence in all vegetation forms. Insectívoros were the major trophic category (46.9%), which is typical in tropical regions, and it is also related to resource availability. Omnívoros followed with 19.4%, granívoros with 8.8% and frugívoros with 7.5%. We conclude that, despite its size and conservation status, our study area has a remarkable bird community and must be considered as a priority conservation area to preserve bird species in São Paulo State.

Keywords: avifauna, State of São Paulo, Cerrado, fragmentation.

Riqueza e composição da avifauna em um fragmento de Cerrado no Estado de São Paulo

Resumo

A riqueza de espécies é uma medida importante para o monitoramento da perda de biodiversidade. Nosso objetivo foi verificar a riqueza e a composição da avifauna em um fragmento de cerrado de 472 ha na Fazenda Canchim (RL-CPPSE), São Carlos, Estado de São Paulo (SP). Realizamos 95,1 horas de observação (22 visitas) entre maio de 2004 e dezembro de 2006, em intervalos irregulares. Percorremos trilhas dentro do fragmento e estradas na sua borda considerando diferentes tipos de vegetação. Registramos 160 espécies, das quais seis são endêmicas do Cerrado, 22 migratórias, sete ameaçadas de extinção no estado de São Paulo e duas globalmente ameaçadas. Registramos 28 espécies no cerradão, 110 no cerrado sensu stricto, 13 na mata ciliar, 26 no entorno de uma represa, 26 em pastagens e plantações de cana-de-açúcar e 55 em áreas antropizadas. A maioria das espécies ocorreu em baixa frequência em todos os tipos de vegetação. A categoria com maior número de espécies foi a dos insetívoros (46,9%), padrão típico em regiões tropicais e, provavelmente, relacionado à disponibilidade de recursos na área. A segunda categoria trófica foi a dos onívoros (19,4%), seguida pelos granívoros (8,8%) e frugívoros (7,5%). Nossos resultados destacam consideráveis registros de espécies aves e a importância da área de estudo na preservação da biodiversidade da avifauna no cerrado paulista.

Palavras-chave: avifauna, Estado de São Paulo, Cerrado, fragmentação.

1. Introduction

Bird species richness is an important measure for monitoring biodiversity changes (Andrén, 1994; Palmer et al., 2008). Bird community inventories, censuses and surveys provide data of great value for conservation purposes (e.g. Tubelis et al., 2004; Marini and Garcia, 2005;

Silva, 1997). For instance, these methods allow the recognition of endemic, threatened, keystone, umbrella or surrogate group of species. Because of their restricted distribution, vulnerability, high influence on other species occurrence or important ecological role in ecosystems,

registration of these species might strongly influence priority activities in the protection of the natural environment (Stotz et al., 1996; Silva and Bates 2002, Loyola et al., 2007; Pinto et al., 2008, Piratelli et al., 2008).

The study of bird species richness also improves the knowledge of community responses in disturbed areas, because richness may be reduced in long-time isolated fragments (Aleixo and Vielliard, 1995; Marini, 2001; Stouffer and Bierregaard, 1995). Small remnants are prone to edge effects, such as nest predation increase (Marini et al., 1995), attraction of exotic predators, diseases and competitors or migratory and dispersal route obstructions (review in Marzluff and Ewing, 2001). All these factors may affect individual chances of reproduction and reduce local species richness (Andr n, 1994).

In addition, bird richness and composition offers valuable data to understand sensitivity and resistance of species to fragmentation (Zanette et al., 2000). Species-specific responses to fragmentation are widely diverse among birds (Debinski and Holt, 2000; Watson et al., 2005). For example, local migratory birds and species that need specific nest sites may require extensive areas to find environmental conditions to survive and breed (Sick, 1997). Furthermore, fragmentation may influence the trophic structure of bird communities (Motta-Junior, 1990; Tubelis and Cavalcanti, 2000). For example, specialist groups, such as understory insectivores, are negatively affected in fragmented landscapes because of the reduced suitable pathways connecting multiple foraging areas (Martensen et al., 2008).

Agriculture and pastureland expansions in the Cerrado domain – one of the global biodiversity hotspots (Myers et al., 2000) – have been the major threatening factors to its avifauna biodiversity since the 1970s (Alho and Martins, 1995; Cavalcanti and Joly, 2002). The Cerrado domain has 837 bird species (Silva, 1995), from which 90.7% breed within the domain and the others migrate from the Northern Hemisphere, southern South America and southeast Brazil (Silva, 1995; 1997). Endemism in the region is high, but almost 75% of endemic cerrado avifauna is considered at risk (Stotz et al., 1996). Furthermore, although endemic bird areas occur in the Cerrado (Birdlife International, 2003), 20% of endemic and threatened species are outside protected areas (Machado et al., 2004).

In the State of S o Paulo, the Cerrado has been reduced to less than 7% of its original cover for the last decades and only 18% of remnants are inside protected areas (S o Paulo, 1999). Different from conservation areas of other domains, few Cerrado fragments are greater than 400 ha (Durigan et al., 2003). Considering the high level of degradation of the Cerrado in S o Paulo, and regarding its boundary with the Atlantic Forest domain, these remnants should be concerned as important areas for conservation plans (Cavalcanti and Joly, 2002).

Even though some studies of bird communities have been previously carried out in S o Paulo (Motta-Junior, 1990; Dias, 2000; Willis and Oniki, 2003; Willis, 2004;

Develey et al., 2005; Willis, 2006; Motta-Junior et al., 2008), little is known about the ecology of bird communities in the region. Our aim was to contribute with the knowledge of the avifauna of one fragment in central S o Paulo and give data support for future local or regional reaseaches. We studied bird species richness and composition, and identified endemic, threatened and migratory species of a protected cerrado fragment at Fazenda Canchim (RL-CPPSE), S o Carlos, SP.

2. Material and Methods

Our study site is a 472 ha protected cerrado fragment at Fazenda Canchim (Reserva Legal-Embrapa Pecuar ia Sudeste, RL-CPPSE) and its surroundings, 12 km from S o Carlos, in the State of S o Paulo (SP) (21° 55' S and 47° 48' W) (Primavesi et al., 1999). This is a transition zone from the Atlantic Forest to Cerrado domain, also characterised as an ecological tension zone, and with a high level of biodiversity (Primavesi et al., 1999). The climate is typical of moist savanna (Cwa, according to K ppen's classification), with a remarkable seasonality: a dry and cold winter from April to September and a wet and warmer summer from October to March (Primavesi et al., 1999).

The reserve is covered by two cerrado physiognomies: cerrado sensu stricto (340 ha), a typical savanna vegetation, and cerrad o (130 ha), an almost closed woodland. A gallery forest (1.35 ha) occurs along a stream (C rrego da Lagoa) inside the fragment. The surroundings are composed of a reservoir (Represa do 29) in the north-east of the reserve and between cerrado sensu stricto and a small village; a 120 ha cerrado fragment in the east; pasturelands in the south and south-east and sugar cane monoculture in the north and west of the reserve (Primavesi et al., 1999).

We did qualitative surveys during mornings, from 06:00 to 11:00 AM, and late-afternoon, from 03:00 to 06:00 PM, in 95.1 hours of observation in irregular intervals from 2004 to 2006. The area was visited 22 times: six in 2004 (May, August, November and December), 14 in 2005 (from January to December, except in March, July and August) and two in 2006 (January and December). We sampled all vegetation forms described above walking through 15 km trails or roads, approximately: 1) 3.8 km trail inside the fragment (1.55 km in cerrado sensu stricto, 1.25 km in gallery forest and 1 km in cerrad o); 2) 2 km road in the middle of the reserve through cerrado sensu stricto; 3) 6 km road in the north-west edge of the reserve between cerrado sensu stricto and sugar cane monoculture; 4) 2 km road between cerrado sensu stricto and the reservoir, 5) 1.11 km road in the south-east edge of the reserve between cerrad o and pastureland and 6) 1 km road that surrounds a small village. We often visited one or more vegetation forms during a single visit. We sampled cerrad o on seven visits, cerrado sensu stricto on 22, gallery forest on 10, reservoir border on 14 and anthropic areas on 21.

We used 8 × 40 binoculars for bird identification, and pictures or vocalisation records for comparison and identification according to literature (Meyer de Schauensee, 1982; Sick, 1997; Souza, 1998; Develey and Endrigo, 2004) and to Manoel M. Dias' identification. We carried out a non-standardised method of observation, because our aim was to identify as many individuals as possible. Bird nomenclature follows *Comitê Brasileiro de Registros Ornitológicos* (2007). Bird species endemic to Cerrado were classified following Silva and Bates (2002), and migratory birds according to Willis (1979), Motta-Junior (1990) and Sick (1997). We identified threatened species from official lists [São Paulo, 2008; *Instituto Brasileiro do Meio Ambiente e dos Recursos Naturais Renováveis* (IBAMA), 2003; International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), 2007]. We measured the frequency of occurrence (FO) for each spe-

cies in each vegetation form, because sample effort was different among them. We calculated FO dividing the total number of records of each species by the total number of visits to each area (Vielliard and Silva, 1990; Aleixo and Vielliard, 1995). Also, we classified species into nine trophic categories according to their principal feeding habits: nectarivores (NEC), carrion-eaters (CAE), carnivores (CAR), frugivores (FRU), granivores (GRA), omnivores (ONI), insectivores (INS), piscivores (PIS) and herbivores (HER), following Motta-Junior (1990), Sick (1997), and also our field observations.

3. Results

We found 160 bird species from 19 orders and 48 families (Table 1). Ninety-two (57.5%) were Passeriformes and 68 (42.5%) non-Passeriformes. We

Table 1. Bird species recorded in a cerrado fragment and surroundings at Fazenda Canchim, São Carlos, SP, from May 2004 to December 2006, and their respective frequency of occurrence (FO) in habitats (CA = cerrado; CE = cerrado sensu stricto; GF = gallery forest; RB = reservoir border, PS = pastureland and sugar cane monoculture, AA = anthropic area), trophic categories (TC) (NEC = nectarivores, CAE = carrion-eaters, CAR = carnivores, FRU = frugivores, GRA = granivores, ONI = omnivores, INS = insectivores, PIS = piscivores and HER = herbivores). Blank spaces means FO values = 0.

Taxon	FO (%)						TC
	CA	CE	GF	RB	PS	AA	
Tinamiformes							
TINAMIDAE							
<i>Crypturellus parvirostris</i> (Wagler, 1827)	14.3	68.2	-	-	18.2	14.3	ONI ¹
Pelecaniformes							
PHALACROCORACIDAE							
<i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i> (Gmelin, 1789)	-	-	-	50.0	-	-	PIS ²
Ciconiiformes							
ARDEIDAE							
<i>Ardea cocoi</i> Linnaeus, 1766	-	-	-	14.3	-	-	PIS ²
<i>Ardea alba</i> Linnaeus, 1758	-	-	-	100.0	-	-	PIS ²
<i>Egretta thula</i> (Molina, 1782)	-	-	-	50.0	-	-	PIS ²
<i>Bubulcus ibis</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	-	-	-	21.4	40.9	-	INS ²
<i>Butorides striatus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	-	-	-	50.0	-	-	PIS ²
<i>Syrigma sibilatrix</i> (Temminck, 1824)	-	-	-	-	13.6	-	INS ²
<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	-	-	-	21.4	-	-	PIS ²
<i>Tigrisoma lineatum</i> (Boddaert, 1783)	-	-	-	7.1	-	-	PIS ²
THRESKIORNITHIDAE							
<i>Mesembrinibis cayennensis</i> (Gmelin, 1789)	-	-	20.0	78.6	-	-	INS ²
Cathartiformes							
CATHARTIDAE							
<i>Coragyps atratus</i> (Bechstein, 1793)	-	18.2	-	7.1	27.3	14.3	CAE ¹
Anseriformes							
ANATIDAE							
<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i> (Linnaeus, 1766) M	-	-	-	7.1	-	-	HER ²
Falconiformes							
ACCIPITRIDAE							
<i>Elanus leucurus</i> (Vieillot, 1818)	-	4.5	-	-	4.5	-	CAR ²

¹ Motta-Junior (1990); ² Sick (1997); T = Threatened species; Status: V = vulnerable, CR = critically endangered, E = endangered, R = near threatened, L = least concern; ³ Threatened at the State of São Paulo; ^W Threatened in world; D = endemism in relation to Cerrado; M = migratory habit.

Table 1. Continued...

Taxon	FO (%)						TC
	CA	CE	GF	RB	PS	AA	
<i>Ictinia plumbea</i> (Gmelin, 1788) M	-	-	-	-	4.5	-	INS ¹
<i>Rupornis magnirostris</i> (Gmelin, 1788)	-	27.3	-	-	22.7	9.5	CAR ¹
FALCONIDAE							
<i>Milvago chimachima</i> (Vieillot, 1816)	-	9.1	-	-	9.1	-	CAR ¹
<i>Caracara plancus</i> (Miller, 1777)	14.3	27.3	-	7.1	22.7	9.5	CAR ¹
<i>Falco sparverius</i> Linnaeus, 1758	-	-	-	-	4.5	-	INS ²
<i>Falco femoralis</i> Temminck, 1822	-	9.1	-	-	4.5	-	CAR ¹
Galiformes							
CRACIDAE							
<i>Penelope supercilialis</i> Temminck, 1815	-	-	10.0	-	-	-	FRU ²
Gruiformes							
RALLIDAE							
<i>Aramides cajanea</i> (Statius Muller, 1776)	-	-	-	14.3	-	-	ONI ²
CARIAMIDAE							
<i>Cariama cristata</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)	-	13.6	-	-	54.5	-	INS ¹
Charadriiformes							
JACANIDAE							
<i>Jacana jacana</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)	-	-	-	71.4	-	-	ONI ²
CHARADRIIDAE							
<i>Vanellus chilensis</i> (Molina, 1782)	-	-	-	28.6	54.5	-	ONI ²
RECURVIROSTRIDAE							
<i>Himantopus melanurus</i> Vieillot, 1817	-	-	-	21.4	-	-	CAR
Columbiformes							
COLUMBIDAE							
<i>Columbina talpacoti</i> (Temminck, 1811)	-	31.8	-	-	-	57.1	GRA ¹
<i>Columbina squammata</i> (Lesson, 1831)	-	9.1	-	-	-	4.8	GRA ²
<i>Patagioenas picazuro</i> (Temminck, 1813)	28.6	45.5	10.0	-	13.6	28.6	FRU ¹
<i>Patagioneas cayennensis</i> (Bonnaterre, 1792)	-	31.8	-	-	-	4.8	FRU ²
<i>Zenaida auriculata</i> (Des Murs, 1847)	-	9.1	-	-	-	28.6	GRA ¹
<i>Leptotila verreauxi</i> Bonaparte, 1855	14.3	45.5	30.0	-	-	4.8	FRU ¹
<i>Leptotila rufaxilla</i> (Richard and Bernard, 1792)	14.3	-	-	-	-	4.8	FRU ²
Psittaciformes							
PSITTACIDAE							
<i>Aratinga leucophthalma</i> (Statius Muller, 1776)	-	22.7	-	-	13.6	14.3	FRU ²
<i>Aratinga aurea</i> (Gmelin, 1788)	-	4.5	-	-	-	9.5	FRU ²
<i>Forpus xanthopterygius</i> (Spix, 1824)	-	4.5	-	-	-	-	FRU ²
<i>Brotogeris chiriri</i> (Vieillot, 1818)	-	45.5	-	-	18.2	23.8	FRU ¹
<i>Amazona aestiva</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	-	9.1	-	-	-	-	FRU ²
Cuculiformes							
CUCULIDAE							
<i>Piaya cayana</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)	14.3	18.2	-	-	-	-	INS ¹
<i>Crotophaga ani</i> Linnaeus, 1758	-	4.5	-	-	-	28.6	INS ¹
<i>Guira guira</i> (Gmelin, 1788)	-	4.5	-	-	-	19.0	INS ²
<i>Tapera naevia</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)	-	27.3	-	-	-	-	INS ¹
Strigiformes							
TYTONIDAE							
<i>Tyto alba</i> (Scopoli, 1769)	-	-	-	-	-	9.5	CAR ²

¹ Motta-Junior (1990); ² Sick (1997); T = Threatened species; Status: V = vulnerable, CR = critically endangered, E = endangered, R = near threatened, L = least concern; ³ Threatened at the State of São Paulo; ⁴ Threatened in world; D = endemism in relation to Cerrado; M = migratory habit.

Table 1. Continued...

Taxon	FO (%)						TC
	CA	CE	GF	RB	PS	AA	
STRIGIDAE							
<i>Megascops choliba</i> (Vieillot, 1817)	-	4.5	-	-	-	-	INS ²
<i>Athene cunicularia</i> (Molina, 1782)	-	-	-	-	18.2	-	INS ²
<i>Asio flammeus</i> (Pontoppidan, 1763) T (E^S)	-	-	-	-	4.5	-	CAR ²
Caprimulgiformes							
CAPRIMULGIDAE							
<i>Nyctidromus albicollis</i> (Gmelin, 1789)	-	22.7	-	-	-	19.0	INS ¹
<i>Caprimulgus rufus</i> Boddaert, 1783	-	4.5	-	-	-	-	INS ²
Apodiformes							
APODIDAE							
<i>Chaetura meridionalis</i> Hellmayr, 1907 M	-	4.5	-	-	-	-	INS ²
TROCHILIDAE							
<i>Phaethornis pretrei</i> (Lesson and Delattre, 1839)	-	22.7	-	-	-	-	NEC ¹
<i>Eupetomena macroura</i> (Gmelin, 1788)	-	13.6	-	-	-	4.8	NEC ¹
<i>Colibri serrirostris</i> (Vieillot, 1816)	-	9.1	-	-	-	-	NEC ¹
<i>Chlorostilbon lucidus</i> (d'Orbigny and Lafresnaye, 1838)	-	27.3	-	-	-	-	NEC ¹
<i>Hylocharis chrysura</i> (Shaw, 1812) T (L^W)	-	9.1	-	-	-	-	NEC ¹
<i>Amazilia lactea</i> (Lesson, 1832)	-	22.7	-	-	-	-	NEC ¹
<i>Helimaster squamosus</i> (Temminck, 1823)	-	4.5	-	-	-	-	NEC ²
Coraciiformes							
ALCEDINIDAE							
<i>Ceryle torquatus</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)	-	-	-	42.9	-	-	PIS ²
<i>Chloroceryle amazona</i> (Latham, 1790)	-	-	-	28.6	-	-	PIS ²
<i>Chloroceryle americana</i> (Gmelin, 1788)	-	-	-	14.3	-	-	PIS ²
MOMOTIDAE							
<i>Baryphthengus ruficapillus</i> (Vieillot, 1818)	-	9.1	-	-	-	-	INS ²
Galbuliformes							
GALBULIDAE							
<i>Galbula ruficauda</i> Cuvier, 1816	-	9.1	-	-	-	-	INS ²
Piciformes							
RAMPHASTIDAE							
<i>Ramphastos toco</i> Statius Mullier, 1776	-	4.5	-	-	-	-	FRU ²
PICIDAE							
<i>Picumnus albosquamatus</i> d'Orbigny, 1840	28.6	22.7	20.0	-	-	-	INS ²
<i>Colaptes campestris</i> (Vieillot, 1818)	-	40.9	-	-	18.2	19.0	INS ¹
<i>Colaptes melanochloros</i> (Gmelin, 1788)	-	40.9	-	-	-	-	INS ¹
<i>Dryocopus lineatus</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)	57.1	27.3	-	-	-	9.5	INS ¹
<i>Melanerpes candidus</i> (Otto, 1796)	-	13.6	-	-	-	-	INS ¹
<i>Veniliornis passerinus</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)	-	4.5	-	-	-	-	INS ¹
Passeriformes							
MELANOPAREIIDAE							
<i>Melanopareia torquata</i> (Wied, 1831) D, T (E^S)	-	4.5	-	-	-	-	INS ¹
THAMNOPHILIDAE							
<i>Taraba major</i> (Vieillot, 1816)	-	9.1	-	-	-	-	INS ¹
<i>Thamnophilus doliatus</i> (Linnaeus, 1764)	-	59.1	-	-	-	28.6	INS ²
<i>Thamnophilus pelzelni</i> Hellmayr, 1924	14.3	54.5	-	-	-	-	INS ¹

¹ Motta-Junior (1990); ² Sick (1997); T = Threatened species; Status: V = vulnerable, CR = critically endangered, E = endangered, R = near threatened, L = least concern; ^S Threatened at the State of São Paulo; ^W Threatened in world; D = endemism in relation to Cerrado; M = migratory habit.

Table 1. Continued...

Taxon	FO (%)						TC
	CA	CE	GF	RB	PS	AA	
<i>Thamnophilus caerulescens</i> Vieillot, 1816	-	31.8	-	-	-	-	INS ¹
<i>Formicivora rufa</i> (Wied, 1831)	14.3	4.5	-	-	-	-	INS ¹
<i>Herpsilochmus atricapillus</i> Pelzeln, 1868	-	9.1	-	-	-	-	INS ²
FURNARIIDAE							
<i>Furnarius rufus</i> (Gmelin, 1788)	-	18.2	-	-	-	76.2	INS ²
<i>Synallaxis spixi</i> Sclater, 1856	-	36.4	-	-	-	-	INS ¹
<i>Synallaxis frontalis</i> Pelzeln, 1859	-	45.5	-	-	-	-	INS ¹
<i>Certhiaxis cinnamomeus</i> (Gmelin, 1788)	-	22.7	-	-	-	-	INS ²
<i>Automolus leucophthalmus</i> (Wied, 1821)	-	4.5	-	-	-	-	INS ¹
<i>Xenops rutilans</i> Temminck, 1821	-	-	10.0	-	-	-	INS ¹
DENDROCOLAPTIDAE							
<i>Lepidocolaptes angustirostris</i> (Vieillot, 1818)	-	36.4	-	-	-	9.5	INS ¹
TYRANNIDAE							
<i>Camptostoma obsoletum</i> (Temminck, 1824)	28.6	45.5	-	-	-	9.5	INS ¹
<i>Phaeomyias murina</i> (Spix, 1825)	-	13.6	-	-	-	-	INS ²
<i>Suiriri suiriri</i> (Vieillot, 1818) T (CR ⁵)	-	4.5	-	-	-	-	INS ¹
<i>Elaenia flavogaster</i> (Thunberg, 1822)	-	22.7	-	-	-	66.7	ONI ¹
<i>Elaenia mesoleuca</i> (Deppe, 1830) M	-	4.5	-	-	-	-	ONI ¹
<i>Elaenia chiriquensis</i> Lawrence, 1865 M	-	22.7	-	-	-	-	ONI ¹
<i>Elaenia obscura</i> (d'Orbigny and Lafresnaye, 1837)	-	4.5	-	-	-	-	ONI ¹
<i>Euscarthmus meloryphus</i> Wied, 1831	-	18.2	-	-	-	-	INS ²
<i>Hemitriccus margaritaceiventer</i> (d'Orbigny and afresnaye, 1827)	-	9.1	-	-	-	-	INS ¹
<i>Todirostrum poliocephalum</i> (Wied, 1831)	-	4.5	-	-	-	-	INS ²
<i>Tolmomyias sulphurescens</i> (Spix, 1825)	14.3	-	-	-	-	-	INS ¹
<i>Hirundinea ferruginea</i> (Gmelin, 1788) M	-	-	-	-	-	9.5	INS ²
<i>Lathrotriccus euleri</i> (Cabanis, 1868)	-	18.2	-	-	-	-	INS ²
<i>Cnemotriccus fuscatus</i> (Wied, 1831)	-	13.6	-	-	-	-	INS ²
<i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i> (Boddaert, 1783) M	-	4.5	-	-	-	-	INS ¹
<i>Xolmis velatus</i> (Lichtenstein, 1823) M	-	-	-	-	9.1	9.5	INS ²
<i>Fluvicola nengeta</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)	-	-	-	14.3	-	-	INS ²
<i>Arundinicola leucocephala</i> (Linnaeus, 1764)	-	-	-	42.9	-	-	INS ²
<i>Casiornis rufus</i> (Vieillot, 1816) M	-	4.5	-	-	-	-	INS ¹
<i>Myiarchus swainsoni</i> Cabanis and Heine, 1859 M	-	4.5	-	-	-	-	INS ¹
<i>Myiarchus ferox</i> (Gmelin, 1789)	14.3	4.5	-	-	-	-	INS ¹
<i>Myiarchus tyrannulus</i> (Statius Muller, 1766)	-	18.2	-	-	-	-	INS ¹
<i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)	-	22.7	-	-	-	76.2	ONI ¹
<i>Megarhynchus pitangua</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)	14.3	36.4	-	-	-	33.3	ONI ¹
<i>Myiozetetes similis</i> (Spix, 1825)	-	-	30.0	64.3	-	-	ONI ¹
<i>Myiodynastes maculatus</i> (Statius Muller, 1766) M	28.6	31.8	-	-	-	-	ONI ¹
<i>Empidonomus varius</i> (Vieillot, 1818) M	-	22.7	-	-	-	-	INS ¹
<i>Tyrannus savana</i> Vieillot, 1808 M	-	27.3	-	-	13.6	9.5	INS ¹
<i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i> Vieillot, 1819 M	14.3	31.8	-	-	-	61.9	INS ¹
PIPRIDAE							
<i>Antilophia galeata</i> (Lichtenstein, 1823) D	-	-	90.0	-	-	-	FRU ¹
TITYRIDAE							

¹ Motta-Junior (1990); ² Sick (1997); T = Threatened species; Status: V = vulnerable, CR = critically endangered, E = endangered, R = near threatened, L = least concern; ⁵ Threatened at the State of São Paulo; ^w Threatened in world; D = endemism in relation to Cerrado; M = migratory habit.

Table 1. Continued...

Taxon	FO (%)						TC
	CA	CE	GF	RB	PS	AA	
<i>Pachyramphus polychopterus</i> (Vieillot, 1818) M	-	4.5	-	-	-	-	INS ²
<i>Pachyramphus validus</i> (Lichtenstein, 1823) M	-	9.1	-	-	-	-	INS ²
HIRUNDINIDAE							
<i>Tachycineta leucorrhoa</i> (Vieillot, 1817)	-	-	-	-	-	9.5	INS ²
<i>Pygochelidon cyanoleuca</i> (Vieillot, 1817)	-	22.7	-	-	-	14.3	INS ²
<i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i> (Vieillot, 1817)	-	13.6	-	-	-	4.8	INS ²
CORVIDAE							
<i>Cyanocorax cristatellus</i> (Temminck, 1823) D	-	31.8	-	-	-	9.5	ONI ¹
<i>Cyanocorax chrysops</i> (Vieillot, 1818)	14.3	77.3	-	-	-	9.5	ONI ¹
DONACOBIIDAE							
<i>Donacobius atricapilla</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)	-	-	-	7.1	-	-	INS ²
TROGLODYTIDAE							
<i>Cantorchilus leucotis</i> (Lafresnaye, 1845)	-	13.6	100.0	-	-	4.8	INS ¹
<i>Troglodytes musculus</i> Naumann, 1823	-	36.4	-	-	-	19.0	INS ¹
TURDIDAE							
<i>Turdus rufiventris</i> Vieillot, 1818	14.3	-	-	-	-	23.8	ONI ¹
<i>Turdus leucomelas</i> Vieillot, 1818	14.3	13.6	-	-	-	61.9	ONI ¹
<i>Turdus amaurochalinus</i> Cabanis, 1850	-	13.6	-	-	-	38.1	ONI ¹
MIMIDAE							
<i>Mimus saturninus</i> (Lichtenstein, 1823)	-	22.7	-	-	18.2	33.3	ONI ²
VIREONIDAE							
<i>Cyclarhis gujanensis</i> (Gmelin, 1789)	-	27.3	-	-	-	9.5	INS ¹
<i>Vireo olivaceus</i> (Linnaeus, 1766) M	14.3	27.3	-	-	-	14.3	ONI ¹
PARULIDAE							
<i>Parula pitiayumi</i> (Vieillot, 1817)	-	9.1	-	-	-	-	INS ¹
<i>Geothlypis aequinoctialis</i> (Gmelin, 1789)	-	22.7	-	14.3	-	-	INS ²
<i>Basileuterus flaveolus</i> (Baird, 1865)	14.3	36.4	60.0	-	-	9.5	INS ¹
<i>Basileuterus leucophrys</i> Pelzeln, 1868 D, T (E^s)	-	-	20.0	-	-	-	INS ¹
<i>Basileuterus hypoleucus</i> Bonaparte, 1830	14.3	36.4	30.0	-	-	4.8	INS ¹
COEREBIDAE							
<i>Coereba flaveola</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	14.3	9.1	-	-	-	4.8	NEC ¹
THRAUPIDAE							
<i>Schistochlamys ruficapillus</i> (Vieillot, 1817)	28.6	18.2	-	-	-	-	ONI ¹
<i>Nemosia pileata</i> (Boddaert, 1783)	-	18.2	-	-	-	-	INS ¹
<i>Tachyphonus coronatus</i> (Vieillot, 1822)	-	4.5	-	-	-	-	ONI ¹
<i>Ramphocelus carbo</i> (Pallas, 1764)	-	18.2	-	-	-	-	ONI ¹
<i>Thraupis sayaca</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)	14.3	50.0	-	-	-	38.1	ONI ¹
<i>Tangara cayana</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)	14.3	31.8	-	-	-	9.5	ONI ¹
<i>Tersina viridis</i> (Illiger, 1811) M	-	9.1	-	-	-	-	ONI ¹
<i>Dacnis cayana</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)	14.3	22.7	-	-	-	4.8	ONI ¹
<i>Conirostrum speciosum</i> (Temminck, 1824)	28.6	27.3	-	-	-	-	INS ²
EMBEREZIDAE							
<i>Zonotrichia capensis</i> (Statius Muller, 1776)	-	22.7	-	-	27.3	52.4	GRA ¹
<i>Ammodramus humeralis</i> (Bosc, 1792)	-	-	-	-	45.5	-	GRA ²
<i>Sicalis flaveola</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)	-	-	-	-	4.5	-	GRA ²
<i>Sicalis luteola</i> (Sparman, 1789) M	-	-	-	14.3	-	-	GRA ²

¹ Motta-Junior (1990); ² Sick (1997); T = Threatened species; Status: V = vulnerable, CR = critically endangered, E = endangered, R = near threatened, L = least concern; ^s Threatened at the State of São Paulo; ^w Threatened in world; D = endemism in relation to Cerrado; M = migratory habit.

Table 1. Continued...

Taxon	FO (%)						TC
	CA	CE	GF	RB	PS	AA	
<i>Volatinia jacarina</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)	-	-	-	-	36.4	-	GRA ¹
<i>Sporophila collaris</i> (Boddaert, 1783) M, T(V^S)	-	9.1	-	-	-	-	GRA ²
<i>Sporophila lineola</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) M	-	-	-	21.4	-	-	GRA ²
<i>Sporophila caerulescens</i> (Vieillot, 1823)	-	13.6	-	-	50.0	-	GRA ¹
<i>Arremon flavirostris</i> Swainson, 1838	-	-	20.0	-	-	-	INS ¹
<i>Charitospiza eucosma</i> Oberholser 1905 D, T (CR ^S , R ^W)	-	28.6	-	-	-	-	GRA ²
<i>Coryphospingus cucullatus</i> (Statius Muller, 1766)	-	68.2	-	-	9.1	14.3	GRA ¹
CARDINALIDAE							
<i>Saltator similis</i> d'Orbigny and Lafresnaye, 1837	-	9.1	-	-	-	4.8	ONI ²
<i>Saltator atricollis</i> Vieillot, 1817 D, T (V^S)	-	-	-	-	-	-	ONI ²
ICTERIDAE							
<i>Chrysomus ruficapillus</i> (Vieillot, 1819) M	-	-	-	57.1	-	-	ONI ²
<i>Molothrus bonariensis</i> (Gmelin, 1789)	-	-	-	-	-	9.5	ONI ²
FRINGILLIDAE							
<i>Carduelis magellanica</i> (Vieillot, 1805)	-	-	-	-	-	4.8	GRA ²
<i>Euphonia chlorotica</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)	14.3	18.2	-	-	-	9.5	ONI ¹

¹ Motta-Junior (1990); ² Sick (1997); T = Threatened species; Status: V = vulnerable, CR = critically endangered, E = endangered, R = near threatened, L = least concern; ^S Threatened at the State of São Paulo; ^W Threatened in world; D = endemism in relation to Cerrado; M = migratory habit.

Table 2. Frequency of occurrence (%) of bird species in each habitat at RL-CPPSE and surroundings.

Habitat	FO			
	Up to 25	25.1-50	50.1-75	75.1-100
Cerradão	95.6	3.8	0.6	0.0
Cerrado sensu stricto	78.1	18.8	2.5	0.6
Gallery forest	96.3	1.9	0.6	1.3
Reservoir border	92.5	4.4	1.9	1.3
Pastureland and sugar cane monoculture	95.0	3.8	1.3	0.0
Anthropic area	90.6	5.0	3.1	1.3

found six species endemic to the Cerrado (*Melanopareia torquata*, *Antilophia galeata*, *Cyanocorax cristatellus*, *Basileuterus leucophrys*, *Charitospiza eucosma* and *Saltator atricollis*) and 22 migratory species (Table 1). Seven species were threatened in the State of São Paulo (Table 1): *Suiriri suiriri* and *C. eucosma* – critically endangered; *Asio flammeus*, *M. torquata* and *B. leucophrys* – endangered; *S. atricollis* and *Sporophila collaris* – vulnerable (São Paulo, 2008). Although we did not see nationally threatened species, we recorded two globally threatened (Table 1): *Hylocharis chrysura* – least concern and *C. eucosma* – near threatened (IUCN, 2007).

We found 28 species in the cerradão, 110 in the cerrado sensu stricto, 13 in the gallery forest, 26 in the

Table 3. Number of species (% in parentheses) in trophic categories at RL-CPPSE and surroundings.

Trophic category	Number of species (%)
Insectivores	75 (46.9)
Omnivores	31 (19.4)
Granivores	14 (8.8)
Frugivores	12 (7.5)
Piscivores	10 (6.2)
Nectarivores	8 (5.0)
Carnivores	8 (5.0)
Carrion-eaters	1 (6)
Herbivores	1 (6)
Total	160

reservoir border, 26 in the pasturelands and sugar cane monoculture and 55 in the anthropic area (Table 1).

Most of the species had low FO values in all vegetation forms. In five of the six physiognomies, more than 90% of species were registered in less than 25% of the visits. Cerrado *sensu stricto* was the only one that presented almost 20% of bird species registered in 25.1 to 50% of the visits (Table 2). Insectivores were the major trophic category, followed by omnivores, granivores, piscivores, frugivores, carnivores, nectarivores, carrion-eaters and herbivores (Table 3).

4. Discussion

4.1. Species richness

We found 20.8% of São Paulo avifauna (770 species) (Willis and Oniki, 2003) and 19.1% of Cerrado domain (Silva, 1995). Our results denote that RL-CPPSE has representative species richness if compared with other studies, even though there are few bird studies in São Paulo's cerrado fragments. Twenty years ago, in 4 hours of observation, Willis and Oniki (2003) found 89 species at Fazenda Canchim, in cerrado fragment and semi-deciduous forest. Other previous studies found 214 bird species in the campus of the Universidade Federal de São Carlos in 9 years of study (Motta-Junior and Vasconcellos, 1996), 302 in Estações Ecológicas de Jataí e Experimental de Luis Antônio in 13 years (Dias, 2000), 231 in Estação Ecológica de Itirapina in 21 years (Willis, 2004) and in 9 years (Motta-Junior et al., 2008), 144 species in Parque Estadual de Vassununga in 1 year (Develey et al., 2005) and 158 and 201 species in two fragments in Estação Experimental de Itirapina in 15 months (Telles and Dias, 2010). In addition, it is important to notice that RL-CPPSE is one of the larger remnants in the region (Primavesi et al., 1999) and could be suitable as a natural corridor or habitat and food source for birds.

4.2. Endemic and threatened species

We found 20% (six species) of all endemic species to Cerrado (Silva and Bates 2002); four of them were threatened in São Paulo (São Paulo, 2008). We registered *Charitospiza eucosma*, which was also recorded at Estação Ecológica de Itirapina, SP (Motta-Junior et al., 2008). Even though this species has been considered as missing or critically endangered in the state (Willis, 2004; São Paulo, 2008), these recent records provide evidence that there are populations breeding within São Paulo. The few *Charitospiza eucosma* records have been related to habitat loss, since it usually occurs in natural open areas subjected to regular fires (e.g., open savannas) (Willis, 2004), which are now rarely found in the state (Durigan et al., 1987; 2003). Furthermore, this species is considered high sensitive to habitat disturbance (Stotz et al., 1996). However, the lack of studies in cerrado fragments in the state may also contribute to *C. eucosma* threaten status. We suggest, then, more censuses and population monitoring should be conducted in these areas.

Among other endemic and threatened species in the state, we found *Melanopareia torquata*, which has been rarely studied (e.g. Tubelis and Cavalcanti, 2000). Recently, some population studies have been providing information about their breeding biology and ecology (Gressler and Marini, 2008; Kanegae et al., 2008). Although *M. torquata* is considered as medium-sensitive species to anthropic disturbance (Stotz et al., 1996), we suggest that it should receive high protection effort in São Paulo. Like *M. torquata*, *A. flammeus* is classified as endangered species in São Paulo (São Paulo, 2008). We registered this species only once, flying above pastureland with typical foraging.

4.3. Frequency of occurrence

We found low frequency of occurrence (FO) value for most species, which was also reported in other studies in fragments in São Paulo (Aleixo and Vielliard, 1995; Almeida et al., 1999; Donatelli et al. 2007). Few records for species might occur because of the unusual exploitation of the area, for instance feeding habits in the area during a short period of time. Alternatively, migratory and occasional species (see above) or species not easy to detect, such as hummingbirds that are difficult to see or hear, could have also contributed to FO reduced values. We were unable to compare FO between vegetation forms, because the number of visits in each area was not similar.

Migrants that were found indicate this site as an important shelter and food source. We observed both short- and long-distance migratory species, such as *Dendrocygna viduata* and *Tyrannus savana*, respectively. However, we did not observe three migratory species, *Amazonetta brasiliensis* (Gmelin, 1789), *Platalea ajaja* Linnaeus, 1758 and *Rynchops niger* Linnaeus, 1758, which used to be observed in the region (Manoel M. Dias, *pers. comm.*). This may be caused by non-annual site use, to area isolation or to habitat quality decrease in the reserve in recent years. However, our irregular sampling method could also have failed to register more migrant species.

4.4. Bird species and vegetation forms

Inside the protected area of cerrado, we found 120 species, 75% of the total recorded. In the cerrado, we registered bird species with canopy foraging habits, such as *Dryocopus lineatus*, *Conirostrum speciosum* and *Schistochlamys ruficapillus* (Stotz et al., 1996). These species had also the highest FO at this habitat. In the cerrado *sensu stricto*, we found typical species of savanna or similar vegetation forms, e.g. *Colaptes campestris*, which uses terrestrial and canopy foraging strata, and *Melanopareia torquata*, with terrestrial and understory habits (Stotz et al., 1996; Sick, 1997). Species with the high FO in this physiognomy were *Cyanocorax chrysops*, *Crypturellus parvirostris*, *Coryphospingus cuculatus*, *Thamnophilus doliatus* and *T. punctatus*. In the gallery forest, *Cantorchilus leucotis*, *Antilophia galeata* and

Basileuterus flaveolus were the most frequent species. Despite the small area of gallery forest, this vegetation type usually shows high biodiversity. Some birds might use different strata (e.g. *B. flaveolus*, *B. leucophrys* and *B. hypoleucus*, Marini and Cavalcanti, 1993) allowing an increase in species richness (Macedo, 2002).

We found 92 species in the surrounding area, including pasturelands, sugar cane monoculture, reservoir border and anthropic area. *Ammodramus humeralis*, *Sicalis flaveola*, *S. luteola*, *Sporophila* spp. and *Volatinia jacarina* were typical grassland species found in pastureland borders. Among non-Passeriformes species, *Cariama cristata*, *Syrigma sibilatrix* and *Bubulcus ibis* were frequently found in pasturelands. They are usually benefited by agriculture and pastureland occupation (Sick, 1997). For instance, *Bubulcus ibis*, was first registered in Brazil almost 40 years ago, and rapidly became abundant (Sick, 1997). Individuals of this species usually follow grazing cattle, improving their ability to find insects for feeding (Sick, 1997).

Swampy species were registered at the reservoir border, such as *Certhiaxis cinnamomea*, *Chrysomus ruficapillus*, *Fluvicola nengeta* and *Himantopus melanura*, which forage on wet ground. Aquatic species, which are highly dependent of water for fish, aquatic insects or mollusks food items availability, were commonly registered in the area. *Ardea alba* had the highest FO in this habitat (100%), followed by *Mesembrinibis cayennensis* (78.6%) and *Jacana jacana* (71.4%). We found a juvenile individual of *Tigrisoma lineatum* only once in the reservoir border, which indicates reproduction in the area.

In the anthropic area, including a small village, we frequently found many generalist species, like *Pitangus sulphuratus* and *Furnarius rufus*. Most Columbidae species are also highly adapted to anthropic areas and are easily found in these areas. *Patagioenas picazuro*, *P. cayennensis* and *Zenaida auriculata* were uncommon in São Paulo until the 1960's, but since then, they have become abundant in the state (Willis and Oniki 1987). The expansion of mechanical agriculture increases grain availability on the ground and therefore benefits these species' feeding behaviour (Willis and Oniki 1987)

4.5. Trophic categories

Species distribution in trophic categories follows similar results found in previous studies (Willis, 1979; Motta-Junior and Vasconcellos, 1996; Krügel and Anjos, 2000; Anjos, 2001; Tellino-Junior et al., 2005). Most species were insectivorous (46.9%), a typical pattern in tropical regions (Sick, 1997; Macedo, 2002), probably related to site resources availability. Omnivorous species followed in the rank (19.4%) and were also significant for the community composition. These species are expected to be less prejudiced in disturbed areas, because they have diverse diets (Willis, 1979; Motta-Junior, 1990).

Granivores were in third position in the categories rank. Such species records are probably related to pas-

turelands and crop fields in the surrounding area that provide suitable foraging sites. Frugivores were fewer in number of species in our sample. However, we found small (*Antilophia galeata*), medium (*Amazona aestiva*) and large frugivores (*Penelope superciliaris* and *Ramphastos toco*), which indicates the wide range of food item availability. This group is of great importance in natural area conservation, since it is strongly associated with seed dispersal and vegetation structure maintenance (Pizo, 2001).

Nectarivores were poorly represented in the bird community, and were composed almost entirely of hummingbird species. Most of these species are mutually related to some plant species, as well as frugivores, since they are pollinators. Seed production or germination of many plants species may be affected by the reduction of pollinators in fragmented areas (Murcia, 1996), which denotes the ecological importance of nectarivores. The category of Piscivores was mainly composed of Ardeidae species, which require aquatic environments for enough food availability (Sick, 1997). Therefore, on the RL-CPPSE boundary, Represa do 29 is a representative habitat for this group maintenance. Carnivorous species, such as hawks (*Rupornis magnirostris*) and owls (*Tyto alba*) registered in this study, are also critical for community dynamics, because they are top predators (Sick, 1997) and may control the population size of small animals.

5. Conclusion

We found remarkable data at RL-CPPSE, such as endemic and critically threatened bird species, and high species richness. Species distribution in trophic categories also indicates the area as a suitable environment for the existence of a wide range of birds. Therefore, here we contribute with valuable information for the development of conservation or management plans at a local or regional level. Regarding our results and the area features, such as its size, conservation status and position within the state – between Cerrado and Atlantic Forest – the study site must be considered as a priority conservation area to preserve bird species in the State of São Paulo.

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