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Document record of White-breasted Tapaculo, *Eleoscytalopus indigoticus* (Aves, Rhinocryptidae) vocalizing in cavity in Sao Roque, SP, Brazil.

Antonio Silveira Ribeiro dos Santos
Programa Ambiental: A Última Arca de Noé
www.ultimaarcadenoe.com.br

Abstract

The White-breasted Tapaculo (*Eleoscytalopus indigoticus*) is an endemic species of the Atlantic Forest with distribution in southeastern Brazil. It's uses natural cavities to to acoustic communication. This interesting form of communication was recorded in photos and video by the author in the mountains of Sao Roque, in São Paulo state, Brazil, on October 8, 2015.

Resumo

O macuquinho *Eleoscytalopus indigoticus* é uma espécie endêmica da Mata Atlântica com distribuição no sudeste brasileiro. E utiliza cavidades naturais para se comunicar acusticamente. Esta forma interessante de comunicação foi registrada em fotos e vídeo pelo autor na região montanhosa de São Roque, no Estado de São Paulo, Brasil, em 08 de outubro de 2015.

The White-breasted Tapaculo (*Eleoscytalopus indigoticus*, former *Scytalopus indigoticus*) belong the family Rhinocryptidae, composed of 12 species in Brazil (CBRO, 2014), and is known more for its vocalization that seems frog, than for its discreet plumage and his rare appearances because it is shy bird, who lives near the forest floor hiding among the foliage.

It occurs in southeastern Brazil in the area of Atlantic Forest complex and are therefore forest bird that lives near the ground, where foraging feeding on insects. It's a endemic species of Atlantic rainforest (SICK, 1997, RIDGELY & TUDOR. 1994).

On October 8, 2015 around 10 am, during a ornithological visit we hear the unmistakable vocalization *Eleoscytalopus indigoticus* in the area of the Pousada Green Valley, in the municipality of Sao Roque, in Sao Paulo state, Brazil (23° 35' 35.94" S; 47° 05' 08.05" W), where there are native forest in the recovery phase, planting eucalyptus trees and lakes.



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After locating its territory the author and biol. Antonio Bordignon approached and played the vocalization (playback) which caused the bird to vocalize several times in most of them within a cavity formed by the peel of tree fallen on the ground.

Each time the observers approach about two meters the bird out of the cavity and returning minutes later to continue to respond the playback.

The literature attribute this behavior is due to the ability to expand the sound or give greater protection while the bird vocalizes (Godoy & Lima, 2012). For us we had the impression that the bird seeks the cavity as more secure place to stay vocalization, since within the cavity vocalizes for several minutes following and several times a day.

The fact was documented in pictures (below) and video, deposited on the Internet (YOUTUBE and PROGRAMA AMBIENTAL: A ÚLTIMA ARCA DE NOÉ)

Earlier in the same month the observers were in this place and watching this same individual's behavior, which led to the return on this record.

Interestingly, it was observed that the bird vocalized while feeding the ground between the grass and leaves, but immediately returned to its cavity to vocalize over time and intensity.

This behavior is not well studied. Because this note will can contribute to the understanding better of the behavioral ecology of the species and therefore its preservation, remembering that it is an endangered species.

So with this simple report of observation and recording intend to contribute to the ecology studies of this species.

References

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Follow two photos by the author of the bird in and out of the cavity:





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And photo by the field work :



Left: biol Antonio Bordignon ----- Right: the Author Antonio Silveira