

NEW NOTEWORTHY OCCURRENCES OF THE WIED'S TYRANT-MANAKIN (*NEOPELMA AURIFRONS*) IN BRAZIL

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Novas ocorrências do Fruxu-baiano (*Neopelma aurifrons*) no Brasil.

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The Wied's Tyrant-Manakin (*Neopelma aurifrons*) is a poorly known endemic species of the Brazilian Atlantic forest, occurring in the eastern states of Bahia, Espírito Santo, Minas Gerais, and Rio de Janeiro (Whitney *et al.* 1995, Sick 1997, BirdLife International 2000). In Minas Gerais, there are only few records of this species in the northeastern and easternmost parts of the state, in areas originally covered by lowland Atlantic forest (Whitney *et al.* 1995, BirdLife International 2000, Ribon & Maldonado-Coelho 2001).

This species is considered endangered because of the high level of fragmentation of its habitat and the scarcity of records along its restricted geographical range (BirdLife International 2000). One of the conservation strategies proposed for the Wied's Tyrant-Manakin is to conduct inventories in new localities where new populations can poten-

tially be found (BirdLife International 2000). In this paper, we provide three new localities of occurrence for the Wied's Tyrant-Manakin in the state of Minas Gerais.

The songs and calls of one individual of the Wied's Tyrant-Manakin were tape-recorded on 21 July 2002 in a primary semi-deciduous forest in the Rio Doce State Park (19°39'S, 42°34'W), Timóteo municipality, in the left bank of the Doce river, eastern Minas Gerais state. This individual was observed for 20 min in the mid-story and understory on the Campolina trail area, c. 275 m a.s.l. The species was observed and tape-recorded again on 26 July 2002 in the same site, approximately 400 m away from the locality of the previous record.

On 14 November 2002, three individuals of the Wied's Tyrant-Manakin were observed in the Acauã Ecological Station (17°07'S, 42°46'W, c. 900 m a.s.l.), Leme do Prado

municipality, northeastern Minas Gerais state. These birds were singing c. 100 m apart from each other, in the interior of a semi-deciduous secondary forest. One pair of the Wied's Tyrant-Manakin was collected on 15 and 16 November 2002 in one forest patch of c. 280 ha (17°08'S, 42°44'W, c. 850 m a.s.l.), adjacent to the Acauã Ecological Station. These specimens were deposited in the Ornithological Collection at the Departamento de Zoologia of the Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais (DZUFMG 3573 – male), and in the Museu de História Natural de Taubaté (MHNT 4558 – female). Three birds were observed and tape-recorded in this area between 22 and 31 December 2003, when an additional female was collected (DZUFMG 4027). It is worthy to note that four males of the Pale-Bellied Tyrant-Manakin (*Neopelma pallescens*) were seen in an intense vocal activity in the same forest fragment where the individuals of Wied's Tyrant-Manakin had been recorded. Three individuals were collected and deposited in the same two institutions mentioned above (numbers DZUFMG 3569, DZUFMG 3570, and MHNT 4559). This is the first record of *Neopelma* species in sympatry (see Whitney *et al.* 1995).

Until now, the Wied's Tyrant-Manakin had been recorded in only three reserves in its geographical range: Sooretama Biological Station, Augusto Ruschi Biological Station, and Chapada Diamantina National Park. However, the occurrence for Chapada Diamantina still needs confirmation (BirdLife International 2000). Thus, the observations of the Wied's Tyrant-Manakin reported here in the Rio Doce State Park and in the Acauã Ecological Station add two records inside protected areas. As the Wied's Tyrant-Manakin was found in one of the extant forest fragments outside Acauã Ecological Station, further inventories should be conducted in other forest patches in this area to inform the establishment of conservation priorities encom-

passing the forest remnants in the Leme do Prado region.

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