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SCIENTIFIQUES

**Range extension of the Cattle Tyrant *Machetornis rixosa*
for midwest of Goiás state, Brazil**

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ABSTRACT

We present the first documented record of the Cattle Tyrant *Machetornis rixosa* (Vieillot, 1819) to the midwest of Goiás State. One specimen was photographed in an urban area in the municipality of Iporá. This record extends the geographical distribution of *M. rixosa* for about 248.75 km northeast over the nearest boundary. Its expansion is probably related to the increase of grasslands and other modified areas, or may result from a lack of ornithological studies in the Cerrado.

PALAVRAS CHAVE:

Machetornis rixosa
Brasil
Cerrado
Estado de Goiás
Extensão da distribuição
geográfica

RESUMO – EXTENSÃO DA DISTRIBUIÇÃO DE *Machetornis rixosa* (Vieillot, 1819) PARA O CENTRO-OESTE DE GOIÁS, BRASIL. Apresentamos o primeiro registro documentado do suiriri-cavaleiro *Machetornis rixosa* (Vieillot, 1819) para o centro-oeste goiano. Um espécime foi fotografado em área urbana no município de Iporá. Este registro estende a área de distribuição geográfica de *M. rixosa* para aproximadamente 248,75 km nordeste em relação ao limite mais próximo. Provavelmente sua expansão está relacionada ao aumento de pastagens e outras áreas antropizadas, ou pode decorrer da falta de estudos ornitológicos no Cerrado.

Cattle Tyrant *Machetornis rixosa* (Vieillot, 1819) is widespread in South America, ranging from Venezuela to Bolivia, in the most of extra-amazonian Brazil, to the south from Paraguay and northern Argentina (RIDGELY; TUDOR, 1994; SICK, 1997; SIGRIST, 2006). This species inhabits open landscapes as agricultural fields, around farmhouses and city parks. It catches insects in pairs or small groups and follows horses, cattle and capybaras (RIDGELY; TUDOR, 1994; SICK, 1997; SAZIMA; SAZIMA, 2010).

This species was documented both to the Cerrado biome and the Brazilian Federal District (SILVA, 1995a; BRAZ; CAVALCANTI, 2001). In Goiás state, *M. rixosa* was recorded to the north east micro region in the boundary with Bahia state, and to the south west until Araguaia river valley in the boundary with Mato Grosso state (municipality of Mineiros 17°28'37"S, 53°17'07"W, elevation 620 m) (RIDGELY; TUDOR, 1994; SIGRIST, 2006). However, we recorded a group of three to five specimens in an urban environment in the municipality of Iporá, in the midwest of Goiás state, at margins of the Tamanduá stream (16°26'05"S 51°07'07"W; elevation 569 m). These birds were observed catching insects in the soil or perched in the exotic tree *Mimosa caesalpiniiifolia* (Fabaceae). One adult was documented over non-paved soil (Fig. 1). Ours appears this record extends the known range of *M. rixosa* for 248.75 km north east in relation to the closest limit in municipality of Mineiros.

Probably, the range expansion of this species is due to the increase of pastures and other modified landscapes, just as verified recently to other Central Brazilian species (BAGNO; RODRIGUES, 1998; BLAMIREs et al., 2002; BLAMIREs; MENDONÇA; HIDASI; SANT'ANA, 2005). Alternatively,

knowledge about the species' range may be incomplete due to a paucity of ornithological surveys in the Cerrado (SILVA, 1995b).



Fig. 1. An adult of Cattle Tyrant *Machetornis rixosa*, municipality of Iporá, midwest of Goiás state, Brazil (Foto D. BLAMIREs).

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