

*This is a portion of the Research Report received from Dr. Loren K. Ammerman and Dr. Michael T. Dixon, leaders of the Texan Wesleyan Tropical Biological Class, USA July 1999. A full summary of all the Vertebrate species found by Ammerman and Dixon is located in the 2000 Historical Research archives. Ammerman and Dixon are now professors at Angelo State University, Texas, USA <http://www.angelo.edu/> (updated May 2010)*

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The Texas Wesleyan tropical biology class visited Caño Palma from 14 July - 17 July 1999. We netted for bats each night for about 4-5 hours beginning at dusk. Our nets (usually 3) were placed across trails on the station grounds. During these three netting nights, we captured 33 bats of 10 different species (see the attached list). Plus, we observed 12 *Rhynconycteris naso* in the boathouse (one with a pup), 3 occupied bat tents (*Dermanura watsoni* in one *Gustavia* tent and two palm tents). At the base of Cerro Tortugero we saw 6 *Ectophylla alba* in a Heliconia tent, approximately 12 *Desmodus* in the cave, and 3 *Saccopteryx bilineata* on buttress roots. The Honduran White Bats were the highlight of my trip this year.

One notable capture for us was *Myotis albescens*. This is the first time that we have captured this species at Caño Palma. We captured one marked *Carollia castanea* on 16 July 1999. He had a shaven head and a dark stripe painted like a mohawk on its head. I would like to find out more about the study of which this marked bat is a part.

We collected fecal samples from 13 different bats. Eight samples were from *Carollia* species. One of the course participants has received a grant to analyze the fecal samples and capture data from Caño Palma over the last 5 years. We will be sure to share our results with you once the data have been analyzed.

We captured two male *Nyctomys sumichrasti* (Vesper Rats) out of the buildings and took measurements on them. Ross requested that we sacrifice these pests. One was captured in the kitchen and the other was crawling between the mattress and bedframe as my husband, Mike, slept. He jumped out of bed and captured it. It was a good thing that he (the rat) wasn't crawling around in some student's bed. We also identified *Proechimys semispinosus* (Tomes' Spiny Rat) on the station. One of the dogs killed it and brought it to us. The head and body length was 250mm (a large rat), but the tail was broken off.

Some other species that we saw on the station grounds and have added to the species list for our course are *Bufo coniferus*, *Mastigodryas melanolomus*, *Sibon nebulata*, and a Jaguarundi.

We spent about 2 hours on the morning of the 17th netting for birds. We caught one bird that might be of interest to the group doing the breeding bird survey. At the

second trail intersection (the farthest one from the bathroom) we got a male White-collared Manakin (band #174). We also got two unbanded females and one unbanded male in the same area.

**TEXAS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY TROPICAL BIOLOGY PROGRAM  
MIST-NET CAPTURES 14-16 JULY 1999**

<i>Dermanura watsoni</i>	13
<i>Carollia castanea</i>	5
<i>Carollia perspicillata</i>	4
<i>Artibeus lituratus</i>	3
<i>Glossophaga soricina</i>	3
<i>Hylonycteris underwoodi</i>	1
<i>Platyrrhinus helleri</i>	1
<i>Trachops cirrhosus</i>	1
<i>Myotis riparius</i>	1
<i>Myotis albescens</i>	1