

*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 1995. A full summary of all the Vertebrate species found by Ammerman and Dixon is located in the 2000 Historical Report archives. Ammerman and Dixon are now professors at Angelo State University, Texas, USA <http://www.angelo.edu/> (updated May 2010)*

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Enclosed you will find the list of vertebrate species observed while staying at CañoPalma from the 19-23 of July 1995. Notice that not all species were observed on the grounds of the biological station proper. As before, we had a wonderful time (although too short). It was great to see the familiar faces of Pat, Daryl and Stace and to see how the station looks when it is not under water!. We had three nights of successful battling and caught 9 different species. *Artibeus watsoni* was the most abundant. We also were excited to see this species in their tent constructed by altering the leaves of a *Gustavia* tree.

We did get a few more fecal samples than last year (6). The results are summarized in the table at the end of this letter. Three of the five *Artibeus* had blue-stained mouths and teeth, but they offered no fecal samples. However, the *Hylonycteris underwoodi* sample contained seeds from a blue fruit from *Conostegia xalapensis*. It is possible that the *Artibeus* are eating the same blue fruit.

It might also be of interest to you that two of our students, while on an assigned one-hour observation, watched a Rufous-necked Wood Rail along the water's edge. They were in a canoe up the canal from the boat dock about 50 yards. They described it exactly and we identified it using a field guide when they returned. According to the Birds of Costa Rica, this species is very uncommon and the closest possible record is La Selva. It supposedly frequents mangroves and eats crabs.

Thank you very much for your assistance with permits. Also, I will need to apply again for next year's permits and would like to know the name and address of the person that should receive my proposal.

Pat and Daryl did a wonderful job caring for our group. They should be commended.

**RESULTS OF FECAL SAMPLE ANALYSIS**  
**BATS CAPTURED 20-22 JULY 1995**  
**TEXAS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY CLASS**

<u>Fecal samples collected</u>	<u>Contents</u>
<i>Tonatia brasiliensis</i>	insect parts
<i>Eptesicus furinalis</i>	insect parts
<i>Carollia castanea</i>	<i>Piper</i> sp.
<i>Hylonycteris underwoodi</i>	<i>Conostegia xalapensis</i> seeds
<i>Platyrrhinus helleri</i>	<i>Cecropia</i> sp.
<i>Myotis nigricans</i>	insect parts

**VERTEBRATE SPECIES LIST**

for Parismina/Tortugero/Caño Palma Biological Station  
 July 19-23, 1995  
 by Texas Wesleyan University

**BIRDS**

Pelecanidae	
Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i> (P)
Phalacrocoracidae	
Olivaceous Cormorant	<i>Palacrocorax olivaceus</i> (P)
Anhingidae	
Anhinga	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i> (P)
Ardeidae	
Bare-throated Tiger Heron	<i>Tigrisoma mexicanum</i>
Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>
Great Egret	<i>Casmerodius albus</i>
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>
Little Blue Heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>
Green-backed Heron	<i>Butorides striatus</i>
Yellow-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax violaceus</i>
Cathartidae	
Turkey Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>
Black Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>
King Vulture	<i>Sarcoramphus papa</i>
Cracidae	
Crested Guan	<i>Penelope purpurascens</i>
Great Curassow	<i>Crax rubra</i>
Rallidae	
Rufous-necked Wood Rail	<i>Aramides axillaris</i>
Jacanidae	
Northern Jacana	<i>Jacana spinosa</i>
Columbidae	
Short-billed Pigeon	<i>Columba nigrirostris</i> (P)
Psittacidae	

Orange-chinned Parakeet	<i>Brotogeris jugularis</i>
Mealy parrot	<i>Amazona farinosa</i>
Cuculidae	
Squirrel Cuckoo	<i>Piaya cayana</i>
Groove-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga sulcirostris</i>
Apodidae	
White-collared Swift	<i>Streptiprocne zonaris</i> (MT)
Trogonidae	
Slaty-tailed Trogon	<i>Trogon massena</i> (CP)
Alcedinidae	
Green Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle americana</i>
Rhamphastidae	
Collared Aracari	<i>Pteroglossus torquatus</i>
Keel-billed Toucan	<i>Rhamphastos sulfuratus</i>
Chestnut-mandibled Toucan	<i>Rhamphastos swainsonii</i> (MT)
Picidae	
Black-cheeked Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes pucherani</i> (P)
Tyrannidae	
Great Kiskadee	<i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i> (P)
Boat-billed Flycatcher	<i>Megarynchus pitangua</i> (P)
Tropical Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i> (P)
Hirundinidae	
Mangrove Swallow	<i>Tachycineta albilinea</i>
Troglodytidae	
House Wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i> (P)
Thraupidae	
Blue-gray Tanager	<i>Thraupis episcopus</i> (P)
Scarlet-rumped Tanager	<i>Rhamphocelus passerinii</i>
Icterinae	
Montezuma Oropendula	<i>Psarocolius montezuma</i> (CP)

P=Parisimina Tarpon Rancho

MT=Mount Tortugero

CP=Caño Palma

no notation=viewed in canals from boat

### MAMMALS

5- <i>Artibeus (Dermanura) watsoni</i> *	Thomas' Fruit-eating Bat
1- <i>Platyrrhinus (Vampyrops) helleri</i>	Heller's Broad-nosed Bat
1- <i>Tonatia brasiliensis (=minuta)</i>	Pygmy Round-eared bat
1- <i>Trachops cirrhosus</i>	Fringe-lipped Bat

3- <i>Carollia perspicillata</i>	Seba's Short-tailed Fruit Bat
1- <i>Carollia castanea</i>	Allen's Short-tailed Bat
1- <i>Hylonycteris underwoodi</i>	Underwood's Long-tongued Bat
1- <i>Eptesicus furinalis</i>	Argentine Brown Bat
1- <i>Myotis nigricans</i>	Black Myotis

(All of the above captured by mistnet on station grounds)

<i>Rhynconycteris naso</i>	Long-nosed Bats (roosting in boat dock)
<i>Saccopteryx</i> sp.	White-lined Bats (roosting on tree on Colibri Trail)
<i>Noctilio</i> sp.	Fishing bats (seen over water)
<i>Alouatta palliata</i>	Mantled Howler Monkey, Mono Congo
<i>Ateles geoffroy</i>	Spider Monkey, Mono Colorado, Mono Araña
<i>Cebus capucinus</i>	White-throated Capuchin, Mono Cara Blanca
<i>Bradypus variegatus</i>	Three-toed sloth
<i>Dasybus novemcinctus</i>	Nine-banded Armadillo (CP)
<i>Lutra longicaudus</i>	Southern River Otter (in Caño Negro and on canal bank just outside of Tortugero village)

REPTILES:

<i>Caiman crocodilus</i>	Spectacled Caiman
<i>Crocodylus acutus</i>	American Crocodile
<i>Basiliscus vittatus</i>	Striped Basilisk (P)
<i>Basiliscus plumifrons</i>	Green Basilisk
<i>Ameiva</i> sp.*	Ameivas
<i>Norops</i> sp.*	Anoles
<i>Iguana iguana</i>	Green Iguana
<i>Rhinoclemys funerea</i>	Black River Turtle
<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	Green Sea Turtle (on southern beach of Tortugero National Park during turtle tour)

(unidentified skink in dining hall, and light beige geckos at Parismina Lodge)

AMPHIBIANS:

<i>Bufo marinus</i>	Marine Toad
<i>Dendrobates pumilio</i>	Arrow poison Frog
<i>Agalychnis callidryas</i>	Red-eyed Treefrogs
<i>Eleuthrodactylus diastema</i>	Tink frogs (Demear watched it call)
<i>Smilisca baudinii</i>	Mexican Treefrog

\*uncertain about species identification without specimen to confirm