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MORE UNTUFTED CAPUCHINS IN SOUTHEASTERN AMAZONIA?

Until the description of *Cebus kaapori* Queiroz 1992 from the Brazilian State of Maranhão, the known distribution of untufted capuchins (*Cebus albifrons* and *Cebus nigrivittatus*) in the Amazon basin was restricted to the north and west of the Amazonas/Tapajós river system. Lopes and Ferrari (1993) extended the range of *C.kaapori* as far west as the Rio Tocantins, but it remains unclear whether untufted capuchins occur further west. If an untufted capuchin does occur west of the Tocantins, its absence from the literature may be a consequence of the same two factors which contributed to that of *C.kaapori* prior to 1992: exceptionally low population densities (Queiroz, 1992; Lopes, 1993) and a restricted geographical distribution.

With this in mind, the region to the south of Cameté on the left or west bank of the Tocantins was visited in July and September 1993 in an attempt to confirm, or otherwise, the occurrence of an untufted capuchin in the lower Tocantins/Xingú interfluvium (fieldwork supported by the Universidade Federal do Pará). During interviews, only about one in ten residents reported the

presence of a "cairara" (untufted capuchin) in local forests, although these reports seem reliable, given that they invariably came from the older and most experienced residents, who characterized the animal as extremely rare and difficult to observe. This is consistent with records of *C.kaapori* east of the Tocantins.

Unfortunately, it was not possible to confirm these reports through either sightings or specimens, although further expeditions are planned. If an untufted capuchin does exist in this region, it is also likely to occur in the Caxiuanã National Forest, where a research station has been recently established by the Goeldi Museum, Belém. Hopefully, then, we may have some more concrete information in the not too distant future.

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ILHABELA STATE PARK: A POORLY KNOWN RESERVE IN SOUTHEAST BRAZIL

The Ilhabela State Park, created in 1977 by the



Forestry Institute of the state of São Paulo, covers 80% of the Island of São Sebastião (Brazil's largest offshore island) along with all of the smaller islands belonging to the municipality of Ilhabela, São Paulo. The Park covers 27,025 ha, and on the Island of São Sebastião has an altitudinal range from sea level to 1,350 m, with a mean elevation of 800 m. The vegetation is typical of the Atlantic coastal forest, varying according to the altitude and slope. At higher altitudes the forest has remained essentially untouched, although subsistence and intensive agriculture (mainly sugar cane and coffee) during the 19th and early 20th Centuries completely devastated the lower slopes (below 300 m), today evidenced by large areas of secondary forest.

Despite some collecting, practically nothing is known of the island's flora, and very little of its fauna (see Lüderwaldt, 1929; Müller, 1966). Expeditions have been carried out by the Zoology Museum of the University of São Paulo, and a current research project is inventorying the avifauna of the islands. There is at least one mammal known to be endemic to the island, a spiny rat known as the cururuá, *Nelomys thomasi* (Thering, 1871) (also placed in the genus *Echimys*), along with some amphibians and reptiles. Current research is, however, already indicating further endemics, including mammals. This is of special interest because the island is separated from the mainland by a channel only 2 km wide, and in some places not more than 10 m in depth. The time the island was separated from the mainland can be determined with some accuracy, and the Park provides a remarkable natural experiment for island biogeography and for examining rates of evolution.

From the viewpoint of conservation, the Park is important not only for its forests and endemics, but also many species restricted to the Atlantic coastal forest, and such as the oncilla (*Leopardus tigrinus*), ocelot (*Leopardus pardalis*), piping guan (*Pipile jacutinga*), the golden-tailed parrotlet (*Touit surda*), and the solitary tinamou (*Tinamus solitarius*). The only primate which is definitely known to occur on the island is the black-horned capuchin, *Cebus apella nigrinus* (Goldfuss, 1809), a large, dark colored race, which also occurs as far north as the Rio Doce in the states of Espírito Santo and Minas Gerais, and extends south into northeastern Argentina (see Di Bitteto and Arditi, 1993). Local people also indicate the presence of a large, paler monkey, as well as a black monkey with white around its face, different to and larger than the capuchin monkey. The first may be the