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## News

### TWO BREEDING FEMALES IN A *SAGUINUS FUSCICOLLIS* WEDDELLI GROUP

On 20 September 1994, we captured a group of saddleback tamarins composed of six individuals (one adult male, two adult females, one subadult male, one subadult female, and one juvenile male) in a "*Saguinus* trap" (Encarnación *et al.*, 1990) in the Zoobotanical Park of the Federal University of Acre (956'30" - 957'19"S, 6752'08" - 6753'00"W; 155 m above sea level; area 100 ha). All individuals except one adult female, suspected to be pregnant, were anesthetized, weighed, measured and fitted with collars of different colors.

On 24 October, the adult male (Blue) was seen carrying two newborn infants of the unmarked adult female. One week later, while Blue was carrying the infants (the only individual except the mother seen to do so), the other adult female (Orange) was

seen surrendering food (banana) to him. By 13 December the infants were feeding at the capture platform, and were quite independent.

About two months later, Orange gave birth to twins, first seen on 23 January, increasing the group size to 10. These new infants were carried by Orange, Blue and a subadult female (Yellow). It seemed that Blue was the father, being the only adult male. The infants were last seen in April 1995, apparently healthy.

This would seem to be a case of polygyny, an uncommon mating system in callitrichids (for reviews see Rylands, 1993), having been observed in only four species to date (*Callithrix jacchus* - Digby and Ferrari, 1994; *Callithrix kuhli* - Alonso and Porfirio, 1993; *Saguinus fuscicollis* - Terborgh and Goldizen, 1985; and *Leontopithecus rosalia* - Dietz and Baker, 1993).

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