

tion of Visalberghi (1987) that field observations of capuchin monkeys in the adequate environment will show tool-use for nut-cracking has here been confirmed for the first time.

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### COMMON WOOLLY MONKEYS (*LAGOTHRIX LAGOTRICA*) FEEDING ON *CHRYSOPHYLLUM COLOMBIANUM* (SAPOTACEAE) IN SOUTHERN ECUADOR

On the 5th December 1990, whilst at the end of a pre-cut trail running through the upper-tropical forest (elevation: 1100 m) approximately 3 km south of the Bombuscara Visitor Centre, Podocarpus National Park (04° 08'S 78° 58' W), Colin Taylor and I encountered a troop of six woolly monkeys. The monkeys were foraging in the canopy (25-30m tall). The group separated, but three individuals, including one juvenile remained in the tall tree that they were eating from. They were screaming and clearly disturbed by our presence and the adults threw fruit they were eating at us. The monkeys had accurate and strong throws, forcing us to dodge the flying fruit. We observed them through binoculars, at a distance of 40 m for five minutes before they moved off. The fruit, about the size of a small peach, and leaves from the tree were collected. Professor Terry Pennington of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, UK, kindly identified species as *Chrysophyllum colombianum* (Aubreville), a Sapotaceae (v. Gentry 1993). Fruits from the family Sapotaceae are common monkey foods (Pennington, in litt. 1991) and there are 43 species in the genus *Chrysophyllum* (v. Gentry 1993). *Chrysophyllum colombianum* was previously known to occur from Costa

Rica to Colombia, so with the help of the woolly monkeys we have extended its range by approximately 1500 km (Pennington, in litt. 1991). The true status of the woolly monkey, known locally as Chrongo, in Podocarpus National Park is unknown due to a lack of surveys, but they are considered rare as the park is in the foothills of the Andes, the extreme western edge of their range. However, they were not present further east in the Rio Nangaritz valley, Cordillera del Condor (04° 20'S, 78° 40'W), which is adjacent to the park, during a brief survey in 1994 (Balchin and Toyne, in press). Indeed, no primates were encountered, presumably due to pressures from hunting by the local Shuar Indians. Elsewhere in the Cordillera del Condor they have been encountered further north at Comainas (c. 1700 m) in Peru (Emmons and Pacheco, 1996).

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### A NEW LOCALITY FOR *BRACHYTELES ARACHNOIDES* AND THE URGENCY OF FINDING NEW DIRECTIONS FOR MURIQUI CONSERVATION

The muriqui, *Brachyteles arachnoides*, is an endangered Brazilian Atlantic forest endemic (Strier, 1992a, 1992b), surviving in highly fragmented forests, mostly in the states of São Paulo and Minas Gerais. A number of new localities have been reported in the last two years (Antonietto *et al.*, 1994; Martuscelli *et al.*, 1994; Oliveira, *et al.*, 1996; Fontes *et al.*, 1996), but for the majority the groups comprise only a few individuals, and some of them are thought to be already extinct (Martuscelli *et al.*, 1994).

On January 20, 1996, during our first survey of the Fazenda