

## Project Update: July 2012

The project officially started in April 2012. The first sampling occurred between April and June, corresponding to the dry season.

The study area is located in the Serra Geral, Tocantins state, Brazil, and included the Lajeado State Park and the Lajeado Environmental Protection Area. Bats were caught using mist-nets in 27 sampling stations corresponding to the replicates of three levels of land-use change in three habitat types: Cerrado, Cerradão and Gallery Forest. Acoustic sampling was conducted simultaneously to the mist-net sampling using a real-time ultrasound detector.

494 bats were caught in the mist-nets, corresponding to 41 species of the families Phyllostomidae, Emballonuridae, Vespertilionidae, Molossidae and Mormoopidae. As expected, preliminary results indicate that species richness is higher in pristine habitats, whereas altered areas show high densities of a small group of opportunistic species. Acoustic, genetic and viral data analyses will follow.

