

Project Update: October 2015

During the first half of project development, we are pleased to say that we have completed bird and vegetation surveys both in talares native woodland and exotic plantation patches.



Left. Native woodland. Talares, native coastal woodlands dominated by Celtis ehrenbergiana. Right. Plantation 1. Pinus sp. plantation



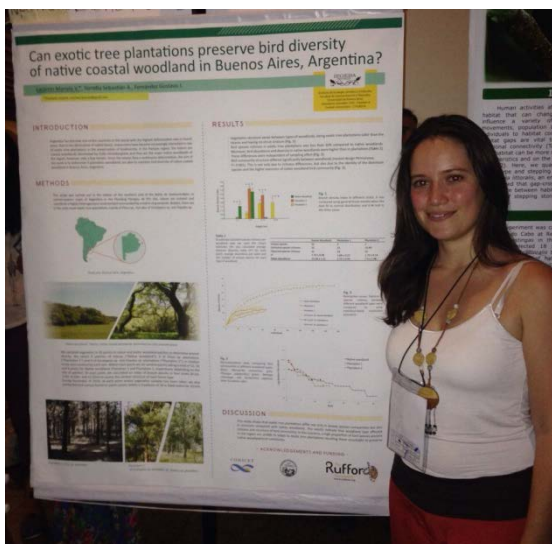
Fieldwork team during surveys in talares native woodlands

In our first data analysis we found that exotic tree plantations differ not only in woody species composition but also in structure compared to native woodlands, being exotic tree plantations taller than the talares and having no shrub stratum. The results indicated that woodland type affected richness and structure of bird community. Bird species richness in exotic tree plantations was less than 50% compared to native woodlands. Moreover, bird abundance and diversity in native woodlands were higher than in plantations (Table 1).

Table 1. To estimate the total bird species richness per woodland type we used the Chao1 estimator. We also calculated average Shannon diversity index (H') for each patch, average abundance per point and the number of unique species for each type of woodland.

	Native Woodland	Plantation 1
Unique species	16	3
Estimated species richness	32	15
Observed species richness	31	13
H'	2.72 ± 0.08	1.68 ± 0.22
Mean abundance	13.38 ± 1.21	2.75 ± 0.44

In this scenario, a high proportion of bird species present in the region are unable to adapt to exotic tree plantations resulting unsuitable to preserve bird community.



We presented these results at the X Neotropical Ornithological Congress & XXII Congresso Brasileiro de Ornitologia (19-24 July 2015), winning the third prize in poster presentation category.

Poster presentation at the X Neotropical Ornithological Congress & XXII Congresso Brasileiro de Ornitologia.



At this time, we are preparing the manuscript for publication and we are developing the content of posters for enhancement of the interpretation center.

Meeting at the Aves Argentinas ONG with part of Buenos Aires working team (which includes biologists, a veterinarian, a museum curator, a social communicator, rangers and graphic designers) to plan content of the interpretation centre.