

## Project Update: January 2017

### Activities achieved:

1. We achieved another long field trip covering three provinces: La Habana, Mayabeque and Matanzas. We visited more than 15 localities and completed more than 150 tissue samples for DNA studies, ranging from 2-5 samples per locality. We also collected important ecological data and additional specimens for taxonomic studies.
2. We distributed additional posters promoting the conservation of *Tityopsis* in the most important protected areas we visited during the above mentioned trip.
3. Some specimens of *Tityopsis* were brought to captivity for observations on reproductive biology.
4. The main threats affecting *Tityopsis* and its habitat that we identified in the region covered with our trip were: 1) deforestation, 2) intensive and extensive agriculture and livestock farming, and 3) forest fires.
5. We visited other localities near Habana for collection of tissue samples for DNA studies.



Adult female of *Tityopsis* from Sierra de Bibanasí, northeast of Matanzas Province. Photo by Raimundo López-Silvero.



Forest habitat of *Tityopsis* at Sierra de Bibanasí, northeast of Matanzas Province. Photo by Tomás M. Rodríguez.



Signs of deforestation in the habitat of *Tityopsis* at Sierra de Bibanasí, northeast of Matanzas Province. Photo by Tomás M. Rodríguez.



Adult female of *Tityopsis* from near San Miguel de los Baños, central Matanzas Province. Photo by Rosario Domínguez.





Death-feigning behaviour by an adult female of *Tityopsis* from near San Miguel de los Baños, central Matanzas Province. Photo by Rosario Domínguez.



The project leader collecting *Tityopsis* near San Miguel de los Baños, central Matanzas Province. Photo by Rosario Domínguez.



Adult female of *Tityopsis* from Pan de Matanzas, the highest elevation of Matanzas Province. Photo by Raimundo López-Silvero.



The project leader and a colleague collecting *Tityopsis* at Pan de Matanzas. Photo by Rosario Domínguez.



The project leader and a colleague collecting *Tityopsis* at Pan de Matanzas. Photo by Rosario Domínguez (2).



The project leader and a colleague collecting tissue samples of *Tityopsis* for DNA studies at Pan de Matanzas. Photo by Rosario Domínguez.





Pan de Matanzas, the highest elevation of Matanzas Province, showing heavily disturbed surrounding habitats devoted to livestock farming and agriculture. Photo by Rosario Domínguez.



Forest habitat of *Tityopsis* at Sierra de Palenque, Matanzas Province. Photo by Rosario Domínguez.



The project leader collecting *Tityopsis* at Sierra de Palenque, Matanzas Province. Photo by Rosario Domínguez.



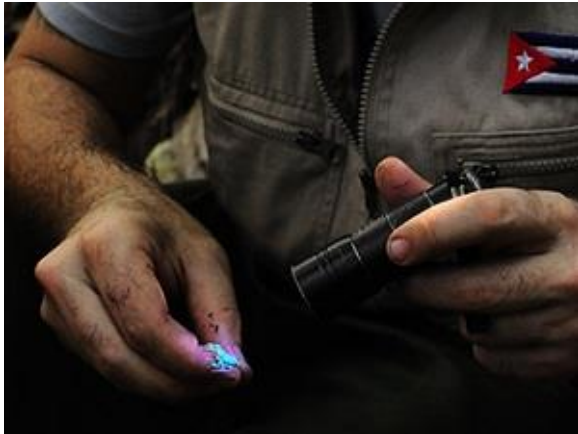
The project leader collecting tissue samples of *Tityopsis* for DNA studies at Sierra de Palenque, Matanzas Province. Photo by Rosario Domínguez.



The project leader with an adult female of *Tityopsis* from Sierra de Palenque, Matanzas Province. Photo by Rosario Domínguez.



Same adult female of *Tityopsis* from photo 15 under UV light. Photo by Rosario Domínguez.



Detail of the female of *Tityopsis* from photos 15 and 16 under UV light. Photo by Rosario Domínguez.



Cuabales de Galindo, an arid region with open dry thorny shrubland located northeast of Mayabeque Province, an unusual habitat for *Tityopsis*. Photo by Rosario Domínguez.



Unusual shrubland habitat of *Tityopsis* at Cuabales de Galindo, northeast of Mayabeque Province. Photo by Rosario Domínguez.



Adult female of *Tityopsis* from Cuabales de Galindo, northeast of Mayabeque Province. Photo by Raimundo López-Silvero.



Livestock activity and disturbed habitat at Cuabales de Galindo, northeast of Mayabeque Province. Photo by Tomás M. Rodríguez.



A path crossing the habitat of *Tityopsis* at Cuabales de Galindo, northeast of Mayabeque Province. Photo by Rosario Domínguez.





The project leader collecting *Tityopsis* at Cuabales de Galindo, northeast of Mayabeque Province. Photo by Rosario Domínguez.



Bacunayagua, a protected area northeast of Mayabeque Province containing important *Tityopsis* populations. Photo by Rosario Domínguez.



Pregnant female of *Tityopsis* from Bacunayagua, northeast of Mayabeque Province. Photo by Raimundo López-Silvero.



Same female of *Tityopsis* carrying its brood a few days later. Photo by Tomás M. Rodríguez.



The project leader collecting *Tityopsis* at Bacunayagua, northeast of Mayabeque Province. Photo by Rosario Domínguez.



Adult female of *Tityopsis* from Boca de Jaruco, north of Mayabeque Province. Photo by Raimundo López-Silvero.



Adult male of *Tityopsis* from Tará, northeast of La Habana Province. Photo by Rosario Domínguez.



Subadult male of *Tityopsis* from Tará, northeast of La Habana Province. Photo by Raimundo López-Silvero.



Forest habitat of *Tityopsis* at Tará, northeast of La Habana Province. Photo by Rosario Domínguez.