Project Update: January 2017

We have performed vegetation sampling in the 15 cabrucas, with the purpose of understanding if vegetation structure influences mammal distribution. New data sampling is on course in a highly forested landscape. We are finishing the vegetation sampling in these sites and we will start the third survey of mammals in February 2017. Farmers use different management practices in cabrucas, with great influence on vegetation structure within the agroforests. We verified the presence of hunting in the region (by the presence of traps and talking to residents) and the use of herbicides. We have reported the preliminary results of the study to residents, highlighting the importance of maintaining mid-sized mammals, including their ecosystems services, and the main threats to these species. Mammal sampling in this landscape will be finished by August 2017, allowing us to contrast mammal assemblages between this landscape and the landscape mainly composed of cabrucas.

Left: Field assistant measuring herbaceous cover in the cacao' agroforestry in Una, Brazil. Right: A trap used by hunters to capture mammals in a study site in Una, Brazil.