

Project Update: December 2017

The past months were extremely successful for my project. I obtained permits to work in a new conventional plantation from Chiquita, an organic plantation in Horquetas, and a forest patch in Talamanca, which balances my model. My 2 months in the field yielded over 60 samples. Towards the end of fieldwork I found a small *Glossophaga soricina* roost (around 15-20 individuals), which will be promising in January 2018 to obtain additional forest samples. I also began my cooperation with an environmental educator to create a well-established programme in the communities surrounding the banana plantations. We obtained funding from National Geographic to begin with this project and Platanera Río Sixaola S.A. has agreed to aid us in this process. The final objective of this programme is that community members come up with their own micro-projects for bat conservation and execute them in cooperation with the banana plantation.



Left: *Glossophaga soricina*. Right: An organic plantation in Horquetas. ©Julian Schneider