

Project Update: July 2019

During the last months, I made almost half of the planned fieldwork for the project. After a long wait for the equipment to be imported to Brazil, I captured and followed the first tamarin group on November 2018 in the large forest fragment around the Universidade Federal do Amazonas (~700 ha). This first field expedition was challenging and I had to make some adjustments in the methodology. Even if I am using radio-telemetry, the moments that I truly observe tamarins are rare (Fig. 1). Though, these few moments that we are able to spot 500 g of cuteness is incredible gratifying (Fig. 2).



Fig. 1. Me and a field assistant following and observing a group of pied tamarins at the forest fragment of the Universidade Federal do Amazonas.

After methodology adjustments, in 2019 I followed and recorded the behaviour of five more groups. The area of use of such animals were also evaluated in terms of noise and fruit availability (Fig 3). The areas used by the tamarins varied from 6 to 34 ha with areas of different intensity of use and in a general form, it is already possible to notice that pied tamarins emit more long calls in noisier areas. Though, we have to increase the sampling size to test the significance of such tendency.

In addition to the field activities, I have been carrying out odorant sample collections of the pied tamarins. The idea is to test if the jeopardising of acoustic communication is compensated by other communication channel such as the olfaction. In the lab, an undergraduate student, Fernanda Andrielle, have been helping me with sample processing and chemical analysis of the 25 individuals of tamarins that we captured up to now (Fig. 4).



Fig. 2. Individual of pied tamarin (*Saguinus bicolor*) followed at Mindu Park, a ~46 ha forest fragment.



Fig. 3. Noise measurement in the forest around the Universidade Federal do Amazonas, a ~700 ha forest fragment.



Fig. 4. The undergraduate student Fernanda Andrielle and I collecting odorant samples of the sternal gland of an individual of pied tamarin.