

A nest of Banded Cotinga *Cotinga maculata*

In October 1986 we undertook, for part of the time with D. A. Scott, a rapid survey of several forest fragments in the central Atlantic Forest of Brazil, focusing on northern Espírito Santo and southern Bahia. One forest area visited in Bahia was the Porto Seguro Reserve, then 6,000 ha, owned by Florestas Rio Doce S.A. (subsequently RPPN Estação Veracruz; since 2006 RPPN Estação Veracel), and 10 km inland from the seaside resort of Porto Seguro, at 16°20'S 39°10'W¹.

We found a nest of Banded Cotinga *Cotinga maculata* on the western perimeter of Porto Seguro / Estação Veracel at c.07h30 on 11 October 1986. It was a flimsy structure of small twigs placed in the fork of an almost horizontal branch in the mid-canopy of a fairly tall tree in leaf (Fig.1). The female was first observed chasing away another female in some nearby trees; she moved to trees nearer the nest and fed rather hastily on a few berries, then flew directly to the nest and commenced incubating (Fig. 2). She was off the nest when we passed it at 11h30. Next day we visited the site in the



Figure 1. Track and trees in western Porto Seguro Reserve, Bahia, Brazil, 11 October 1986; sitting female Banded Cotinga *Cotinga maculata* indicated (L. P. Gonzaga)



Figure 2. Telephoto view of female Banded Cotinga *Cotinga maculata* on nest, Porto Seguro Reserve, Bahia, Brazil, 11 October 1986 (N. J. Collar)

mid-afternoon, and although the female was initially off the nest she returned within a few minutes and was examined through a telescope, and a sketch was made (Fig. 3).

This information was collated in an informal report⁴ and only the basic data were subsequently published^{2,3,7}; the photographs and sketch have not appeared before. This remains the only record of a nest of this globally Endangered species², apart from a report of one found inside a hollow arboreal termite nest by A. Ruschi^{3,6}, which 'requires corroboration'⁷. Our observation of a slight, shallow cup-shaped nest is in agreement

with reports for the Turquoise Cotinga *Cotinga ridgwayi*⁷ and Spangled Cotinga *C. cayana*³, the only other members of the genus whose nest shape and type have been determined with certainty.

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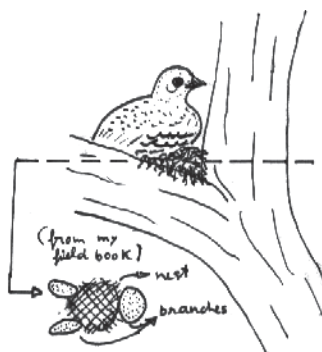


Figure 3. Field sketch of female Banded Cotinga *Cotinga maculata* sitting on nest; vertical cross-section below (L. P. Gonzaga)

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