First records of Blue-billed Black Tyrant Knipolegus cyanirostris for Goiás, Brazil
Blue-billed Black Tyrant Knipolegus cyanirostris is usually found in humid and gallery forests, principally in southern and south-eastern Brazil, as well as the central west (Mato Grosso do Sul) and parts of Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay5–7. In Brazil, it is considered migratory in the states of Espírito Santo, Rio de Janeiro7 and Mato Grosso do Sul8.

The only known record in central Brazil is a specimen collected on 1 July 1963 deposited at the Museu de Zoologia da Universidade de São Paulo (MZUSP 54764) from Planaltina, Distrito Federal (DF)9. Here, we report the first records in Goiás2,4.

During regional surveys of the Serra do Facão Hydroelectric Dam, in the rio São Marcos basin, in south-east Goiás, we twice found individuals of K. cyanirostris. Vegetation is typical of the Cerrado, with a mosaic of dry forest and gallery forest, savanna (cerrado sensu stricto) and grasslands (campo sujo and campo limpo), as well as pastures and plantations (especially soya, bean and Eucalyptus), bogs, rivers and degraded areas. Description of the Cerrado’s physiognomies follows Oliveira-Filho & Ratter3.

On 10 August 2008 a male Blue-billed Black Tyrant was mist-netted (Fig. 1) in a gallery forest (17°56′22″S 47°39′33″W; 750 m) flanking a small affluent of the rio São Marcos, Pires Belo district, Catalão municipality. It had red irides, a bluish-grey bill and black plumage. The bird was collected and deposited in the Coleção Ornitológica Marcelo Bagno (COMB 2961) at the Universidade de Brasília. On 16 August 2008, we observed a pair in scrub at the edge of dry forest (17°45′02″S 47°41′45″W; 772 m).

These records extend the range of K. cyanirostris to central Brazil (Fig. 2) and 260 km south-west (from the Distrito Federal) and 130 km north (from the Triângulo Mineiro, Minas Gerais). Occasional records of other Knipolegus spp. in localities distant from their main ranges are also available1,7,9, probably because of their partially migratory habits7,8. Thus, the occurrence of Blue-billed Black Tyrant in south-east Goiás is expected, although further data are needed to understand its spatial and temporal occurrence there.

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Short Communications


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