

Distribution of Violaceous Quail-Dove *Geotrygon violacea* in Peru with four new localities

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La Paloma-Perdiz Violácea *Geotrygon violacea* es una especie muy poco conocida en el Perú y rara a poco común en Bolivia, Brasil y Colombia. En esta nota revisamos los registros de la especie y documentamos su presencia en cuatro nuevas localidades en el sureste amazónico de Perú. Esto contribuye a llenar los vacíos de información y actualizar su mapa de distribución.

Violaceous Quail-Dove *Geotrygon violacea* has a broad, circum-Amazonian distribution, with records from Nicaragua south to north-east Colombia, then discontinuously east of the Andes in western Amazonia, as well as in eastern Brazil, south-east Paraguay and north-east Argentina⁴. It occurs primarily in evergreen forest, but also inhabits tall second-growth forest and plantations¹. The species is more arboreal than other *Geotrygon*, but it regularly visits the ground to feed on fallen fruit and probably small invertebrates⁴. In Peru, the status and distribution of *G. violacea* is very poorly known¹⁰, with documented records from just two localities (T. S. Schulenberg pers. comm.). Details of these records have not been published previously⁷. Here, we review previous Peruvian reports of *G. violacea* and report four new localities.

Records

1. On 12 July 1987, D. Schmitt collected an adult male on the south-east slope of Cerro Tahuayo, north-east of Pucallpa, dpto. Ucayali (09°11'25.44"S 74°23'2.49"W; 450 m). It was deposited at the Louisiana State University Museum of Zoology, Baton Rouge (LSUMZ 156179; Fig. 1). On 23 July 1987, A. S. Meyer

collected an adult female there, which is now at the Museo de Historia Natural Javier Prado de Lima (MUSM 15394; Fig. 2).

2. In June–August 1999 and February–March 2000, T. Kyle observed *G. violacea* regularly at Manu Wildlife Center, Manu National Park (12°21'19.99"S 70°42'18.06"W; 250 m), and in early 2000 he photographed an adult male at a clay lick (Fig. 3), identified by its heavily glossed metallic violet hindcrown and white underparts. On 27 September 2006, M. Denton (pers. comm.) sound-recorded one in *Guadua* bamboo near the lodge.
3. On 6 August 2009, S. Timson trapped and photographed an immature (Fig. 4) at Reserva Ecológica Taricaya, Tambopata (12°32'24.07"S 69°0'5.83"W; 225 m). It was aged based on the dull yellow iris and the presence of buff-tipped juvenile outer primary-coverts mixed with adult-like inner ones.
4. On 29 July 2012, T. Ambrose trapped and photographed an adult male (band: CORBIDI E000233, Fig. 5) at Amazon Rainforest Conservation Center, Tambopata



Figure 1. Adult male Violaceous Quail-Dove *Geotrygon violacea*, collected at Cerro Tahuayo, dpto. Ucayali, Peru, July 1987 (LSUMZ 156179) (Fernando Angulo)



Figure 2. Adult female Violeous Quail-Dove *Geotrygon violacea*, collected at Cerro Tahuayo, dpto. Ucayali, Peru, July 1987 (MUSM 15394) (Alexis Díaz)



Figure 3. Adult male Violeous Quail-Dove *Geotrygon violacea*, Manu Wildlife Center, Madre de Dios, Peru, early 2000 (Toa Kyle)



Figure 4. Immature Violeous Quail-Dove *Geotrygon violacea*, Reserva Ecológica Taricaya, Madre de Dios, Peru, August 2000 (Rachel Kilby)

(12°03'24.26"S 69°31'43.07"W; 265 m). Age and sex was determined by the yellow eyes, whitish forecrown becoming grey on the mid crown and violet feathers on the neck and back. On 25 October 2012, J. Molina, E. Ormaeche & L. Dablin heard a male vocalising and observed it perched. It was identified by the short tail without white tips to the outer rectrices, white underparts, and contrasting brown back and more rufescent rump, uppertail-coverts and tail.

- On 17 July 2015, during extensive mist-netting work, the authors trapped and photographed an immature (band: CORBIDI D004456, Fig. 6) at Las Piedras Amazon Center, Tambopata (12°01'46.30"S 69°43'13.80"W; 250 m). It was

aged by the dull yellow iris and buff-tipped juvenile outer primary-coverts and adult-like inner ones.

- On 30 June 2016, F. Angulo photographed a male at concession ARBIO, along the Las Piedras River (12°10'22.3"S, 69°23'28.8"W; 215 m). It was walking on the ground in *várzea* forest and, when flushed, perched in a tree c.4 m above ground. It was identified as a male based on the violaceous back. Age was not determined.

Discussion

Despite its Least Concern conservation status, *G. violacea* is a poorly known species in Peru^{8,9} and is



Figure 5. Adult male Violaceous Quail-Dove *Geotrygon violacea*, Amazon Research and Conservation Center, Madre de Dios, Peru, July 2012 (Tom Ambrose)

Figure 6. Open wing of immature Violaceous Quail-Dove *Geotrygon violacea*, Las Piedras Amazon Center, Madre de Dios, Peru, July 2015 (Gordon Dimming)

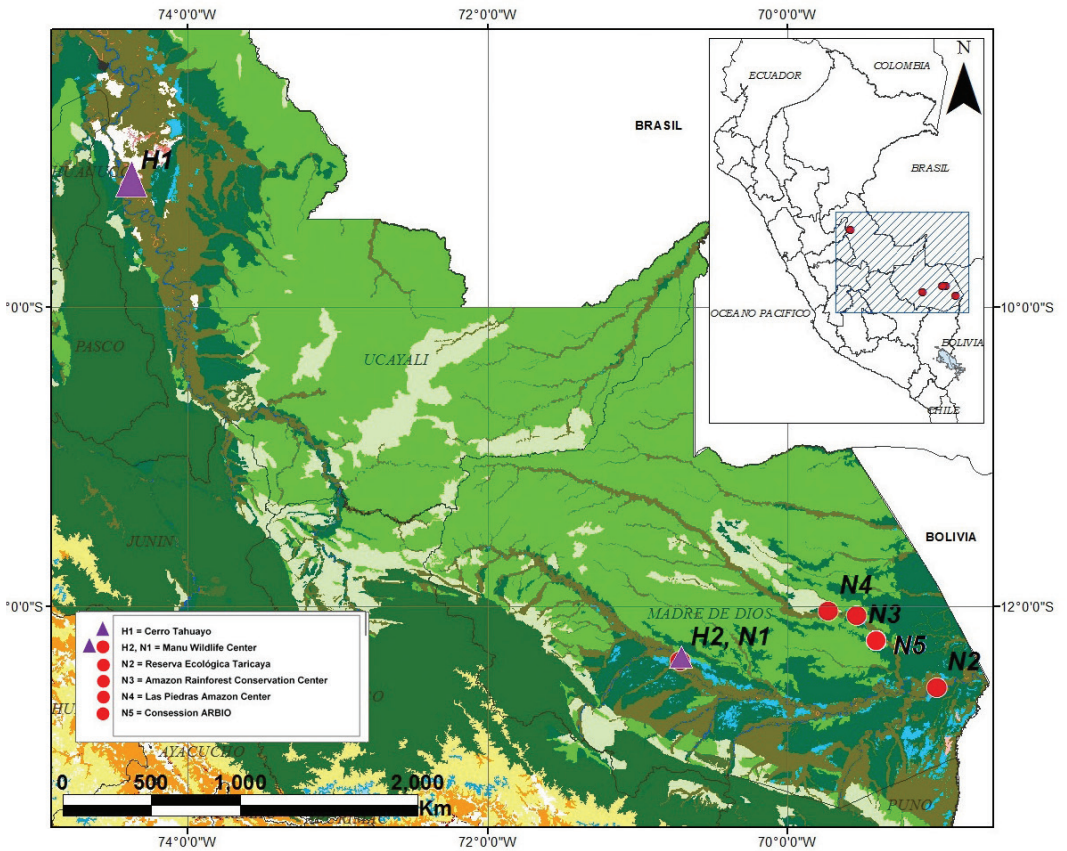


Figure 7. Distribution of Violaceous Quail-Dove *Geotrygon violacea* records in Peru (H = older records, N = more recent records).

rare to uncommon elsewhere in South America^{1,3,8}. However, the records reported above suggest that it is present in low densities at localities in east-central and south-east Peru, in humid low and median terrace forest⁶ (Fig. 7), a type of primary humid forest. Records are mainly from the dry season (approximately May–October). We suspect that the lack of records between November and late January reflects poorer coverage during the wet season, but we cannot eliminate the possibility of seasonal movements. Intra-tropical movements have been documented for Ruddy Quail-Dove *G. montana* in central Amazonian Brazil, probably to exploit regional peaks in fruit production¹¹, and such movements have been hypothesised for *G. violacea* in the Alta Floresta region of south-central Amazonian Brazil, as well⁵. Further field work at the sites mentioned above, and elsewhere, should aim to assess the species' phenology and the importance of the remaining forest for its conservation.

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