

The Endangered Grey-breasted Parakeet *Pyrrhura griseipectus* occurs in Bahia, Brazil

Rafael Félix, Sidnei Sampaio and Charbel N. El-Hani

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O periquito-cara-suja *Pyrrhura griseipectus* é um psitacídeo endêmico da região Nordeste do Brasil, que se encontra globalmente ameaçada. Mais recentemente, havia registros apenas para o Estado do Ceará. No presente artigo, relatamos a ocorrência de *P. griseipectus* no Estado da Bahia com base em registros fotográficos, filmagens, gravações de áudio e relatos das comunidades locais. Também discutimos dados preliminares sobre uso de habitat e história natural nos novos sítios na Bahia, além de implicações para a conservação. Relatamos observações de *P. griseipectus* em manguezais e restinga, bem como em coqueirais abandonados, habitats ainda não registrados na literatura para a espécie. Interações com espécies de plantas são descritas, incluindo seu uso para alimentação.

Grey-breasted Parakeet *Pyrrhura griseipectus* is endemic to north-east Brazil, and is considered Endangered at global and national levels^{2,14}. In recent years, the species has been reported only from the state of Ceará, where it occurs in at least

nine municipalities¹⁴ (see <https://www.wikiaves.com.br/> for records in 2009–21). Historical records involving museum specimens, direct observations and other sources indicate its previous occurrence in the Atlantic Forest of Pernambuco, Rio Grande do

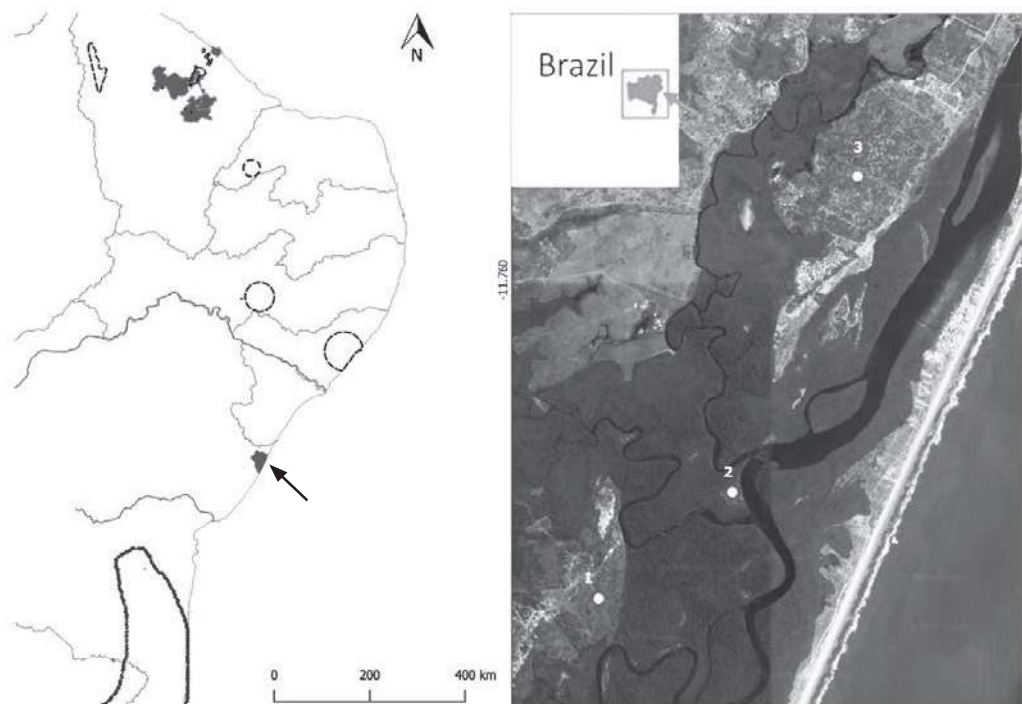


Figure 1. Distribution of Grey-breasted Parakeet *Pyrrhura griseipectus* and Maroon-faced Parakeet *P. leucotis* in eastern Brazil². Green patches indicate sites where Grey-breasted Parakeet has been recorded in the state of Ceará, considering only records available in WikiAves (2009–19). The arrow denotes the municipality of Conde, northern Bahia, where we found Grey-breasted Parakeet. Dotted lines indicate its historical range in Alagoas, Pernambuco and Rio Grande do Norte. The grey line indicates the distribution of *P. leucotis*. The numbered circles in the satellite image indicate census sites around the Itapicuru estuary in Bahia: 1. Porto do Saruê; 2. Ilha do Chico; 3. Restinga do Cajueirinho.

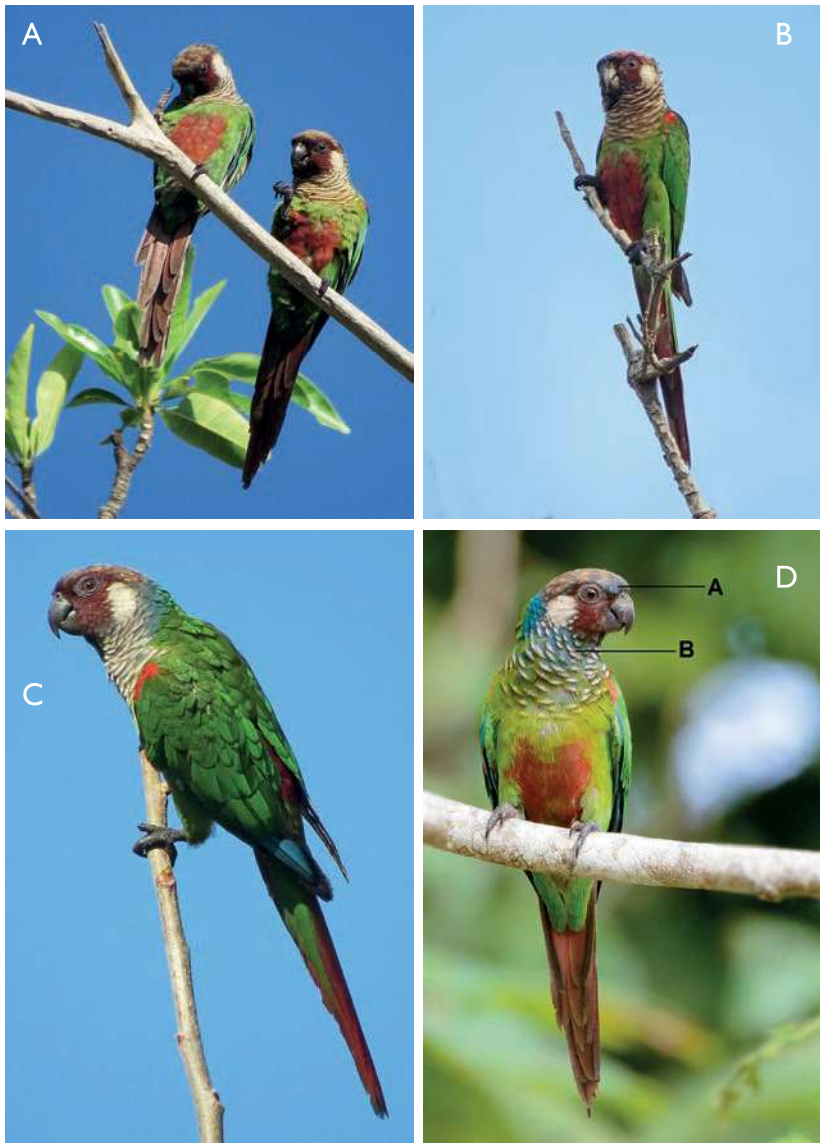


Figure 2. Different individuals of Grey-breasted Parakeet *Pyrrhura griseipectus* (A–C) recorded during field work at the Itapicuru estuary, municipality of Conde, Bahia, Brazil (Rafael Félix). (D) Maroon-faced Parakeet *P. leucotis*, Linhares, Espírito Santo, Brazil (D. Rodrigues; WA 2043342). Differences in plumage between *P. leucotis* and *P. griseipectus* are indicated: (A) blue spots on the head; and (B) breast with blue and green spots.

Norte and Alagoas^{9,11} (Fig. 1). Despite disagreement concerning some historical records, there is no doubt that the species' distribution formerly covered a much larger area than currently¹⁴.

Here, we report the occurrence of *P. griseipectus* in northern coastal Bahia, extending its known distribution. This is relevant because understanding the species' occurrences is crucial for distribution modelling, biogeography, macroecology, and, especially, conservation actions^{3,4,7}. We also present data on the species' natural history in northern Bahia, and discuss implications and prospects for conservation resulting from our discovery.

Observations in Bahia

On 3 December 2018 a group of 12 *P. griseipectus* was seen and photographed by RF near Ilha do Chico (11°46'27.4"S 37°32'23.0"W) in the Itapicuru estuary, close to the fishing villages of Siribinha and Poças, Conde municipality, Bahia (Fig. 1). They were identified at the time as Maroon-faced Parakeet *Pyrrhura leucotis*, despite a noticeable difference between the vocalisations of the flock and our own recordings of *P. leucotis* used in playback to attract the birds. There were, in fact, several previous records from this region, all of them identified as *P. leucotis* (see below).