

Nesting record of White-throated Quail-Dove *Zentrygon frenata* in Argentina

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La Paloma Montera Grande *Zentrygon frenata* habita en la selva de montaña de los Andes desde Colombia hasta el noroeste de Argentina. Reportamos el segundo nido descrito de la especie y el primero documentado. Hallamos un nido de la subespecie *Z. f. margaritae* en el extremo sur de su distribución. La primera observación fue el 14 de noviembre de 2019 en el Parque Nacional Calilegua, Jujuy, Argentina, a 960 m de altitud. El nido tenía forma de plataforma densa, compuesto de pequeñas ramas secas, ubicado a c.3,5 m de altura y protegido por vegetación enmarañada. Pudimos observar el nido y el comportamiento de los adultos en cuatro oportunidades diferentes hasta 15 días después de haberlo encontrado. Los dos individuos de la pareja se turnaron para atender el nido y, aunque todo parecería indicar que contenía pichones, no pudimos confirmar el éxito del mismo.

White-throated Quail-Dove *Zentrygon frenata* occurs throughout Andean montane forests from Colombia to northern Argentina, mostly at 800–3,000 m¹. Despite being widely distributed, its ecology and behaviour remain poorly studied¹, probably due to the species' secretive behaviour, usually foraging alone on the forest floor and flushing to a low perch when disturbed⁹. Given its elusive behaviour, the species is more often heard than seen, typically giving a low-pitched *wuuu* or, rarely, a distinctive, disyllabic vocalisation (<https://www.xeno-canto.org/29081>). A single nest has been described, pertaining to *Z. f. bourcierii*, and found on 22 March 1958 in a cloud forest in the West Andes of Colombia, at San Antonio, c.1,980 m elevation⁵. The nest contained a single pale buff egg and was described as a flat platform 30 cm in diameter and 7 cm thick, constructed of dense

material without any gaps⁵. It was sited in a ravine 1.82 m above ground in a loose vine tangle⁵. There is no further information on the species' nest or breeding behaviour, and nothing has been reported for the southern subspecies, *Z. f. margaritae*², in Argentina⁸. The latter has a deep reddish-brown crown and nape vs. the grey or greyish-slate crown of northern populations².

Here we report the first documented nest record and provide details about breeding behaviour in the species' southernmost range, in Calilegua National Park (23°41'43"S 64°51'53"W; 960 m), Jujuy, Argentina. On 14 November 2019 we found a nest in the transition between foothill forest and montane forest, with some elements of both (e.g. *Ocotea* sp., *Tipuana tipu*, *Anadenanthera colubrina*). The nest was a compact platform of dry twigs, similar to low cup/base (*sensu* Simon



Figure 1. *Nectandra angusta* tree where the nest was sited (yellow circle), in Calilegua National Park, Jujuy, Argentina, 960 m elevation (A). Individual in the nest on 19 November 2019, note the compact structure and dry stick materials (B) (Gonzalo Díaz)