
Records of Amazonian Pygmy-owl *Glaucidium hardyi* from south-east Venezuela

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During recent trips to south-east Venezuela, I have twice recorded Amazonian Pygmy-owl *Glaucidium hardyi*. On 5 February 1993, together with Dave Beadle, Jon Curson and Rob ter Ellen, an individual belonging to the *Glaucidium minutissimum* complex was spotlighted and tape-recorded in the Campamento Río Grande, east of El Palmar, Bolívar. It was only through subsequent reference to commercial sound-recordings that its identity could be ascertained as *hardyi*. On 22 and 24 March 1995, together with Neil Bostock and Chris Bradshaw, two individuals, which with reference to pre-recorded tapes were immediately identifiable as *hardyi*,

were heard at c.850 m on the Escalera, south of El Dorado, Bolívar. No recordings were made, and although responsive to the tape, neither bird was seen.

Robbins & Howell¹, in their revision of the *Glaucidium minutissimum* complex, were able to locate just seven specimens of *hardyi*, from Peru, Bolivia and Brazil. Recordings were available only from the latter country. Previous records were all between sea-level and 350 m⁽²⁾. Subsequently Steve Hilty located two specimens of *hardyi* in a Venezuelan collection (M. B. Robbins *in litt.* 1995). These, and the sight records detailed here, appear to be the only ones known

from Venezuela, but the species can clearly be expected in many parts of the south-east of the country.

Acknowledgements

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References

1. Robbins, M. B. & Howell, S. N. G. (1995) A new species of Pygmy-owl (Strigidae: *Glaucidium*) from the eastern Andes. *Wilson Bull.* 107: 1-6.
2. Howell, S. N. G. & Robbins, M. B. (1995) Species limits of the Least Pygmy-owl (*Glaucidium minutissimum*) complex. *Wilson Bull.* 107: 7-25.

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