

Project Update: July 2016

Between April and June 2016 we made three field trips for the autumn season: from 29th April to 4th May; from 13th May to 23rd May and from 30th May to 6th June. We captured 231 individuals of small mammals from different species: *Thylamys pallidior*: 30; and four species of rodents *Calomys* sp.: 180, *Graomys griseoflavus*: two, *Akodon* sp.: 15, and *Galea*: three. Total capture success was 14.5%. As in the summer station, we sent some tissue samples to the BarCode to analyse some individuals of different species to be sure of the captured species. Rocío Fernandez and Gabriela Miranda are two students of Univerisdad Nacional de Cuyo and Universidad Champagñat respectively who began theirs final thesis related to our project. Rocío is going to analyse the influence of fire on population dynamic of the genus *Calomys*, and Gabriela is going to analyse the special dynamic of habitat use of *Calomys* in grasslands. We also measured habitat characteristics to evaluate the influence of fire on vegetation and the community of small mammals. We continue working on the construction of the herbarium of Villavicencio for the IADIZA. Finally, we are planning a workshop with the park rangers to train them into the handling of Sherman traps, and species recognition for future projects. We hope to finish this year with the surveys also in the winter (July to September 2016) and spring (October-December 2016) in order to have a full year of sampling.