

Project Update: December 2019

During the last months, I undertook 36 days of fieldwork following three more tamarin groups. Each of the urban areas where I work has its own logistics and acoustic peculiarities. One of the areas where I followed pied tamarins, for instance, was a military area where I had to be accompanied by soldiers while in the field and had access restrictions in some areas since an area of shooting practice was close. Even with such restriction, it was possible to record tamarin vocal behaviour in such context (Fig. 2).

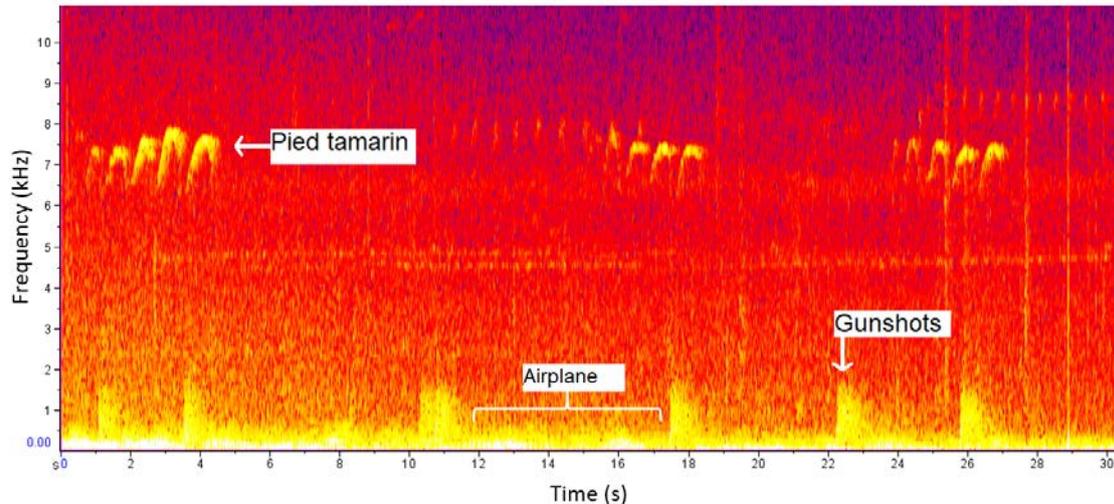


Fig. 1. Spectrogram showing the soundscape where one of the pied tamarin populations is inserted. Up in the frequency domain, we can see pied tamarin long calls while in the low-frequency domain sounds of anthropic origins (anthropophony) such as gunshots and airplane sounds.

I might say that in the course of fieldwork many unexpected events happened. In September 2019, against all the probabilities, a *buriti* fruit fell on my sound level meter while I was measuring noise (Fig. 3). After about a month of waiting, I finally receive the new equipment, and I am back in the field. As the tamarin that survives in the concrete jungle of the city of Manaus (Fig. 4), you must be resilient to work on the Amazon.

Most pied tamarins do not have clear individual marks, this animal, though, had a distinguish white tail allowing a natural individual identification. Picture: Tainara Sobroza

While I was expecting for the new equipment to arrive, I used the “free time” to visit the Ducke Reserve for search tamarin groups and built feeding platforms for future captures. In the field, I counted with the help of André Gonçalves, another Rufford Foundation grantee. The Ducke Reserve is a large green area close to the city but still connected to a large amount of forest. Due to such connectivity and relatively low density in the area, we expect that to capture the animals will demand some extra effort.

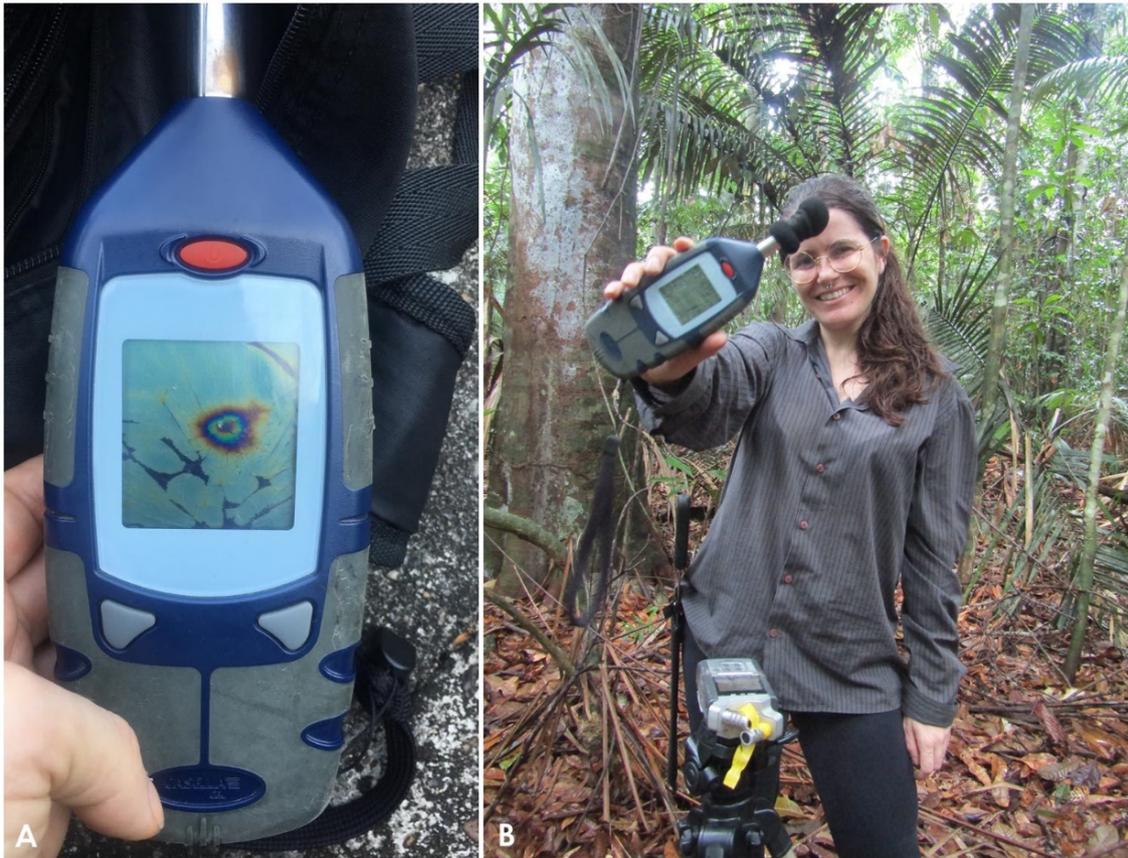


Fig. 2. Sound level meter damaged by a buriti fruit (A) and Tainara V. Sobroza showing the new equipment (B). Pictures: Tainara Sobroza and Caio Pereira Silva



Fig. 3. Individual of pied tamarin (*Saguinus bicolor*) followed at Sumauma Park.



Fig. 3. André Gonçalves and Tainara Sobroza near a feeding platform built at the Ducke Reserve to bait pied tamarins for future captures. Picture: Lucian Veras.

In addition to the field activities, I am still running a chemical analysis of tamarin semiochemicals. Now, I also have the help of the biologist Eduardo Moreno, that is going to do his master's degree with part of the data that I am collecting.