

## The Rufford Small Grants Foundation

### Final Report

Congratulations on the completion of your project that was supported by The Rufford Small Grants Foundation.

We ask all grant recipients to complete a Final Report Form that helps us to gauge the success of our grant giving. We understand that projects often do not follow the predicted course but knowledge of your experiences is valuable to us and others who may be undertaking similar work. Please be as honest as you can in answering the questions – remember that negative experiences are just as valuable as positive ones if they help others to learn from them.

Please complete the form in English and be as clear and concise as you can. We will ask for further information if required. If you have any other materials produced by the project, particularly a few relevant photographs, please send these to us separately.

Please submit your final report to [jane@rufford.org](mailto:jane@rufford.org).

Thank you for your help.

**Josh Cole, Grants Director**

Grant Recipient Details	
<b>Your name</b>	Tessa Roorda
<b>Project title</b>	Effects of anthropogenic disturbance on seed dispersal mutualism in the Mata Atlântica
<b>RSG reference</b>	9777-1
<b>Reporting period</b>	05/2011 – 07/2012
<b>Amount of grant</b>	£5979
<b>Your email address</b>	Tessa_roorda@hotmail.com
<b>Date of this report</b>	08/12/2012

**1. Please indicate the level of achievement of the project's original objectives and include any relevant comments on factors affecting this.**

Objective	Not achieved	Partially achieved	Fully achieved	Comments
<i>Describe disperser community composition</i>	X			Due to conflicts between different research groups this project was interrupted
<i>Compare seed movement and seedling survival</i>	X			Due to conflicts between different research groups this project was interrupted
<i>Analyse long term forest structure</i>	X			Due to conflicts between different research groups this project was interrupted
<i>Raise awareness of local community members</i>		X		For one field work season this grant was used to hire a field assistant from the local community. Despite his strong interest in environmental matters and conservation of Muriquis, the NGO Pró-Muriqui cannot always afford these staff, which sees on hunting a survival alternative.

**2. Please explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled (if relevant).**

Unfortunately, I could not overcome the main difficulty that arose during this project. Due to pre-existing conflicts between different research groups I was forced to give up on my work.

**3. Briefly describe the three most important outcomes of your project.**

The project had to be interrupted.

**4. Briefly describe the involvement of local communities and how they have benefitted from the project (if relevant).**

With some support from the Rufford Grant my local collaborator, the NGO Pró-Muriqui, could afford another field assistant in the year of 2011. We believe these jobs help prevent local communities from hunting.

**5. Are there any plans to continue this work?**

No.

## 6. How do you plan to share the results of your work with others?

I hope this report reaches people who intend to start a new project. I have learned that conservation may be even harder to achieve if you don't have the right contacts or find yourself in the middle of pre-existing conflicts. Inform yourself about previous projects and people that work where you want to work or with your subject of interest. Make sure your project won't create any conflicts with them. Also, make sure you don't develop a project that depends exclusively on another person/institution to move forward. You must be able to do your work independently from others.

## 7. Timescale: Over what period was the RSG used? How does this compare to the anticipated or actual length of the project?

A part of the RSG was used during a preliminary field season in 2011, before the interruption of the project. The rest of the grant has not been used.

## 8. Budget: Please provide a breakdown of budgeted versus actual expenditure and the reasons for any differences. All figures should be in £ sterling, indicating the local exchange rate used.

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Field equipment (field notebooks, pens, sample envelopes, silica gel, sample containers)	161,64	0	+161,64	
Field assistant clothes + backpack	91,35	42,01	+50,51	
Tree identification plaques	133,68	0	+133,68	
Camera traps (12 units: Tasco 5 MP) (5 Uway NX80)	718,08	733,33	-15,25	Bought in US dollars
GPS (2 units: Garmin GPSMAP 62) (1 unit)	500,66	308,11	+192,55	Bought in US dollars
Seed traps material	535,94	0	+535,94	
Education activities materials (projector)	286,62	0	+286,62	
Per diem (16,48 x 20 days x 6 months x 1 person)	1973,22	201,54	+1771,68	
Transport (58,60 x 1 trips x 6 months)	350,79	264,21	+86,58	
SALARIES (204,62 x 1 people x 6 months)	1227,78	105,03	+1122,75	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5979,76</b>	<b>1654,23</b>	<b>+4325,53</b>	Due to exchange rates this difference amount corresponds to R\$10294,76 (Brazilian currency), or £3235,65 on 08/15/2012

Exchange Rate used by the Bank at the time of grant acceptance: £1,00 = R\$2,38; US\$1=R\$1,59 (06/01/2011)

**9. Looking ahead, what do you feel are the important next steps?**

I don't work with the NGO Pró- Muriqui any longer, but for the persistence of muriquis in the Atlantic Forest I hope this NGO overcomes the harsh period it has been going through and contributes to the National Action Plan that has been implemented in Brazil to protect these primates. Most researchers that work with muriquis work with the northern species, in fragments of forest, but this NGO is the only long-term project with the southern species in the last continuous patch of the Atlantic Forest.

As for me, I have ended my project with a master's degree and would like to remain involved with conservation projects in my home country, Brazil. Lately I've been working for an NGO that fights animal traffic in South America, but I will always keep an eye on the muriquis.