

## Project Update January 2025

**Rufford I.D.:** 42070-1

**Project Title:** Effect of Pesticides from Organic and Conventional Agriculture on the Activity of Insectivorous Bats and their Potential Prey in the Savanna Ecoregion of Brazil

**Update:** To date, we have successfully carried out the activities related to:

- The collection and identification of acoustic data.
- The identification of bat prey insects.
- The dissemination of results regarding the impact of agricultural intensity on bat activity through insect availability. This latter activity was achieved through our participation in the Brazilian Mammalogy Congress and the defence of my master's thesis.

However, we have encountered challenges in the determination of pesticides in the collected insects due to the following circumstances:

- In mid-2024, 90% of the municipalities in the state of Rio Grande do Sul experienced severe flooding (<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/06/03/climate/brazil-floods-climate-change.html>). This resulted in a climate emergency that significantly disrupted university activities, causing delays in our fieldwork.
- Until December of last year, the technical-administrative staff at UFRGS were on strike (<https://www.assufrgs.org.br/2024/10/16/assembleia-geral-aprova-estado-de-greve-na-ufrgs-ufcspa-e-ifrs-pelo-cumprimento-do-acordo-de-greve/>), which included personnel from the analytical chemistry laboratory, where the pesticide analyses are to be conducted.

As a result of these unforeseen events, we have been unable to perform the chemical analyses in the university's chemistry laboratory. Nevertheless, the initial characterizations have been scheduled for March of this year.