



**PROJECT UPDATE**

**Human-tapir coexistence in  
Serra do Mar, Atlantic Forest**

Mariana Landis - 42296-B

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## **Project update**

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**Application ID: 42296-B**

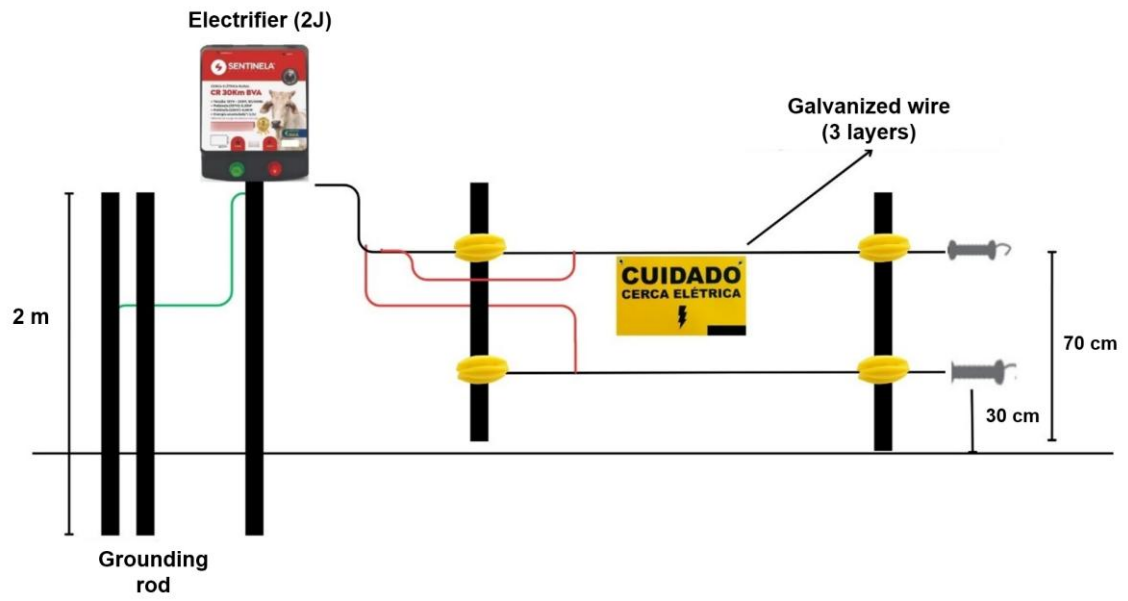
### **1. ACTIVITIES:**

#### **1.1 Design, install and monitoring barriers system:**

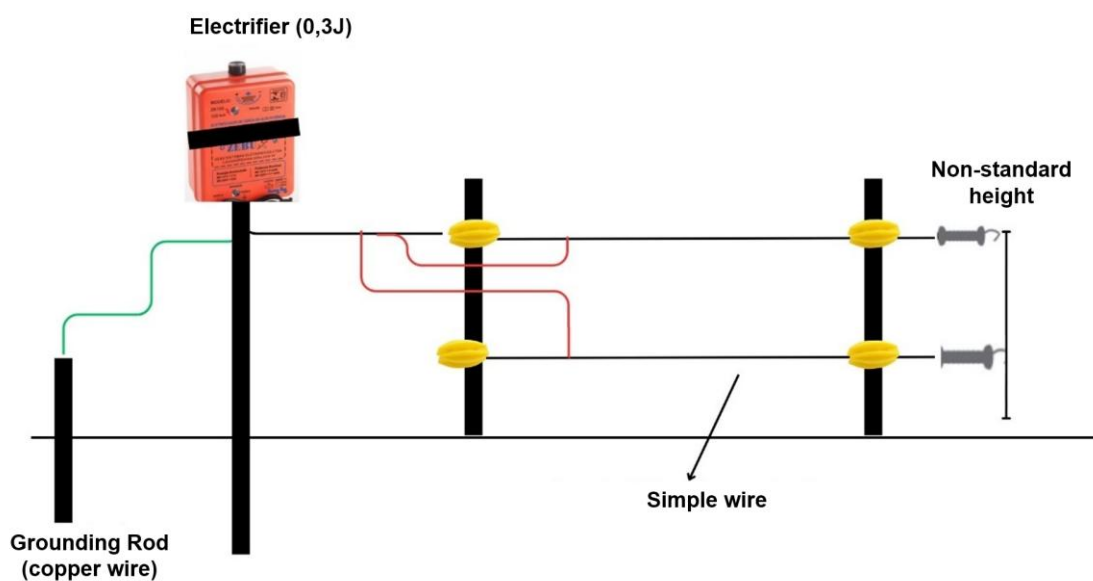
In the first semester of the project, it was possible to carry out all the planned activities.

We worked on four small grape-growing properties where tapirs are used to eat the fruits, causing significant loss to the families.

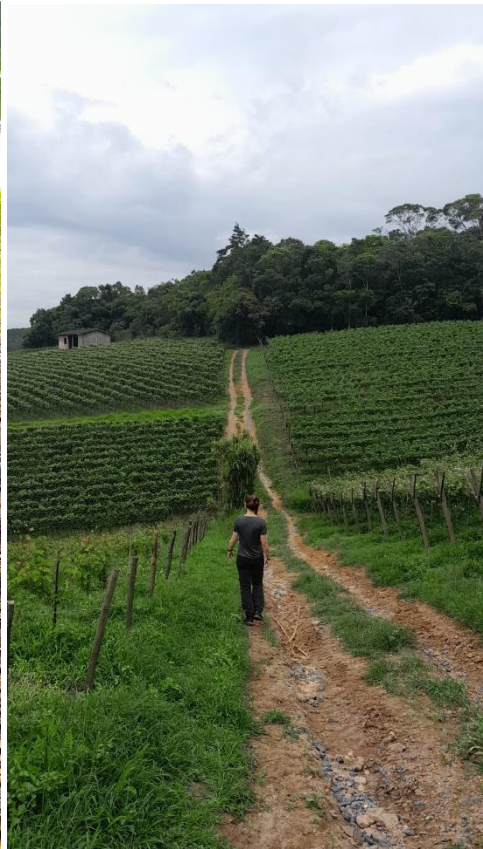
On two properties, we used a system that we designed, like the system used for cattle, but with adaptations to the characteristics of the habitat and the target species. We installed an electric fencing system using two galvanized 3-layer wires, which allow for better conduction of the electric current, with the first wire approximately 30 cm from the ground and the second 70 cm, so that it can block the access of adult and young tapirs. We used a 2J energizer, thus ensuring the necessary power for a cultivation area whose perimeter is approximately 350 meters. For grounding, we used two meter copper bars and for safety reasons signs indicating the electric fence were installed along the entire wire. The sketch of the system and the installed fencing can be seen in the images below:



We also monitored two properties with electric fencing already installed. In general, the farmers use a simplified system, without adjustments suitable for the purpose of preventing tapirs from entering, such as inadequate height and quantity of wires, lack of maintenance of the site (removal of grass and branches, which prevent the conduction of electrical energy), low power electrifier and inefficient grounding. These are systems that do not always meet the expectation to prevent tapir access, but we consider it important to monitor and evaluate their efficiency. The sketch of the system installed by the farmers themselves can be seen in the image below.



The four properties were visited monthly to check and maintain the functioning of the electric fence, in addition to the installation and maintenance of the camera traps, monitoring the harvest, as well as continued contact with the owners of the monitored areas.



The records from the camera traps were processed using the Timelapse2 software and will be analyzed.

## 1.2 Workshop with community

On May 25, we held a “Grape Producers Meeting” where we presented the mitigation system implemented and the results, with a display of videos obtained by camera traps. At the event, we validated the implemented system, in addition to collecting suggestions for improvements and expansion of the system so that it can be implemented in the next harvest. Below is a folder prepared and distributed to rural producers and posted in commercial establishments in the communities involved.



**ENCONTRO DE PRODUTORES DE UVA DE SÃO MIGUEL ARCANJO**

**25 maio**  
**9h**

LOCAL: **Rodovia SP139, km 79, Sítio Chupim (Ari)**  
Última entrada à direita, antes do Parque

DÚVIDAS E SUGESTÕES  
**(15) 99714-5135**

**ESPERAMOS POR VOCÊ!**

UM CAFÉ DA MANHÃ COM UM BATE-PAPO SOBRE

- ✓ **PROBLEMAS COM ANTAS**  
apresentação de solução para proteção das plantações
- ✓ **PROBLEMAS COM PÉROLA-DA-TERRA**  
conversa com agrônomo
- ✓ **PRODUÇÃO DE SUCOS E GELEIAS**

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## 1.3 Interviews

We used a semi-structured script to interview 37 local producers in the communities surrounding the Carlos Botelho State Park. Data collection was carried out using an online form and the data is in spreadsheets and will be analyzed to evaluate people's attitudes towards tapirs.



#### **1.4 Lectures in schools**

On April 25 and 26, we held activities to celebrate World Tapir Day (April 27).

On Thursday (April 25), we visited the Vereador José Camargo School in São Miguel Arcanjo, with three different classes, totaling approximately 45 students between the ages of 7 and 10. A lecture and chat with the students was held.



On Friday (April 26), we took 22 high school students from the Professora Maria Elisa school to the Carlos Botelho State Park. In addition to the lecture and chatting with the students, we actively searched for traces of tapirs on trails and set up camera traps with the students.



## **2. NEXT STEPS**

Based on the data collected and activities carried out, we will now:

- Evaluate the effectiveness of the mitigation system
- Evaluate people's attitudes towards tapirs
- Develop a participatory guide about human-tapir coexistence

At the end of the project, we will have a team meeting to evaluate and monitor the Theory of Change and work on the publications.