

Project Update: November 2015

So far I have visited 30 sites and recorded as many as 350 species of birds in the states of São Paulo and Paraná, southern Brazil. It is becoming increasingly noticeable the decrease of Atlantic Forest endemic bird species as one moves north, away from the humid, rainforests along the coast. Pairs of congeneric species replace each other along this vegetation gradient. The presence of *Cerrado* bird species in the interior of São Paulo is far more evident than in Paraná. No Atlantic Forest endemics were recorded in São Paulo, the interior forests of which resemble and harbor *cerradão* woodland species. I find worrying the absence of common Atlantic Forest species outside protected areas in Paraná. It is only within these that large trees, such as *Aspidosperma polyneuron* Muell. Arg., known as *peroba-rosa*, typical of semi-deciduous forests, can still be found.



Left: Large *Aspidosperma polyneuron*, a common species in semi-deciduous forests, are only found within protected areas in Paraná state, southern Brazil. Right: mosaic of campo limpo, campo cerrado and riparian forests in south-east Paraná state, southern Brazil