

SHORT COMMUNICATION

Range extensions for the checkered woodpecker, *Picoides mixtus* (Aves: Picidae), in north Brazil

David Beadle¹, Arthur Grosset², Guy M. Kirwan³ & Jeremy Minns⁴

¹ 4 Yarmouth Gardens, Toronto M6G 1W4, Canada. ² 17 St Thomas Road, Edinburgh EH9 2LR, Scotland. ³ 74 Waddington Street, Norwich, Norfolk NR2 4JS, UK. ⁴ Rua Itápolis, 1570, 01245-000, São Paulo, SP, Brazil.

The checkered woodpecker *Picoides mixtus* occurs in dry woodland, cerrado and riverine scrub from southeast Bolivia, Paraguay and eastern Brazil, south to west Uruguay and north and central Argentina (Sibley, 1996). Sick (1997) notes the northernmost extent of its occurrence in Brazil as Goiás and northern Minas Gerais (at Pirapora) but Souza (1999) noted its occurrence in southwestern Bahia, at Correntina, and Winkler & Christie (2002) in western Piauí.

During fieldwork in Pará and Tocantins states in January–February 2002, we found the species at two new localities, marking a new northwestern limit for its range. On 27, January 2002, DB videotaped a *Picoides mixtus* in modified campo cerrado, c.10 km west of the rio Araguaia, near Barreira do Campo, Pará (09°10'S 49°58'W). It was foraging actively on the smallest limbs of a medium-size tree beside a dirt road, keeping mostly at about 3-4 m above the ground. It was generally quite unobtrusive and silent throughout the observation period. Further, on February 5, 2002, in a campo cerrado near Balneário Havaí, northeast of Guaraí, Tocantins (08°50'S 48°39'W), we all observed a pair of the same species as the birds fed in the low vegetation. The male occasionally sang during the approximately 15-minute observation period, and AG photographed both individuals.

The species has been collected at Estação Ecológica de Uruçuí-Una, municipality of Bom Jesus, south Piauí by Silveira et al. (2002). Their record and ours considerably extend the species' known range: Guaraí is 650 km north of Correntina,

950 km north of Pirapora and 480 km west of Estação Ecológica de Uruçuí-Una.

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