

First documented record of Veery *Catharus fuscescens* in southern Brazil

Parts of Amazonia, the eastern Andes and sometimes even Central America have been considered within the winter range of Veery *Catharus fuscescens*. However, Remsen³ demonstrated that most winter records are from north and centre-west Brazil. Further south, it has been recorded in São Paulo, by Pereira *et al.*², who collected a male in 1985 and a female in 1986, in Salesópolis and Iguape municipalities, respectively, whilst Willis & Oniki⁷ and E. O. Willis *in* Remsen³ observed 13 individuals, on 12 dates, at altitudes of 250–1,000 m, between late November–early March. In Rio de Janeiro, there is a record by D. F. Stotz in January 1992, at Praia Seca, and another by T. Sigrist, in November, at Tingüá⁶. The southernmost record is from Serranía San Luis National Park, in Paraguay⁵.

On 11 February 2009, during an ornithological inventory of Fazenda Santa Alice, Rio Negrinho municipality, Santa Catarina (26°29'22.7"S 49°29'40.3"W) a *C. fuscescens* was mist-netted at c.09h00. It was a first-year, sex unknown, and was ringed, measured and photographed (Fig. 1). Its measurements were as follows: bill (exposed culmen) 14.0 mm; tarsus 24.8 mm; wing (max.) 90.0 mm; tail 68.3 mm; total length 175.0 mm; mass 30 g. The bird was not moulting any feathers.

Fazenda Santa Alice lies at 800–1,100 m¹⁴. The area where the Veery was trapped



Figure 1. Veery *Catharus fuscescens*, Fazenda Santa Alice, Santa Catarina, 11 February 2009 (Nicholas Kaminski)

is a *capoeira* of *Baccharis dracunculifolia*, with many pioneer species such as *Myrsine coriacea*, *Schinus therebentifolius*, *Zanthoxylum rhoifolium*, *Rhamnus sphaeosperma*, *Matayba elaeagnoides*, *Drymis brasiliensis* and some Melastomataceae. The general environment is a matrix of primary forest and much old secondary forest, but dominated by a vast monoculture of *Pinus taeda*.

This record brings not only an expansion of the area of wintering (*sensu* Remsen³), but also a new vegetation typology with maximum and minimum temperatures very different from Amazonia and the Cerrado³, and even from the Atlantic Forest⁷. However, only with further observations, and preferably continued use of mist-nets, will it be possible to determine if *C. fuscescens* is regular in this region of Brazil.

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