



II MOSTRA UFFS

WILD AVIFAUNA OBSERVED ON A DAIRY FARM ON SALVADOR DO SUL/ RS

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The town of Salvador do Sul is located in the Serra Gaúcha region, in the Atlantic Rain Forest biome. This mountainous region is known for having several country estates specialized on dairy milk production, in which new animal and plant species were introduced, altering the landscape. The area regarding the dairy farm was humid, with a species of hybrid grass known as Tifton 85 (*Cynodon* spp.) planted on the picket lines destined for the bovine on extensive farming system, three lakes (two of them man-made) and arboreal vegetation on the northeast limit. There were also three buildings that served as housing for the cattle on intensive farming system: the first one for cows in their pre-labour phase, the second for lactating cows, and a third for animals destined for fairs and exhibitions. Besides these three constructions there was a fourth for the animal's food processing, and a fifth with a mechanical milking parlour and a veterinarian care center with one cattle restraining chute. The search for local wild bird species happened for 14 days, between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., during April 2022, by a birdwatcher equipped with camera and sound recorder. Birds can be carriers of pathogenic microorganisms which can cause mastitis on dairy cattle, like the bacteria *Staphylococcus aureus*. They can eliminate these on the ambient via droppings and, therefore, infect healthy cattle. These microorganisms are mostly toxins producers, toxins which are able to cause food poisoning in milk consumers, if present in milk. In the light of this, the objective of this paper was to identify the bird species present on the dairy farm and verify the areas they occur. On the manure treatment areas were present: bare-faced ibis (*Phimosus infuscatus*), southern lapwing (*Vanellus chilensis*), turkey vulture (*Cathartes aura*) and black vulture (*Coragyps atratus*). Near buildings and usually in direct contact with the animal's food were found the following: blue-black grassquit (*Volatinia jacarina*), saffron finch (*Sicalis flaveola*), white-tipped dove (*Leptotila verreauxi*) and ruddy ground-dove (*Columbina talpacoti*). Around the buildings the identified birds were: chalk-browed mockingbird (*Mimus saturninus*), red-crested cardinal (*Paroaria coronata*), picui ground-dove (*Columbina picui*), surucua trogon (*Trogon surrucura*), campo flicker (*Colaptes campestris*) and eared dove (*Zenaida auriculata*). Monk parakeet (*Myiopsitta monachus*), brazilian teal (*Amazonetta brasiliensis*), rufous hornero (*Furnarius rufus*), great kiskadee (*Legatus leucophaius*), roadside hawk (*Rupornis magnirostris*) and other bird species were identified away from the most crowded picket lines but had no photos or sounds taken. Accordingly, it was noted that this dairy farm house various Classe Aves representatives, each one interacting on a specific location and able to adapt to its altered environment. It is recommended the use of nets, the same ones used on the poultry industry, or any other physical methods that prevented birds from entering the buildings, interacting with the dairy cows' food and entering the milking parlour, so that cow mastitis and human food poisoning would be avoided.

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