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Mexico 1992 Field Notes

Luis Marcelo Lalles

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Reis A. Galles
1992

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Bernalillo Co., Albuquerque

7 Noviembre 1992

We leaved Albuquerque airport at 6³⁰ am. going to Dallas where we arrived on time. Then we rushed to Fort top airport to make the conection. I had visa problems and so was Jorge. We have to take a taxi to the Mexican Consulate and there we find out it was not necessary to have a visa stamp in the pasport having the blue formulare. Once we were in the consulate we were lucky to be received and all the paper work was smooth and quick. We rushed back to Fort top airport and we even have time to take two beers before it was time to take the aeroplane to get to Mexico D.C.

7 Noviembre 1992 Mexico D.C. 2 pm. Fernando Trujillo, and Consuelo, Fatima and Julieta were waiting for us at the airport. We didn't have much problems ~~with~~ with the costum and we try to fill the little bus with all our equipment and personal stuff. Then we went to Fernando's house and wait for Travis because he left the aeroplain in Dallas in order to receive us \$600. At the end it was getting to late to eat we were very hungry so Fernando stay at home waiting for Travis and Jorge and we went on the bus to a restaurant.

The first restaurante they choose was very expensive and we decided to find a cheepper one. We ended in a fast food mexican restaurante where we eat as much as we want

Luis A. Galles
1992

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and then, we came back to Fernando's house to sleep.

8 November 1992

We wake up at 5 am and get ready to start the trip to "La Mancha" Biological Station (UNAM). We left Mexico DC about 7³⁰ am, after we fill the tank with petrol and collect the rest of the crew. The members of the crew were:

Terry Yates	Jorge Salazar	Brendon Wolff
Pat Zwartjes	Jennifer Frey	Richard Anderson
Guy Hebert	Suzy Peurach	Nancy de Yate
Natalie	Scott Altenbach	Mark
Travis	Phillip Glass	Tom
Consuelo Lorenzo	Bob Dickerman	Juliet Vargas
Andrea Cerretero	Barbara	Lucia Rodriguez
Leticia Luwana	Constantino Oduña	Alberto Montanubio
Benjamin Vieyra	Bill Gannon	Liza de Gannon

During the trip the weather was clouded but not so cold. From time to time it was raining but not so heavy. As soon as we left Mexico DC we find a grass land with eucalyptus, some Ponderosa trees, willows and bushes. We were climbing many different hills crossing between four big peaks: Popocatepetl, Iztaccihuatl, La Malinche and the Cofre de Perote. The first 30 km. was a more or less flat area surrounded by some small mountains cover with clouds. We saw many small corn fields across the road. Then suddenly we started to climb between Popocatepetl and Iztaccihuatl crossing a mist forest with some

Luis de Solla
1992

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epiphyte plants. The trees rich 10 m. with grass underneath and some corn field between forests just like in Bolivia where they set the fields in the mountains at more than 30° inclination. I notice humus were very thick 30-40 centimetres. Trees were Ponderosa Pine and Encinos. On the other side of the hill had less forest and more corn and wheat fields. Getting to Puebla town and Xoxtlá was La Malinche mountain to the left hand side. We cross many little towns like Orizaba, Tehuacan, Pico de Orizaba taking the road 150.

Then we took road 140 in Acatzingo where we refill the gas tank. Before that we have to stop on the road because we did not have enough petrol and both drivers went to Acatzingo to change petrol. Between Acatzingo and Jalapa we saw many different fields with cabbage, onion, flowers, Alfalfa, and cactus. There were several bee hives too. We start to climb again to get to Perote mountain and then, when we climb down the habitat change abruptly. We saw laves, oak tree, mandioca plantations, spanish mosh, epiphyte vegetation, wheat plantations and other kind of trees. Near Perote there was a lake about 10,000 km^2 round and deep.

At 12 a.m. we get to Veracruz state limite and we eat there.

We continue the road at 1³⁰ pm. through the 140 road to Xalapa (120 km. to Cardel) There were corn field every where divided with acacias. Then we get to the moist forest deciduos and semideciduos we saw many corn fields inbetween Pine trees

Luis H. Zalles
1992

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We cross little towns like to Atlatzacoaya, La Joya, Joya Chico, Aczate. The last three were surrounded by grass land that goes up to different hills. Plaza del Cordero, Rancho Chico, Piletas, Xalapa where the weather were getting hotter and we start looking to banana fields, coffee plantations, flamboyane, Mango and Soo trees (Almendro). It was just like to see Santa Cruz-Bolivia view with cerwine cows and bolts Chamba tree, Tamarindo, palm trees, bamboo trees and other plants semideciduos.

We get to Gardel at 3pm where I stay with Bob, Liza, Consuelo and Nancy to shop in the town and we get to "La Mancha" UNAM Biological Station at 5pm. I set with other members of the crew Bat nets next to the beach. We put 3 nets in an open area inside a forest semideciduo semi-caduiflora and one net in a path very narrow. I collect 2 Artibeus and 1 Sturnira during the night. ~~At~~ between 9-10 pm. All together were as follow: 1 Sturnira, 10 Artibeus, 1 Pteropus, 1 Glossophaga 2 Eptesicus 1 Roghessa. There were 8 net set up on the side of the camp the next day.

9 November 1992 It was a beautiful bright and warm day, blue sky. In the morning we process the bat collected and in the afternoon we move the nets and set shermann traps. I set 40 shermann trap at the edge of a sandy dune hill cover with bushes, creapers grass and forest. The earth was sandy and there wasn't many crabs. The grass area have tall grass, about 2mt. high mixed with bushes. 10 traps

Luis P. Zalles
1992

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were set up in trees and branches looking for marsupial. The rest were on the ground far away from crabs holes. Then I put another 30 traps around the big house mostly in grass areas. Then I help to set 2 bat nets next to malvaceous flowers.

10 November 1992

It was another beautiful morning, sunny, bright, hurred. Just what I like. I pull shermann traps set last night and I caught 1 *Liomys* on the ground in the grass area, 2 crabs. This was the line at the edge of the hill area. The other line did not catch ~~on~~ a single animal. From the bat net we caught 1 *Eptesiscus fernalis*.

In the afternoon we went to Cardel town to get some supplies for the rest of the week because the drivers have to leave to Mexico. Then we went to the road in the bus. We divided the crew into two groups. One went to Agua Fria bridge and the other to El Cedro bridge. Each group brought shermann traps and bat nets. My group put 3 bat nets and Suzy put 15 shermans and Constantino put 30 shermans. We arrived at 6:55 and took us 25 minutes to set the three bat nets. By that time bats were flying around us. The sky was clear and a full moon shined us very bright. Cedro river was deep, clean water with gambusia fishes. The bottom of the river with stones and sand. The deepest part of the river was 2 meters and average depth 45 cm. The water was warm and there were not many

Luis A. Flores
1992

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mosquitos.

By 9³⁰ we collect 12 *Artibeus* and 1 *Eptesiscus* and we did not collect any mouse from the sherman.

As soon as we arrive at El Cedro bridge Travis and I saw two red eyes at the other side of the river and Phillip shine his ~~torch~~ lantern. We saw a *Phylander* drinking water. The *Phylander* did not mind with the light and it stayed for a couple of minutes watching^{to} us. Travis ran across the river trying to catch it but the *Phylander* was much too quick.

We came back at 10³⁰ to have supper.

The other crew went to Rio Agua Fria bridge and they set nets and sherman traps. They arrived earlier and they had more diversity than us. They collected 4 different representative of families and 5 genera. They collected 4 mice too.

When we all came back Terry decided not to work any more. We took the night off.

11 November 1992

The day is as nice as the other three days before. Sunny, hardly any wind, hot, and humid. In the morning we form a group of 5 people to visit a cave near by. Enrique, the Biology Station Manager took us in his truck. The cave is situated 15 km west from the Biological Station. It is his uncle's property about 15 hectares mostly grass land. There is a little river crossing the farm. They raise cattles, chickens, turkey, sheep and they plant mango, banana and in 2

Miss H. Zeller
1992

(22)

small quantities vegetable and fruits (oranges).

The house is in the hight which is small and rustic. The farm is called Poza de San Antonio and the owner Margarito Barrados. He told us he has problems with vampires. Frequently his animals (mammals) have been bitten by vampires and some of them died. He told me a little boy died last year with rabies. He showed us the way to get to the cave. The cave was situated on top of a hill in a rocky formation. The opening size is about 8 meters width by 4 meters tall and 10 meters deep. We set a net at the opening and then we went inside the cave. They were two different species; *Balantiopteryx* and *Desmodus*. *Balantiopteryx* was at the roof of the cave and *Desmodus* was inside the ~~cave~~ and there is a sort of chimenea at the end of the cave about 15 meters high where *Desmodus* were nesting. We saw offsprings and adults. Underneath that hole on the roof there was a sort of string made out of blade and a sort of poodle 3 meters long and 30 centimeters wide black, sticky, smelly. In ten minutes the net was cover of bats, all *Balantiopteryx* and none *Desmodus*. We choosed the damaged bats and relize the healthy ones. Then we went inside the cave again and with a butter fly net we collected 5 *Desmodus*. We arrived at the camp at 12:30.

In the afternoon at 6 pm two crews went to Quetzal farm and Betania farm to set nets and sherman. I stayed in the farm cooring. They caught *Peromyscus* and *Oryzomys*, *Artibeus*, *Sturnira* and *Molossus* *Sigmodon*, *mus*,

Quis A. Lelles
1992

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12 November 1992

The crew who set sherman at Quetzal and Betania went at 7 am. to collect them and the plan is to process all the animals and then enjoy nature. Tomorrow we are going to Mexico DC and the next day fly back to Albuquerque.

Mexico DC. 1. November 1992

Everything is going allright. We have some problem at the custom and we have to leave Travis samples and some Terci dishes but appast of that every-thing went out as plan.

Phillip J. Glass
1992

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Road log November, 7, 1992
Mexico city to La Mancha Ecological Research Station

Hour	Mileage	Comments
7:10		Left Fernando Cervantes' home
7:14	18262	Filled up the tank (Acospa and Miramontes, Villa Coapa). We used Prolongacion del Norte Av. to get to Periferico Av. and from there to the east to Tlahuac and Puebla.
7:20	18266	Canal de Garay Av.
7:45	18271	We entered the High way to Puebla
7:50	18273	Entered Delegacion Tlahuac
7:55	18278	Valle de Llagua. We took EJE 10 SUR
8:15	18289	Took the HWY to Puebla. Hwy Mexico 150
8:20	18295	Municipio de Chalco. Caseta de cobro - (Toll)
8:30	18308	Entered the mountain range. Canyons of Montezuma Pine, Oak, and Juniper
8:43	18322	Parque Llano Grande. Gas station
8:50	18330	Rio Frio
9:20	18359	Toll San Martin-Tezmelucan
9:30	18377	Xortla
9:35	18388	Puebla; Following the HWY 150.
9:50	18392	Amozoc Toll
10:05	18432	Stopped because we ran out of gas, stopped about 45 min.
10:53	18437	Took HWY 140 Towards Xalapa at Acatzinga
11:07	18443	Puente Lavadero
11:20	18456	Puente Ocotal
11:22	18460	Train crossing and Town of El Seco
11:35	18485	Town of Zacatepec: From there kept on HWY 140
12:10	18530	Town of Cruz Blanca
12:15	18532	City of Perote and Cofre de Perote Mnt.
13:30	18534	Left Perote by Hwy 140 towards Xalapa
13:50	18546	Entered the Cloud Forest. Drooping needle pines and epiphytes abound.
13:55	18550	First place where tropical fruits appear (Tangerines, Oranges and "Nispero")
14:00	18557	Town of Encino Gacho
14:10	18564	La Joya
14:15	18570	Acajote
14:20	18574	Rancho Chic
14:35	18584	Rio Xalapa and first banana trees
14:40	18587	City of Xalapa. Left it via Hwy 140
15:00	18605	Canyon and the town of Cerro Grande
15:10	18625	Plan del Rio
15:35	18647	Town of Tamarindo
15:36	18661	Main Square at Cardel where we stayed for 15 min. We left Cardel by taking HWY 180 towards Nautla
15:55	18667	Puente San Carlos and cf. <u>Bassaricvov</u>
16:00	18673	Puente Agua Fria
16:05	18675	Puente San Isidro
	18681	Branch towards Palmas de Abajo, but we stayed on the main route
16:15	18686	Branch towards Centro de la Mancha (diff. towns)
16:16	18689	La Mancha Town, left the main route by turning right
16:24	18691	Reserva Ecologica Morron de La Mancha

Trap Record

8-9 November, 1992

Jennifer K. Frey	30 Traps	Field Station	3 <i>Oryzomys palustris</i> 12 Crabs 1 Frog
Terry L. Yates & J. Scott Altenbach	7 nets	Field Station Under palms & over fresh water	1 <i>Rhogeessa tumida</i> 2 <i>Eptesicus furinalis</i> 4 <i>Artibeus jamaicensis</i> 1 <i>Sturnira lilium</i>
Mammal Class Crew & William Lopez-Forment	4 nets	3 nets in a line. Heavy forest 0.5km north of Field Station in from beach	1 <i>Artibeus jamaicensis</i> 4 <i>Sturnira</i> 1 <i>Glossophaga</i> 1 <i>Artibeus phaeotis</i> 2 <i>Artibeus lituratus</i>

9-10 November 1992

L. Marcelo Zalles	40 Traps	Edge of hill brush	0 animals
Jennifer K. Frey	30 Traps	Near field station, in grass	1 <i>Liomys pictus</i>
Mark L. Watson	27 traps	Dune edge	2 <i>Oryzomys palustris</i>
William Lopez-Forment	40 Traps	Mangrove swamp	0 animals
William Lopez-Forment	200 Traps	Field Station. 1 line of 80: Forest, dunes & brush 1 line of 120: -Jungle and agriculture	4 <i>Liomys pictus</i> 1 <i>Reithrodontomys sp.</i>
John L. Dunnun	40 Traps	Field Station. Grass, brush, marsh edge	1 <i>Philander opossum</i>
Phillip J. Glass	20 Traps	Field Station buildings	1 <i>Mus musculus</i>
Guy W. Herbert	10 Traps	Field Station	0 animals
Suzy C. Peurach & Tom L. Collins	43 Traps	Cattails & in trees	0 animals
Jorge Salazar-Bravo	26 Traps	Sandy hill with vegetation, East facing slope 15 degrees	0 animals
Richard W. Anderson	40 Traps	Brush	0 animals
Patrick W. Zwartjes	39 Traps	Forest edge	2 <i>Sigmodon hispidus</i>
Brendan K. Wolff	40 Traps	Pasture, forest edge	0 animals

Bat Nets

House Nets	159' - 5 nets	1 <i>Sturnira</i>
Flower	48' - 2 nets	1 <i>Eptesicus furinalis</i>
Swamp	60' - 1 net	16 <i>Artibeus</i> 4 <i>Sturnira</i> 1 <i>Glossophaga</i>
Frog	90' - 3 nets	1 <i>Sturnira</i> 1 <i>Artibeus</i>



10 November, 1992

Terry L. Yates, William Gannon, J. Scott Altenbach, Brendan Wolff, Beto, Jorge Salazar-Bravo	5 nets	Rio Aqua Fria	30 Artibeus sp. 1 Sturnira 5 Pteronotus psilotis 1 Molossus ater
Pat Zwartjes	38 Traps	Stream bank-meadow transition	5 Oryzomys sp. 1 Mus sp.
Rich Anderson	6 Traps	Beach	1 Mus musculus
Travis Perry, Marcelo Zalles, Phillip J. Glass, Tom Collins, Suzy Peurach, Rich Anderson, Consuelo, Julieta	18' - 1 net 60' - 1 net 30' - 1 net	Rio Cedro	10 Artibeus 1 Eptesicus
Tom Collins	15 Traps	Rio Cedro grassland along bank	0 animals
Suzy Peurach	15 Traps	Rio Cedro grassland along bank	0 animals
Barbara, Lucia, Benjamin, Constantino	30 Traps	Rio Cedro	0 animals
J. Scott Altenbach, Guy W. Herbert, Phillip J. Glass, Mark Watson, Marcelo Zalles	Bat Cave	Palamas Abajo 15 km W. from Field Station Rancho "El Quetzal"	17 Balantiopteryx plicata 5 Desmodus rotundus

11 November, 1992

Travis W. Perry, William Gannon, Natalie Runyan, Consuelo, Julieta, Rich	5 Nets	Rancho "El Quetzal" Over stream by Mango trees	35 Artibeus 11 Molossus ater 1 Chiroderma villosum 1 Didelphis marsupialis 1 Artibeus jamaicensis
Terry L. Yates	2 Nets (18' 30')	Field Station	
Jennifer K. Frey, Patrick Zwartjes	67 Traps	Rancho Betania. Secondary growth forest	0 animals
Mark Watson, Brendan Wolff	62 Traps	Rancho Betania. Secondary growth forest	4 Peromyscus mexicanus
Jorge Salazar-Bravo, Phillip J. Glass	70 Traps	Rancho Betania. Rocky hill ecotone between pasture & Forest	1 Sigmodon hispidus
Suzy Peurach, Tom Collins	54 Traps	Rancho Betania. Forest, rocks up mountain side	9 Peromyscus mexicanus
Guy Herbert	38 Traps	Rancho "El Quetzal" Stream bank	1 Sigmodon hispidus 1 Baiomys musculus
Beto	40 Traps	Rancho "El Quetzal"	1 Baiomys musculus 2 Sigmodon sp. 5 Oryzomys sp.
John L. Dunnum	40 Traps	Rancho "El Quetzal"	1 Baiomys musculus 1 Sigmodon sp.

12 November, 1992

Travis W. Perry

18' - net

On path to crocodile/boat-bill heron pond

2 *Artibeus* (released)
1 *Sturnira* (released)
1 *Carollia perspicillata*

Global Positioning System Information

1. Mexico: Veracruz; Estacion Biologia, Morro de la Mancha

Lat 19°35' 23.8"N

Lon 96°22' 49.2"W

Alt 8m

3 satellites

2. Rancho "El Quetzal"

22 km North of Cardel

Lat 19°35'25.6"N

Lon 96°22'48.8"W

Alt 50 meters

2 satellites

3. Rancho Betania

20 km North of Cardel

Lat 19°33'13.0"N

Lon 96°24'37.0"W

Alt 50 meters

3 satellites

4. Rio Aqua Fria

Lat 19°28'9.5"N

Lon 96°22'52.0"W

Alt 62 meters

4 Satellites

