

17 Jan Bryan, Texas → Goiania, Brazil (Travel Day's)

SUN

Left College Station 9 am; arrived Houston Intercont. Airport 11 am; left by 1:20 via continental, finding Sasa Mahmoud on same plane, going to Goiania also. Arrived Miami 4:30 pm; Jena, Mike & Jimmy there to meet us. Had juice, sandwich, & Mike wants Lepidosiren and Hydroedusa tissues. Left on VASP for Brazil at 7:30 pm. Arrived Fortaleza Brazil at 2:20 am, 1 hour on ground, then Salvador at 4:30 am, 1 1/2 hrs on ground; and Sao Paulo at 7:30 am (10:30 Brazil time).

18 Jan
Mon.

We stayed in airport until 6: pm; waiting for flight to Goiania; arriving there at 7:30 pm. Nelson & 3 students met us and we drove to Nelsons, 12 Floor Apt., then out to dinner; & finally back to Apt. at midnite.

19 Jan.

TUES

Goiania, Brazil

up at 6:30 am; ate breakfast in apt; to office by 8:30 h, examined several dozens of Liophis poecilogyrus, L. almadensis, L. miliaris (1), L. reginae, L. oligolepis; L. jagori (1), L. meridionalis (5+); L. dilaps (2)*; L. paucidentis, L. typhlus, L. anomalus (4) (Argentina); Pseudablas apossizi (3) + and I.D. many other sp.s'. Ate lunch about 1 pm; & finished Lab work at 5:30 pm. Lost my voice today! knew it was going to happen!! We left university at 6:00 pm; then to Nelson's Apt, 2 hour nap; then we are going to eat about 10 pm.

20 Jan

wed

Goiania, Brazil

up at 7:00 am; breakfast of Bread & cheese, then to office: Looked at Typhlops & Leptotyphlops most of day, plus counted teeth on 27 Liophis paucidentis

20 Jan (cont.) Ate lunch at Nelson's house; food prepared by his mom. Very good rice, chicken, & other veggies. Common to eat Palm heart, Yucca, Manioc, for meal. Back to office at 3:pm, looked at odds & ends of collection. Finished at 5:30pm, back to apt., quick nap until 8pm, then to Evan's girl friend's house party. Here we were treated to Brazilian music by band, Brazilian geologist cooked "Barbecue"; plus we had lots of beer, wine, rum; & soft drinks. Saw first wild lizard on wall (Homidactylus mabuya). Finally left party (via Murcio) for Apt. at 1:15am, in sack by 1:30am.

21 Jan. Goiania, Brazil

Thurs. Up at 7am; cheese-bread breakfast; to office by 9:15am; worked on Apostolepis sp. until noon; at which time 8 of us went to fish place & had 4.5k of Peacock Bass, + soft drinks & salad. Back at office at 2pm; Sandra took Mary & I to buy cards & stamps. Worked again on Apostolepis in PM until 5:30. Back at Apt. by 6pm. Nelson went to local shop & bought ham, cheese, & bread. Mary & I decided to stay in this pm; so we made sandwiches, & watched CNN, while Nelson & Sara left for dinner. In sack by 11pm.

22 Jan Goiania, Brazil

Fri Up at 6:30; cheese/bread breakfast, Nelson left early because of meeting, Marcio was to pick us up at 8:30; instead Evan got us at 9:30; immediately worked on Lephis & Apostolepis, lunch at 12:30 (Italian) and back to Lab for Apostolepis work until 3:30pm. My throat is getting better, with antibiotics

22 Jan (cont.) Nelson said we would meet Fish + Wildlife folks at 5pm, + go to site on Rio Araguaia, the border between Mato Grosso and Goias. The site is ^{47mi} 75 km w (dirt road) of Sao Miguel da Araguaia (^{282mi} 455 km by road) from Goiania in the very NW corner of the state. The site is near the village of Chapeu de Palha at 13° S; + 50° 30' W. We managed to visit Fish + Wildlife at 5pm + stayed until 6:15 pm. Visited the head of CENAGUA, Vitor Hugo Cantarelli, Jefe of "Centro Nacional de a Quezonias da Amazonia". Back to Lab at 6:30pm. Waited For Nelson to Finish Gusmiss; caught a Hemidactylus mabouya on wall; Mary photographed it, + I put it back. Also saw a Large Tropidurus _____ on wall. By 8:30, all ready to go eat. Went to Bar Bago Restaurant, Famous Brazilian chain - F restaurants - Drank + Talked until midnight, then ordered Food. Back at apt by 1:30am. You don't get much sleep here!

23 Jan.
SAT.

Goiania, Brazil

Up at 7:10 am, Mary + I stayed in until 9:30, then walked to Flamboyant Mall ± 1 mi, + caught toothats 68 + 48", for trip to interior. Waited until 1pm; + Ivan drove us to lunch near mall. Whole crew there again!! Nelson must be broke by now feeding all these kids! Back to Apt, shower, rest, + back to Nelson's Mom's Apt by 6pm. She fed us very good meal!! Nelson then took Mom, us, Sasa, Juliana, Sandra, + Maria to club. - Stayed one hour, met Ivan there, then Marcelo. We took off at 10pm to get early sleep because we leave at 6:30am tomorrow. I need to get Reolos!!

James R. Dixon
Journal
1999

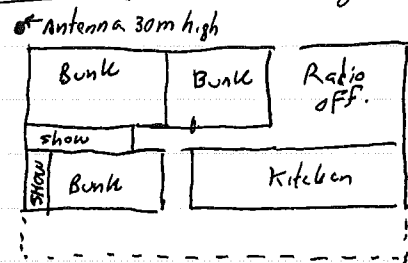
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210m
15° 14' 50W

24 Jan
SUN

Gorania a Base 1, on Rio Crixás-Açu 133908'S -

Left Gorania at 6:30am, Nelson coming on Tuesday, drove all morning N thru various towns, Got Mainly Goiás, Novo Crixás; to Base 1, some 10km E of Hwy + on Rio Crixás-Açu. This is the station where they hatch the eggs of P. expansa + release them back into the Rio Araguaia. We arrived 1:30pm; after lunch in Nueva Crixás; + will spend nite here. I made photos of group eating in restaurant in Nueva Crixás, of jeep + car; + then of station (base 1) + of Rio Crixás-Açu below station, + one of many holding a Podocnemis skull. Building consists of office/Radio Room, + pic



We will leave tomorrow after Radio tower/equipment is installed. I plan to take pictures of turtleshells Later today. Took 2 dorsal,

↓
Rio
one ventral + one of turtle pen. It is amazing to me that on the ride here (280mi) thru what once was Cerrado, is that there is no Cerrado left! It is all in cattle ranches, corn, rice, + other crops. No wonder Nelson wants to save a piece of it!!

Students having hard time trying to install antenna for base station to the base on the Rio Araguaia. This is some 100km + is needed to supply information during the wet season when you cannot drive to the river. Hope to look around tonight, but have found no ponds to search; + I have no flashlight! Maybe I can borrow one from one of the students.

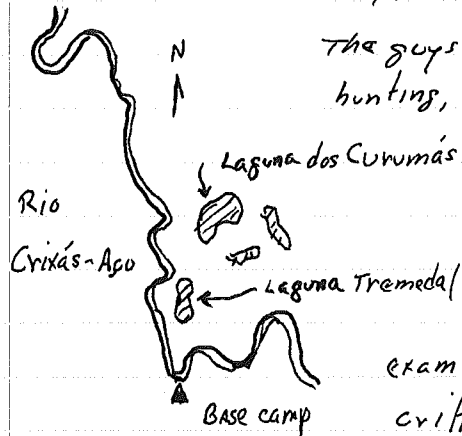
Journal
1999

24 Jan (cont.) Evan + Sasa, Mary + I caught 8 Bufo paracnemis JV around storehouse, also 1 Ameiva ameiva and 1 Tropidurus oroadicus. We took pictures of frogs (2 held by Mary) and 3 shots of Ameiva, and 1 of the Tropidurus. Ran out of film + while fishing in my briefcase, I found my razor, which promptly cut the ...^{out} of my left thumb!! Now I will be limited to what I can do in 5 days, because we leave on Friday to return to Goiânia. Photo of Phrynobates venulosus JV on building. After supper, with half moon, Sasa, Evan + I walked to what little seeps of water there were, and found 2 Leptodactylus fuscus, I heard at least 2 Nyctala minuta, and found 2 Scinex fuscovarix on buildings. We also found a very fresh Tropidurus oroadicus ♀ recently ran-over in drive, that had 5 eggs. In sack by 10:30 pm.

25 Jan. MON. Slept Rio Crixás - Açu Base 13°39'08"S - 15°14'50"W, 210m
Slept poorly woke 3:45 with stopped-up nose, followed by coughing. Finally got up 6:30 am. Crew left to go to other base camp, leaving us here to wait on Nelson. We made boat + 1 hr walking trip to inland natural lake on East side of Rio Crixás - Açu. We collected several black-4-limbed tadpoles in small pool adjacent to lake. We also saw several T. oroadicus on way + found 1 Mabuya bistrifurcata on tree. Dropped lens cap on way in + found it on way out. We were gone about 3½ hrs; returning at 1:30 pm. Lake's name Lago do Curumas? (Tremedade) Quick lunch, + rested until 4 pm; very warm in building, chased Ameiva + Tropidurus around yard until 6 pm. Sasa, Evan, + Claudiano left for skunk run to hunt snakes.

25 Jan (cont.)

Below is outline of river, base camp, + nearby Lagoons.



The guys came back from snake hunting, but found only Tropidurus oreaditicus. They took off 35 min later to fish for freshwater sting rays. The Lake in Goiânia also exams the venom of these critters. We have a Large du o

here, but tissues cannot be brought back to USA. I could get alcohol props? Now 7:45pm, + sun is just setting. Without a light I will not be able to look for frogs this pm. Subboss back from town, brought Mary + I towels! These people really take care of you. I practiced by gator call at the Lagoon, + was able to call up a few juvenile C. jacaré + guys returned from fishing, + brought in one P. maroto (stingray). I took 2 Flash CO at 22 + 95% Alcohol muscle + tissues. In sack by 10:30pm. High temp 37 - Low 25C.

26 Jan.

Rio Crixás-Açu Base Camp.

TUES

During night huge thunderstorm rolled in (2am), but didn't last long. The major problem with this site is that it has been converted to cattle ranching, + range forage. The only forest left is along the river + in some places is less than 1m thick. The east side contains more forest, is more swampy + less desirable as pasture. I looked under a pile of lumber to west of office + found an Atractus sp. Took several photos; also found a Mabuya frenata in storage shed, + made photos. Also took 3 shots of Podocnemis expansa hatching from Rio Moritis (death) of Mato Grosso.

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7-99

26 Jan (cont.) Claudiano, Mary, I looked around fence post pile & found nothing. Electricity has been off since lightning storm last night, but just came back on & found out that Nelson is not arriving until tomorrow about noon. Doesn't give me much time to search the other station in Vareza forest. The only snake species seen so far at this station are:
Liophis poecilogyrus, Leptodeira annulata, Oxyrhopus tripeinus; Attractus sp., lizards: Mabuya frenata, Mabuya bistriata, Tropidurus creaditeus, T. forquetaus?
Ameiva ameiva; Caught a juv. T. oreaditeus at 3:00 pm.

A description of the Attractus: head black; obscure reddish collar follows black head cap; 3-4 SR long; body reddish brown with single scale black chevrons (± 90) from collar onto tail, the chevrons may or may not be united & form series of spots in chevron pattern; 3rd-4th SR almost forming obscure ochraceous stripe the length of body, 5-6 supral. yellowish, 7th yellowish with black spot in middle, infra-l. & chin pale yellow, pale yellowish tan; uniform; 6k marks on side of nape not forming chevrons; body pattern at times resembles reticulation; 12 SR without 6k marks, almost uniform orange, elongate preoc., postoc. 2, supra/infrac. 2/7; SR 17-17-17; vent. 168, sc 27;
Frochwater strogoy is Patamotrygon motoro

Went out at 4pm; with 7 person crew; we turned fence posts for 2 hrs; found several ♂ & ♀ Tarantulas; 2 L. fuscus, 1 Physalaenus cuvieri, & 1 M. frenata. Ranch hands brought in Crotalus durissus. Found out none of the pictures I made today rolled thru the camera. I will start again tomorrow.

Collected frogs near seep by river, Hyla minuta, Hyla punctata;
Phrynobates venulosa, Physalaenus petrosi, Leptodactylus fuscus,
Leptodactylus chaguensis? Adenomera?

27 Jan.
WED

Rio Crisás - Acu Base Camp - São Miguel - Rio Araguaia
Up at 7pm; wish I had a tape recorder, P. petersi has a distinctive call! Made 3 shots P. expansa hatchling, (MT too)
Photo Atractus, H. minuta, L. fuscus, Tarantula ♀ + egg case,
Leptodactylus sp. 80mm; P. petersi, Hyla sp.; M. frenata;
freshwater sting-ray, (3); now 10 am, + probably made pictures too early! Made 2 more pictures of Ameiva ameiva ♀ + turned it loose. Tissues of Atractus taken; + Sasa has taken tissues from all of the amphibians. Very warm morning + humid!!
Nelson is due in today, but I don't know the time. We are supposed to spend nite at Rio Araguaia Base Camp, but so far we haven't gotten there! Nelson showed up at 12:30 with 3 girls, 1 guy. We left station at 2:30 pm; arrived São Miguel at 3:30; bought groceries + battery for Mary; 8⁵⁰R; had calce, + finally on way to Base Camp of Rio Araguaia. Arrived at Boat ramp at 6pm. 10min ride down river to camp. Very warm here. Saw many familiar birds on way down (70km dirt road); Maguari, Woodstark, Ani, Lapwing, herons, Limpkin, etc. Mary + I placed in one room with two single beds. Going frog hunting after supper. Mosquitos bad; waded in water creek deep to catch Hyla raniceps, Leptodactylus ocellatus; Hyla minuta, small Leptodactylus sp.; Caiman jacare ♀ + bat - Molossus sp.
Back by 10pm; shower, notes, + bed!

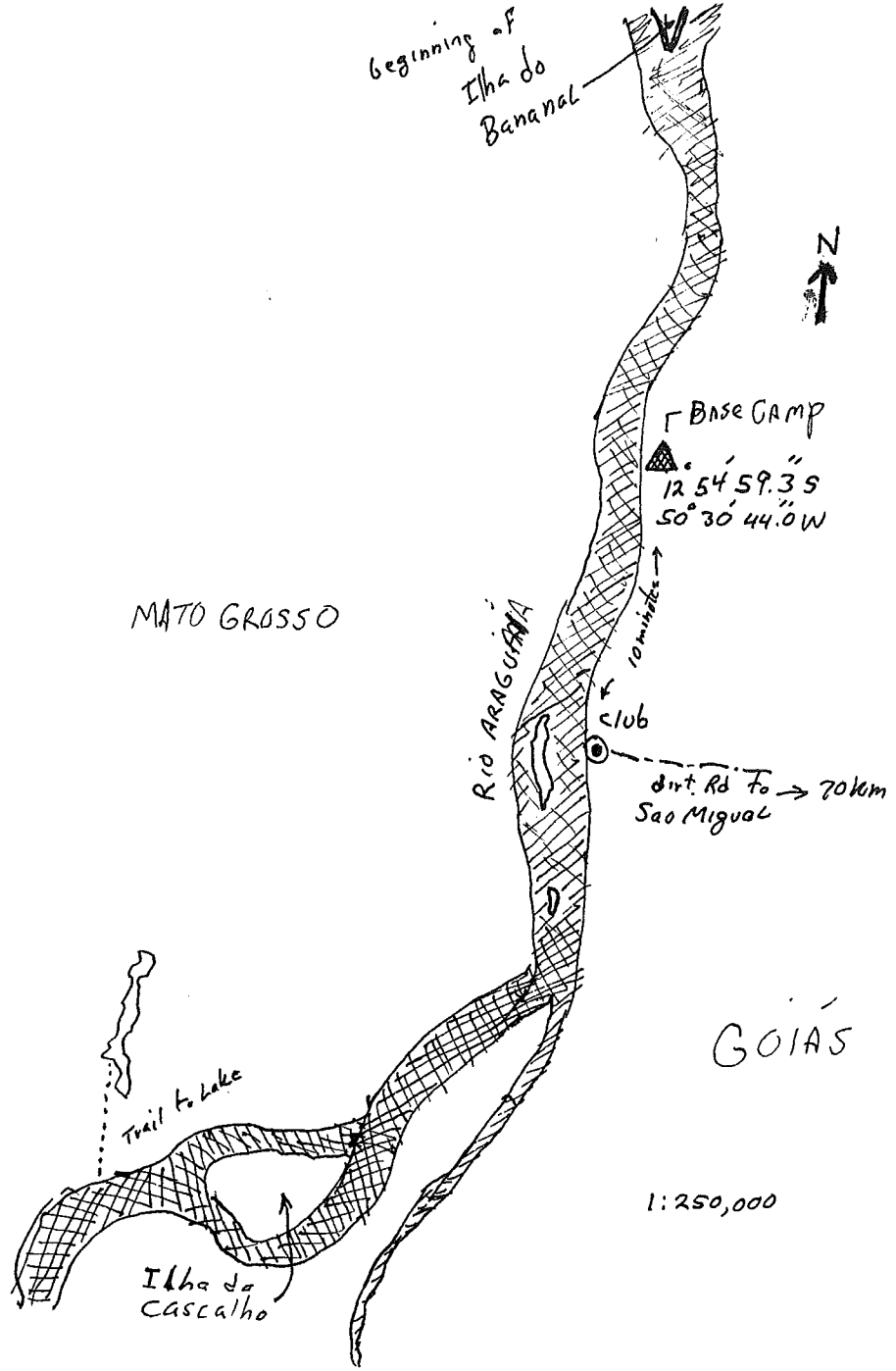
28 Jan. Rio Araguaia Base Camp. 12° 54' 59.3" S - 50° 30' 44" W
Thurs. Up at 7am; on boat by 8:15pm; up stream for 25 min to trail to Lake on MT side; 1/2 mi walk - too flooded to proceed; back to boat by 10:30, no boat! 11:45 boat returns; meantime, I collect tad + hatchling, + 1 Adult L. mystacinus. Back to camp for lunch, + 2pm, photograph H. raniceps, L. ocellatus?, Helicops

28 Jan (cont.) polylepis (dorsal + ventral view). Nelson + crew return at 2:30pm from club. Now setting up weather station for 120 days.
The H. polylepis SR = 23; ♂, SC = ~~28~~. Black venter with small ^{scattered} white spots, Dorsum light brown, with obscure mid-dorsal + two distinct lateral rows of black spots. The ventrolateral black spots are 2 to 3 SR long. The lateral black spots smaller than mid-dorsal ones, the lat. black spots are not intercalary spots but opposite the mid-dorsal spots. The ventrolateral black marks largest, sep. from each other by 1-1/2 SR of dorsal color; the greatest length of one of these is 3 1/2 black SR; white (cream) chin band Lab to Lab; another wider one at end of mouthline, passing onto last supral. Tan (cream) belly spots on outer ends of ventrals (not in middle), ± 41 one R. side, spots continuous onto sc, but not as uniform or distinct. There is a bluish streak from periotic notch posteriorly for about 13 SR.

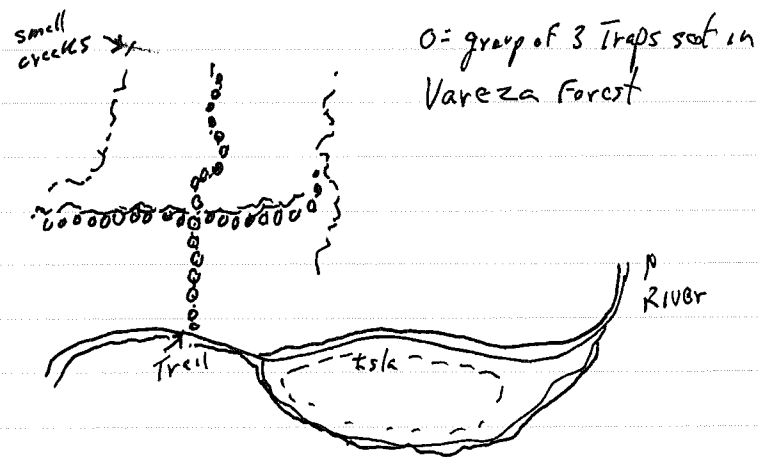
We are flooded at station, + we are living on a piece of ground ± 100' wide + 75' long; very little collecting can be done. I found a juv. Ameiva ameiva half in + out of water between ceiling brick tiles. After support made a quick tour, 1. lepto dactylus ocellatus juv.; + heard nothing, moon almost full, + no rain.

29 Jan Rio Araguia Base Camp 7am = 26.0°C

Fri 7am; dogs chewed up my socks! Guys (w/ officers) left during night, confiscated 600kg of commercial fish, didn't return until 9am. The mollusc got 2 caught by hand is Nyctinomaps laticaudatus. Nelson + some students went down river for 2 hrs to try to get stingrays. We will go at ± 2pm for forest on Goiás side of river. Some of the fish arrived for the troops to eat this evening.



29 Jan (Cont) I rowed across to other house south of station, owner's only
Fri there in dry season. Found nothing! Nelson + crew back by
11 am, motor prop on shaft became loose + had to return.
We all may go to Forest this pm. We will have Fish for supper.
As usual, things were not well planned - I, May, Sergio, Nelor,
+ new student went to trail into forest 25 min up river. Rather than
look for traps, I helped them set out 125 traps, 1 medium
tomahawk, 1 small tomahawk + 1 sherman set per station, partially
in a +; 10 sets per line, 3 traps each; started at 3:00 pm,
+ back by 5:45 pm. Rest of crew not here, so we don't know
where they went. now 6:20 with winds 6 km from NW.



Bait principally papaya, manioc, squash, + banana in shermans
8:30 pm, still no crew (Nelson, Julic, Maite, Nelor, Sergio, Igor, Claudio,
Kennedy, 8:40 most show up, Kennedy + Igor looking for stingrays
I photographed different genus + species today, but no tissue taken,
ib was injected with formal. = Dasyatis? Good boiled fish
supper prepared by Vanderley - his speciality. Nelson
wants to get early start in morning, ± Gam for
Trapline. Tomorrow is our last day in the field,
we return to Goiania on Sunday. now 11 pm.

30 Jan
sat.

Rio Araguaia Base Camp

Up at 6am; on river by 8am; checked trap line baited with non-sweet squash, meatie, etc; caught nothing in 125 traps. Came back by Fish Club + picked up Igor who had speared 3 stingrays for venom. We are to have the family Curimatidae (Semaprochilodus cf. branca but no tail stripes (bk). I took photo of piranha (Serrasalmus nitroreni) caught yesterday. Igor just brought in Liophris rosinae from next building up river. I will photo it later. ♀ 17-17-15, 80+sc; very black ventral with few yellowish orange spots on posterior $\frac{1}{3}$ of body. Throat pale pink; (Flesh) bk face stripe; a black mark on every ventral from 5-6 ventral to last ventral, progressively larger + wider posteriorly until entire ventral is black; bk stripe on 3rd SR posteriorly + onto tail; sc 1-15 ± with bk marks on yellowish orange ground color; remainder of tail uniform except a few grayish marks on lateral edges. sides of body pale brown; above + below bk line of SR 3; dark brown (bkish brown) mid-dorsal stripe on 6-10 SR; stem between scales on anterior $\frac{1}{3}$ of body yellow; giving speckled appearance when handled. Half of iris cete color, (up) lower bk; Ant. $\frac{1}{4}$ of body greenish brown dor, + more green laterally, Inf. Flesh; bk stripe on supral. from nostril to 3-4 scales beyond last supral.; bk lat. stripe on 4th scale row where 17 SR; 3rd on remainder where 15 SR; ± 150V Made ± 5 photos. Ate baked fish for lunch, including standard rice + beans; had spaghetti also. Packed up suitcase for trip to Goiania tomorrow. ± 570 km. IBAMA vehicle will be at Rio Crixás-Açu station to take us on in to Goiania. Sasa Mahmood is staying a couple of more days to talk about job possibilities in Brazil (Genetics).

30 Jan (cont.) Sat. At 1:55 Nelson, Juliana, Mary, Vanderley + I made a trip into Mato Grosso by canoe, about 1:20 min into Lagoa Lake (old part of river?) via flooded pasture + fence rows. Once there, we saw 2 trumps of howlers, 1 Capuchin, and many birds, including hoatzins, herons, Anhingas, Ani; terns, Kingfishers, Thornbirds, rails, jacanas, etc. Also found + 11 canoes with probably illegal fishing gear. The guys (Weber, Samuel, + Vanderley) will check them out tonight. we plan to leave around cam tomorrow for Goiania. Lagoão is the name of the big Lake in the middle of the preserve; 30m deep. Change in plans, Mary, Claudiano, Ivan, + I leave at 8pm for other station on Rio Crixas-Açu, then in morning leave there for Goiania. Boy, this has been "musical chairs" since we have been here! Said goodbys to students after supper + underway by 8:30. arrived Sao Miguel 10:00; + Base by 11:00; + showered + in sack by 11:30. Mary gave everyone their drawings.

31 Jan. Sun Rio Crixas-Açu Base - Goiania
Up at 6am; told everyone goodby + off to Goiania by 8:30am, arriving at 2pm. Had pit stop + quick bread lunch in Goiania; - they dropped us off at Nelson's apt. (Konrad + Luciano = IBAMA); Nelson already here. Took nap from 2:30-4pm; then watched CNN until 6pm; then to Italian restaurant where we waited for Juliana, her mom, + Maria. They arrived 8:30pm, we ate, talked, + Mary + I walked back to Apt., arriving at 11pm. In sack quickly!

1 Feb Mon Goiania ~ São Paulo
Up at 6am; cheese/bread break; off to Nelson's office by 9:30, after packing clothes, + getting car

1 Feb (cont.) From dealership. Finally at office by 10am; I counted scales on Liophis oligolepis from Roizama (16) & measured all of them. It apparently is a valid species but may well hybridize with reginae in the vicinity of Equitos. Ate lunch at "eat all you can place" & then back to Nelson's apt. Nelson gave me \$400 American to send Jack to buy books, & a disk to send also with MS on it. 6 Brazilian students coming, none are members of SSAR, HL, or ASNH. Can they get student break? Brazilian dollar dropped too much to compensate for them coming! Nelson needs me to call local committee to establish this side. Went to Mall at 4pm; & purchased gifts for Maya, Tana, Dawn, Lanore, & Linda. I also bought highest quality belts for Drs. Cole & Wiley. Roughly spent 578 Am. dollars. Back to Nelson's Apt. Quick shower, & on way to Airport by 5:50pm. Arrived 6:05; checked in, 7:05 said goodby to Nelson & Juliana, & on board to Sao Paulo by 7:30pm. Arr. Sao Paulo 9:00am; messed around buying water & candy, & settled in for 2hr wait until boarding 12:10am.

2 Feb - Sao Paulo Brazil - Miami - Houston - Bryan

Straight Flight to Miami, arriving 6:25am; no problem in customs; straight to American Airlines, found early flight home on standby; Left 9:45am; arrived Houston 10:50am; (hnd.f.) home by 1pm; paid \$64⁰⁰ for parking; Made it to Bryan with no difficulty, but was TIRED!!!

James R. Dixon
Journal
1999

24 May College Station/Houston/San Jose, Costa Rica.

Left C.S. via continental Airlines 8am; arr. Houston 8:30am,
to Continental Airlines C terminal + Left 9:55am for
San Jose; arriving 11:55 San Jose time (12:55 TX time);
and John Malone, David Laurencio, + Thad met us,
but were 10-15 min late because of fire trouble last
night. Drove directly from Airport to David's house,
(in San Pedro suburb) + met his mom (Dalia) who
has MS from Buffalo, NY, + Ph.D from Univ. Houston;
talked about her family for several hours; Enjoyed talking
about her experiences. John, David + Thad drove to zoo
about 4:30 to see about material collected last night and
to bring it back to house for some preservation? now 8pm
TX time (7:00 CR time) + they haven't returned. Will
eat supper here + spend night in San Jose. John has
informed us that we will be in Hotel in Tarcoles when we
come to Carara Natl Park; some 3 km± from Guard entrance
to Park. John, David, Thad returned 8:45 pm; great supper
by Dalia; group began preserving dead + live material found
yesterday, as follows: Micrurus nigrocinctus NOR; Bothrops asper
DOR; Drymobius margaritiferus, DOR; Terrestrial scorpions (4);
Rana forbesi; Smilisca phaeota, Smilisca baudini, Smilisca puma
Hyla ebracata, Hyla _____; Agalychnis callidryas?;
Leptodactylus labialis, Leptodactylus melanotus, Leptodactylus
Golluianus (2), Leptodactylus pentadactylus, Leptodactylus poecilochilus;
Scinax _____; Hyla microcephala; Corytophanes cristatus jr.;
Bufo coccifer; Novops ocellatus; Thecadactylus rapicaudus;
Phrynobates venulosa Hyla rosenbergi;