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Bird Survey as an Indication of Environmental Integrity in Preservation Areas

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Abstract

Preservation areas are mandatory for all Brazilian farmers, according to Forest Act – Law 12.651 of May 25th, 2012. The purpose of these areas is the maintenance of the flora, fauna quality of the soil and water. A Bird Survey was performed on a preservation area of a small agricultural property in Holambra – São Paulo - Brazil. This property follows the good agricultural practices so that erosion, soil and water contamination are avoided. The preservation areas, including native vegetation and reforestation areas, are maintained without any anthropogenic activities. Bird survey was made in the preservation area in 2003, 2005, 2010 and 2013. The data indicated a trend of increasing diversity and species richness over the years. Despite the intense use of agricultural fertilizers and pesticides, no dead or intoxicated birds were found. These data demonstrate that the agricultural activities were not impacting the birds diversity and richness. The careful maintenance of the preservation area and its surroundings also contribute to the conservation of local biodiversity.

Palavras-chave: *boas práticas agrícolas, área de preservação, aves*