



**FIGURE 2.** Giant anteater equipped with collar at Nhimirim Ranch, Brazil.

Both the harnesses and the collar attached to the thorax were effective methods to fix transmitters on giant anteaters. The damage to the animal was minimal and the anteaters could be monitored for a relatively long time. The harness has the advantage of allowing better signal transmission due to the location of the transmitter on the back of the anteater. The harness also could be adjusted more comfortably to the animal. The collar needs to be adjusted much more firmly to avoid rotation and for positioning the transmitter in the ventral region, and was not accurate for monitoring fast-growing juveniles or pregnant females. The external antennas of the harness were not very effective and the internal antenna (built into the collar) produced better results. Therefore, the combination of harness and internal antennas seems to be the best method to fit radio-transmitters on giant anteaters.

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### Observations of *Xenarthra* in the Brazilian Cerrado and Guyana

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### Emas National Park

We placed 45 CamTrakker™ (CamTrak South, Watkinsville, GA, USA) automatic camera phototraps in Emas National Park (18°19'S, 52°45'W) in the Brazilian cerrado from 28 November - 21 December, 2002 to begin a camera-trapping monitoring program. Located in the southwestern region of the State of Goiás, south-central Brazil, the park entrance is a 1½-hour drive south from the town of Mineiros. Emas National Park's 131,000 ha protects a unique landscape consisting largely of savannah, woodland/savannah, and dry forest ecosystems. The cerrado occupies the central Brazil plateau, and the cerrado flora is considered the richest of all tropical savannah regions, with very high levels of endemism.

Of the family Myrmecophagidae, we observed giant anteaters (*Myrmecophaga tridactyla*) on several occasions and the camera phototraps captured several on film, including one carrying a young. On a private ranch just south of the park, in a wooded area along a river, we observed a juvenile tamandua (*Tamandua tetradactyla*) crossing the road and then scaling a nearby tree at our approach. Our camera traps photographed an adult.

In the family Dasypodidae, we observed six-banded armadillos (*Euphractus sexcinctus*) twice while driving along dirt roads in the park. The camera phototraps photographed the giant armadillo (*Priodontes maximus*), tracks of which we often observed on dirt roads within the park. Also photographed by the camera phototraps were a six-banded armadillo (*E. sexcinctus*), naked-tailed armadillo (*Cabassous tatouay*) and nine-banded armadillo (*Dasypus novemcinctus*).

### Guyana (J. Sanderson)

As part of the Rapid Assessment Program (RAP) of the Center for Applied Biodiversity Science at Conservation International, a RAP Training Course was held at Mabura Hill Township, West Pibiri Creek, Guyana at the Tropenbos Ecological Station (5°00'40.9"N,

58°36'50.0"W) from 4-18 September, 2001. Located in the interior of central Guyana, West Pibiri Creek was previously an active logging concession operated by Demerara Timbers Limited (DTL) for the selective extraction of valuable hardwoods such as greenheart. The area is described as a riverine floodplain forest (evergreen rain forest) on alluvial soils. This forest is often strongly dominated by Mora (*Mora excelsa*, though with abundance of Crabwood, *Carapa guianensis*), Trysil (*Pentaclethra macroloba*) and Sarebebe (*Macrolobium bifolium*). The population of the Mabura Hill Township is estimated to be about 700, primarily employees of DTL. The research staff of the Tropenbos-Guyana Programme (TGP) living there make up only 3% of the population.

While walking along a former logging road, I observed a tamandua (*Tamandua tetradactyla*) approximately 8 m from the ground walking along branches.

I participated in a RAP study from 21-29 September, 2001 at the beginning of the dry season at Pobuwau Creek (3°16'03.1"N, 58°46'42.7"W) located on the Kwitaro River (a tributary of the Rewa River, which in turn runs into the Rupununi, an affluent of the Essequibo), in Region 9 in southern Guyana and at Cacique Mountain (3°11'29.5"N, 58°48'42.0"W) six miles southwest of Pobuwau Creek. Both sites were approximately 130 m elevation and vegetation was lowland, seasonally inundated, evergreen tropical forest. The river was at high water but dropping rapidly, and fell approximately 1.5 m during our brief visit. I deployed 12 CamTrakker camera phototraps in our study area.

On one occasion a camera phototrap caught a giant armadillo (*Priodontes maximus*) at its burrow. Subsequently, tracks were found near the burrow when the camera was retrieved.

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Automatic CamTrakker™ phototrap photos by James Sanderson and Leandro Silveira



Giant anteater (*Myrmecophaga tridactyla*) carrying a young, Emas National Park, Brazil.



Giant anteater (*Myrmecophaga tridactyla*), Emas National Park, Brazil.



Giant anteater (*Myrmecophaga tridactyla*), Emas National Park, Brazil.



Giant anteater (*Myrmecophaga tridactyla*), Emas National Park, Brazil.



Giant anteater (*Myrmecophaga tridactyla*), Emas National Park, Brazil.



Giant anteater (*Myrmecophaga tridactyla*), Emas National Park, Brazil.





Nine-banded armadillo (*Dasypus novemcinctus*), Emas National Park, Brazil.



Giant armadillo (*Priodontes maximus*), Emas National Park, Brazil.



Six-banded armadillo (*E. sexcinctus*), Emas National Park, Brazil.



Giant armadillo (*Priodontes maximus*), Emas National Park, Brazil.



Six-banded armadillo (*E. sexcinctus*), Emas National Park, Brazil.



Giant armadillo (*Priodontes maximus*), Emas National Park, Brazil.



Tamandua (*Tamandua tetradactyla*), Emas National Park, Brazil.



Naked-tailed armadillo (*Cabassous tatouay*), Emas National Park, Brazil.

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## Diurnal Rest Sites of Translocated Lesser Anteaters (*Tamandua tetradactyla*) in the Cerrado of Brazil

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The lesser anteater *Tamandua tetradactyla* (L. 1758) inhabits South America from the eastern side of the Andes to northern Argentina and Uruguay, occupying both open and forested areas. Most of the information on this species' ecology and behavior refers to its diet and foraging behavior (Lubin *et al.*, 1977; Montgomery and Lubin, 1977; Lubin and Montgomery, 1981; Montgomery, 1985a, 1985b), and little is known about other aspects of their biology (Montgomery, 1985b; Rodrigues *et al.*, 2001).

We studied eight lesser anteaters captured by the Fauna Rescue Operation at the hydroelectric reservoir of Serra da Mesa, Minaçu, Goiás, Brazil (13°49'49"S, 48°19'18"W) (Rodrigues *et al.*, 2001), formed by the Rios Bagagem, Tocantinzinho and Maranhão, first-order tributaries of the Rio Tocantins. The vegetation of the region is typical of the Cerrado, a Neotropical savanna (Eiten, 1972). The lake was full in late 1998, flooding an area of 178,000 ha in seven municipalities. The animals were translocated to areas along the border of the reservoir and tracked by radio telemetry. The radios were attached to harnesses, which were firmly fitted to the anteater, in such a way as not to interfere with the animals' movements.

The measurements from some of the captured animals are presented in Table 1. There are few data on lesser anteater measurements, and published information is based on few individuals. The measurements of the Serra da Mesa anteaters are, in general, smaller than those reported by other authors (Wetzel, 1985; Eisenberg and Redford, 1999; Emmons and Feer, 1997), but within recorded variation.

After being released, the animals were located as often as possible, during the day, by following the signal until reaching the animal and the diurnal rest site was noted. Lesser anteaters are cited in the literature as passing their inactive hours in tree cavities or burrows in the ground, made by other animals (Emmons and Feer, 1997; Redford and Eisenberg, 1992). Montgomery (1985b) found that lesser anteaters rest as much in trees as they do on the ground, but also recorded

TABLE 1. Biometric data of lesser anteaters, *Tamandua tetradactyla*, in the Serra da Mesa region, Goiás, Brazil.

Date	Sex and Number	Total length (cm)	Tail (cm)	Ear (cm)	Hind foot (cm)	Head (cm)	Weight (g)
08-19-97	F2	105.0	48.2	5.0	8.9	16.0	4,630
10-24-97	F4	84.0	37.2	4.2	7.5	12.0	2,540
10-24-97	M2	93.0	41.5	4.9	8.6	14.0	4,015
11-20-97	F5	94.5	40.0	4.2	9.0	13.3	3,665
01-28-98	M3	98.8	41.5	4.5	9.5	13.5	5,740