

## Roosting site of the Sombre Hummingbird *Campylopterus cirrochloris* (Trochilidae) in southern Bahia, Brazil

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Ornithologists have rarely discovered hummingbirds at their roosting sites. Trochilids of highland Andean regions (e. g., *Oxypogon* and *Oreotrochilus* sp., see Schuchmann 1999) shelter at night in caves or under overhanging vegetation. Sleeping places of the Rufous-tailed Hummingbird *Amazilia tzacatl* are protected by leaves (Skutch 1931), whereas the Long-billed Starthroat *Helimaster longirostris* roosts on exposed thin twigs of treetops (Skutch 1972). Here we report on a nocturnal roosting site of the Sombre Hummingbird *Campylopterus cirrochloris* (taxonomy follows Schuchmann 1999) in southern Bahia, Brazil.

During field work at Fazenda Jueirana, an area of evergreen lowland forest (c. 15° 17' S, 39° 04' W) and next to the Una Biological Reserve in southern Bahia, Brazil, at 1645 h on 16 February 2000, we saw a Sombre Hummingbird arrive on an isolated horizontal shoot of a vine c. 13 m above the ground, over a dirt road. Perching with head southwest, it gave a long (several minutes) and loud series of chipping notes. It then settled with its body at an angle of c. 30° above horizontal, with belly feathers covering its feet. The head was tilted up, with the bill 60° above horizontal (Fig. 1). A vine leaf near its head provided camouflage and, perhaps, some protection from rain. Willis, Sigrist and Baudet noted that the bird was still present when dark (1827 h).

We returned to the place the next day at 1725 h. The hummingbird was already calling as before, perched a few centimeters out from the previous day. A vine leaf now sheltered the hummingbird from above. From 1752 h on the bird became silent and immobile with its head angled up. Another hummingbird (species unidentified) was still searching for food nearby.



Figure 1. A Sombre Hummingbird *Campylopterus cirrochloris* roosting under leaves. Drawing by T. Sigrist.



When dark (1825 h) a Reddish Hermit *Phaethornis ruber* was still active.

The rather early roosting of the Sombre Hummingbird could be related to the bird hunting habits of pygmy owls. We heard the Least Pygmy-Owl *Glaucidium minutissimum* calling nearby as early as 1729 h.

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## A new subspecies of Red Knot *Calidris canutus* from the New Siberian islands

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The Red Knot has a largely disjunct arctic breeding range, with different subspecies described from several of the mostly discrete breeding areas (e.g. Piersma & Davidson 1992, Engelmoer & Roselaar 1998). Red Knots breeding in the Palearctic generally have been assigned to only one, the nominate *canutus* (e.g. Vaurie 1965, Johnsgard 1981), or two subspecies: *canutus* from the Taimyr peninsula and *rogersi* from further east - Wrangel island (e.g. Kozlova 1962, Portenko 1972) and, more recently, also Chukotka (Stepanyan 1975, Kistchinski 1988). Tomkovich (1990, 1992) further separated the easterly populations, assigning birds from only Chukotka to *rogersi*, with Wrangel island birds being grouped with Alaska breeding birds as subspecies *roselaari*. This subspecies is believed to migrate to the Americas, whereas *rogersi* migrates to Australia and New Zealand.



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