NEW RECORD OF *Glironia venusta* (BUSHY-TAILED OPOSSUM) (MAMMALIA, GLIRONIIDAE) FOR THE STATE OF RONDÔNIA – BRAZIL

The bushy-tailed opossum *Glironia venusta* Thomas, 1912 is a rare and small marsupial (head and body length of 160-205 mm), whose distribution is poorly known in the upper Amazonian region of Brazil (State of Amazonas), Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia (MARSHAL, 1978; EMMONS & FEER, 1997; NOWAK, 1999) (Figure 1). Four out of nine specimens recorded in the literature were acquired from commercial animal dealers (MARSHAL, op. cit.). *Glironia venusta* is listed in the 2002 IUCN Red List of Threatened Species as vulnerable (IUCN, 2002).

On 17 May 2001, an individual of *G. venusta* was captured in a pitfall trap (200 liter with 90 centimeter of height) with drift fences, in an area of open rainforest during a study of snake community of the Jaburi Farm (11º35’-11º38’S; 60º41’-60º45’W; 280 m asl), Municipality of Espigão do Oeste, State of Rondônia, Brazil.

The opossum was photographed (Figure 2) and immediately released. Only this *G. venusta* individual was trapped from a total of 155 marsupials captured within a year. At the study site, suggesting that this species present a low density in the area and/or is difficult to trap using a pitfall due to its predominantly arboreal habits (EMMONS & FEER, 1997; NOWAK, 1999). This is the first record of this species for the State of Rondônia.

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REFERENCES


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Fig. 1. Map of South America showing area of occurrence of *Glironia venusta* of according EMMONS & FEER (1997) and map of State of Rondônia, Brazil, indicating the new locality for this species, the Municipality of Espigão do Oeste.

![Map of South America](image1.png)

Fig. 2. Bushy-tailed opossum (*Glironia venusta*) photographed in 17 May 2001 at Espigão do Oeste, State of Rondônia, Brazil. Photo by P. S. Bernarde.