



SURVEYING THE MAMMALS OF THE CAATINGA

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The Caatinga

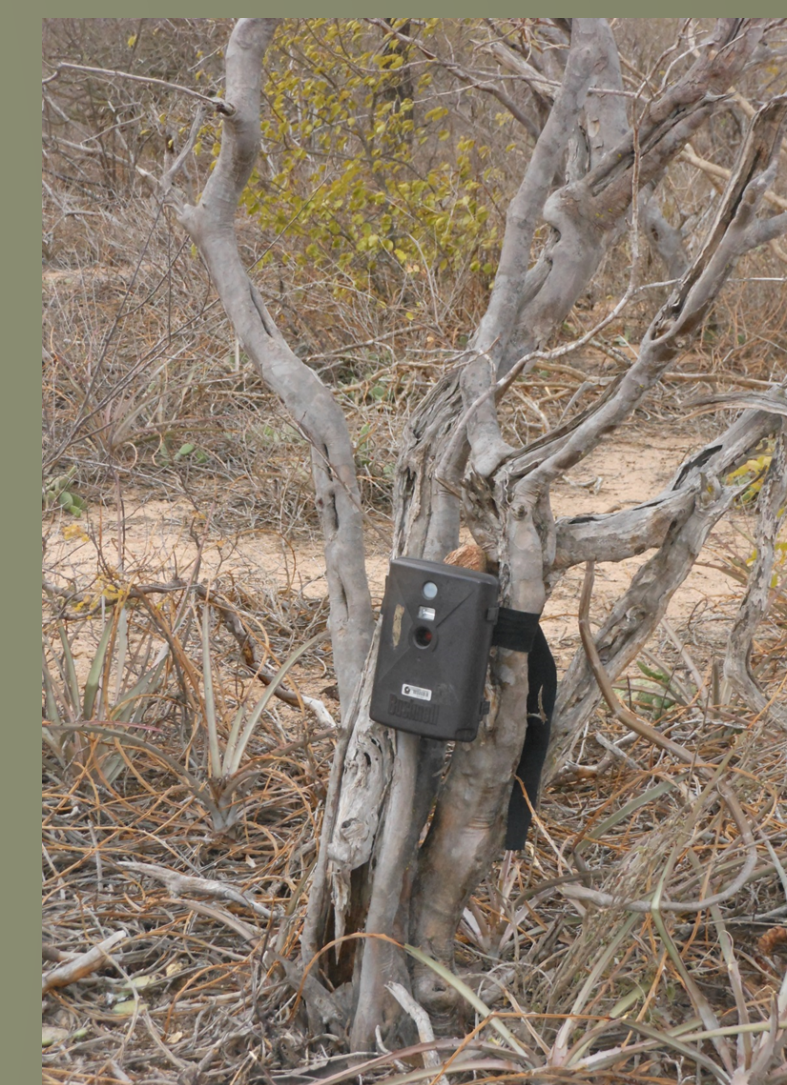
The Caatinga is a type of tropical seasonal forest that occupies a large portion of the semiarid northeast area of Brazil. It is a large ecosystem that contains a variety of vegetation including trees, shrubs, cacti and bromeliads.



The sporadic occurrence of rainfall in this ecosystem has encouraged behavioral adaptations in the fauna that live here. There are many taxonomic discrepancies within the mammalian group that make protecting the Caatinga ecosystem problematic. There are many endemic species that could possibly be more than one species but the definitive characteristics are so slight that they could also be variation within the same species. Therefore monitoring and collecting mammals is necessary to determine the species richness of this area.

Methods

Traps



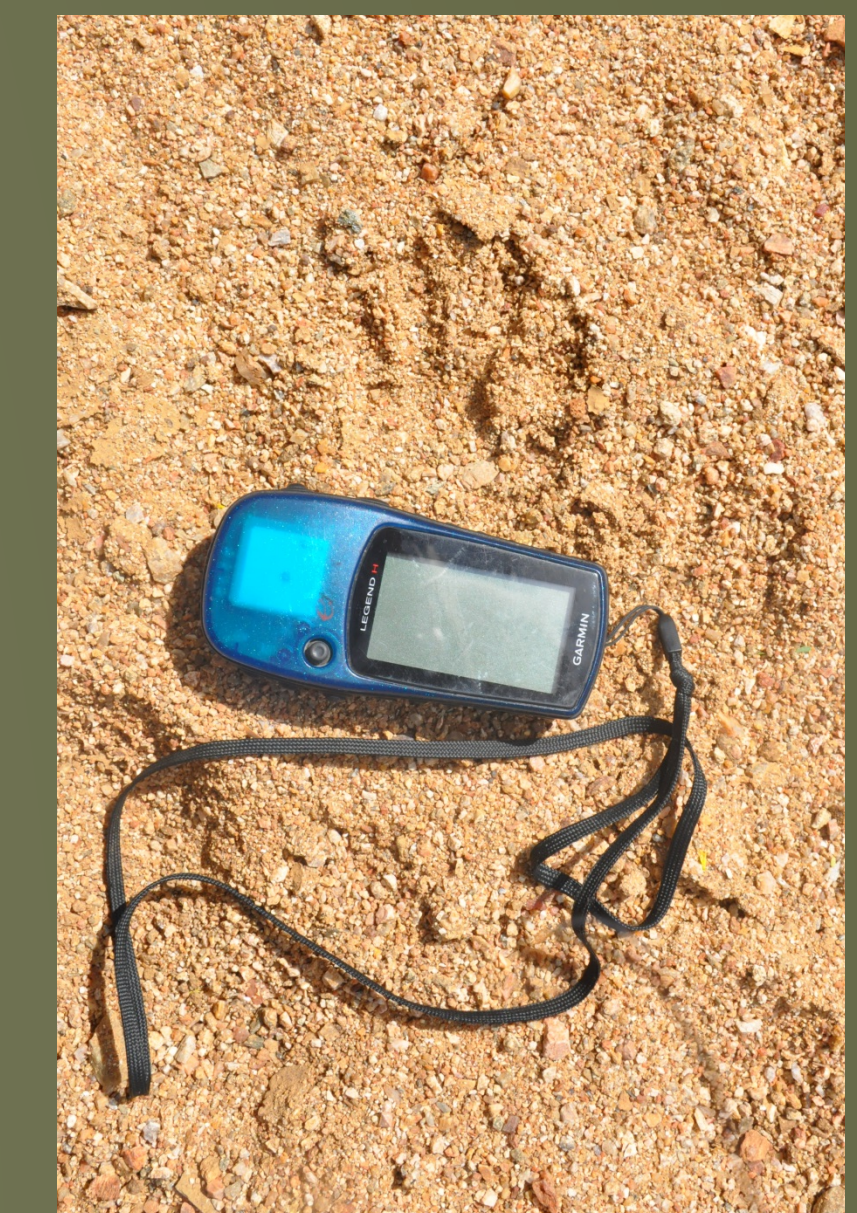
For one week baited traps were checked daily and camera traps were left in the field for the entire week. Biometrics were taken for all captured mammals and any captured mammals that were released were tagged with ear bands.

Euthanasia and Specimen Preparation



Many bat and rodent specimens were euthanized using ether and then pinned in preparation to be added to the collection at Cemafauna.

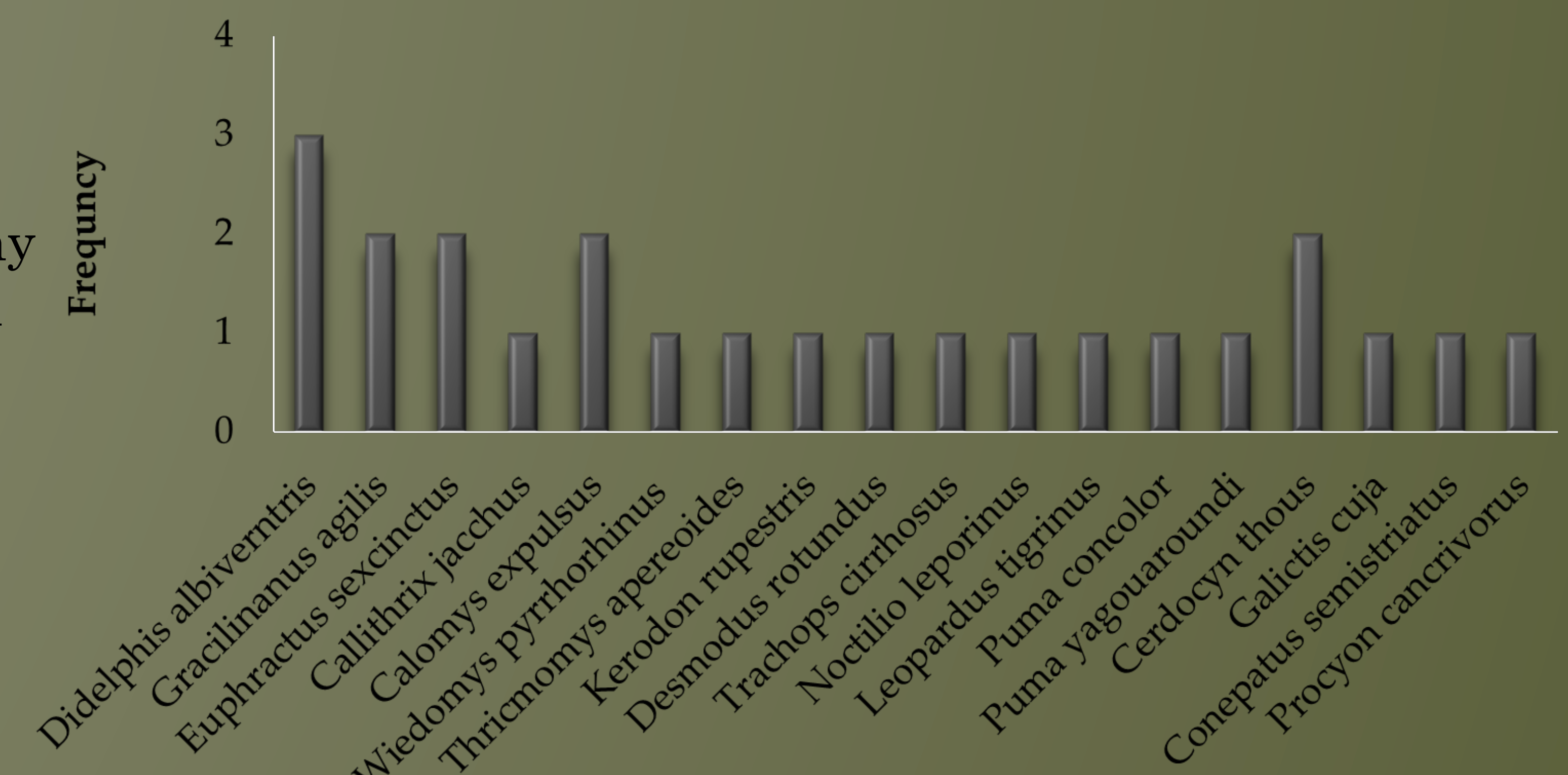
Prints



The carnivorous mammal species were identified mainly by the presence of prints and by vocalizations that were heard.

Results

PML 10



References

Albuquerque A. et al., 2012
Emmons & Feer, 1990

Acknowledgements

SUNY Oswego Global Laboratories