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HABITAT USE BY *MAZAMA GOUAZOUBIRA* (MAMMALIA, CERVIDAE), IN A MOSAIC LANDSCAPE WITH EUCALYPTUS PLANTATION, MID-WESTERN SAO PAULO STATE

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Population Ecology/Poster

Processes resulting in habitat fragmentation have a number of negative impacts on biodiversity. However, studies of the impacts of anthropogenic pressures on the generalist animals have shown that some species have can survive in human-dominated landscapes. The current study analyzed how the Brown brocket deer (*Mazama gouazoubira*) used a heterogeneous mosaic with a eucalyptus matrix at different stages of growth, studying habitat use preference via frequency of occurrence, to answer the following questions: how often does *M. gouazoubira* use eucalyptus plantations and is there a preference for a certain stage of growth. The study was carried out between January 2015 and June 2016 in a vegetation mosaic with eucalyptus plantations in mid-western Sao Paulo State. Data collection was carried out via indirect sampling of species tracks, signs and feces within and between the eucalyptus plantations of the mosaic. *Mazama gouazoubira* was recorded in 11 of the 18 samples using a linear transect of 28 km, with a total of 76 records, being present in 61.11% of the 12 collections. The Peak Abundance Index (IPA), showing there was no evidence for a preference (34%, 38% and 27%) for the stages of 0-2, 3-4 and 5-6 years old stages of eucalyptus growth use at different, respectively ($p > 0.05$). However, the species proved to be resistant and consistently present in eucalyptus plantations, rejecting the null hypothesis that *M. gouazoubira* does not use this environment ($p < 0.02$). Considering the extensive occupation of by mid-western Sao Paulo State by agriculture, especially monocultures and silvicultural plantations, there are still many factors to be investigated regarding the persistence of generalist mammals, such as *M. gouazoubira*, in such heavily human-impacted areas. Therefore, future studies on the use of the resources available to this cervid in such altered environments should focus on the importance of these heterogeneous matrix landscapes.