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# ANURAN RICHNESS OF CERRADO PATCHES IN URBAN AREAS AT UBERABA MICROREGION, MINAS GERAIS, BRAZIL

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Anuran community at Cerrado biome is highly diverse and includes several cases of endemism. However, major habitat changes have threatened this diversity. Thus, field studies of species richness represent priority for anuran conservation. Here we describe the anuran richness at Uberaba microregion and highlight the relevance of habitats remnants to its conservation. Data were collected during the reproductive season within two urban parks (Parque das Acácias and Mata do Carrinho), a Permanent Preservation Area (APP Rio Uberaba tributary stream) and an ecological reserve (Estação Ambiental de Volta Grande), between August 2012 and April 2017, by active search and bioacoustical record. We also considered sporadic encounters and photographic records made by colleagues as an indicator of the species presence. Jaccard'sWe found 21 species which represent 10% of the total richness reported in the Cerrado. Fifteen species were identified in the field and six by photographic record. Ecological reserve shelters 61,9% (13 species) of the total richness registered to the microregion while urban parks 28.5% (6 species) and the APP area 54,1 % (12 species) , with a regional endemic species.Jaccard's similarity index has been medium between the Ecological Reserve and the APP area (0.56) whereas Urban Parks have had small index with both areas (0.35, 0.38 respectively). All sampled species are usually recorded on the Cerrado Biome. Our data indicates the importance of remaining natural habitats close to urban areas for anuran conservation, due to their potential role as ecological refuges to wild species. Moreover, amphibians are environmental indicators, so their presence in these areas indicates a relative ecological integrity despite habitat alterations.. Therefore, descriptions about fauna composition are important for conservation, and the inclusion of urban biodiversity in this purpose improves protection of wild populations even in anthropic environments.

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