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First Record of Purple Martin (*Progne subis*) in Mato Grosso State, Brazil.—The Purple Martin (*Progne subis*) breeds from southern Canada south to Florida and Baja California (USA); winters in Colombia, Venezuela, Guiana, Surinam, northern Bolivia, and Brazil; and migrates through Central America (Meyer de Schauensee, R. A. Guide to Birds of South America, 329, 1982).

It has been reported from Brazil by Pinto (Catálogo de Aves do Brasil 2^a parte—Museu de Zoologia, USP, 307-308, 1944) and Vizotto et al. (Resumos XI Congresso Brasileiro de Zoologia, 355-356, Sociedade Brasileira de Zoologia, São Paulo, 1984) from the localities shown in Figure 1. During banding operations at Pocone, Mato Grosso (Fig. 1), we located a roosting flock of almost 1500 martins on 17 December 1983. Most of them were Purple Martins. This represents the first record of the Purple Martin from west-central Brazil. Small numbers of Gray-breasted (*P. chalybea*) and Brown-chested (*Phaeo-progne tapera*) martins were also present.

The martin flock was roosting in the facilities for livestock exposition at Poconé which are located about 15 km southeast of the city on the bank of the Bento Gomes River (16°30'S, 56°30'W). The surrounding gallery forest has been cut and 14 houses and stables built within about 5 ha. Vegetation includes trees from an old orchard. The exposition facilities are used only 3-4 weeks per year and at other times only a guard lives there.

The houses had large accumulations of feathers and droppings. However, the guard had successfully chased the martins out of the houses with a mixture of firecrackers and an unspecified organochlorine pesticide. Between 17 and 20 December, when we were banding birds, the martins used a large tree (30 m) and utility wires as diurnal roosts. The Purple Martins used an unknown night roost to the west of the area, but some of the other two species still roosted at night on the houses and stables.

We mist-netted 47 Purple Martins, 2 Gray-breasted Martins, and 23 Brown-chested Martins. Each was banded with CEMAVE bands, sexed, aged, and examined for molt of the body and flight feathers. All Purple Martins were molting. Forty-two were in full molt, 1 had only rectrix and remex molt, 3 had body and remex molt, and 1 had body and rectrix molt. Three second year males were identified based on their almost completed body molt. Less than 1% of the Purple Martin flock appeared to be mature males. Based on molt status and the apparent number of mature males, we believe that most of Purple Martins were hatching year birds.

The Gray-breasted Martins included 1 hatching year and 1 adult, neither of which were molting. The Brown-chested Martins included 2 hatching year and 21 adult birds, none of which was molting and only one of which had a brood patch.

The presence of molt in all of the captured Purple Martins agrees with the data presented by Niles (Condor 74:61-67, 1972). Niles concluded that young Purple Martins migrate with juvenal feathers and molt after their arrival on the wintering grounds, although adults molt some remiges prior to migration. In January, we caught 1 bird in the same area in full molt.

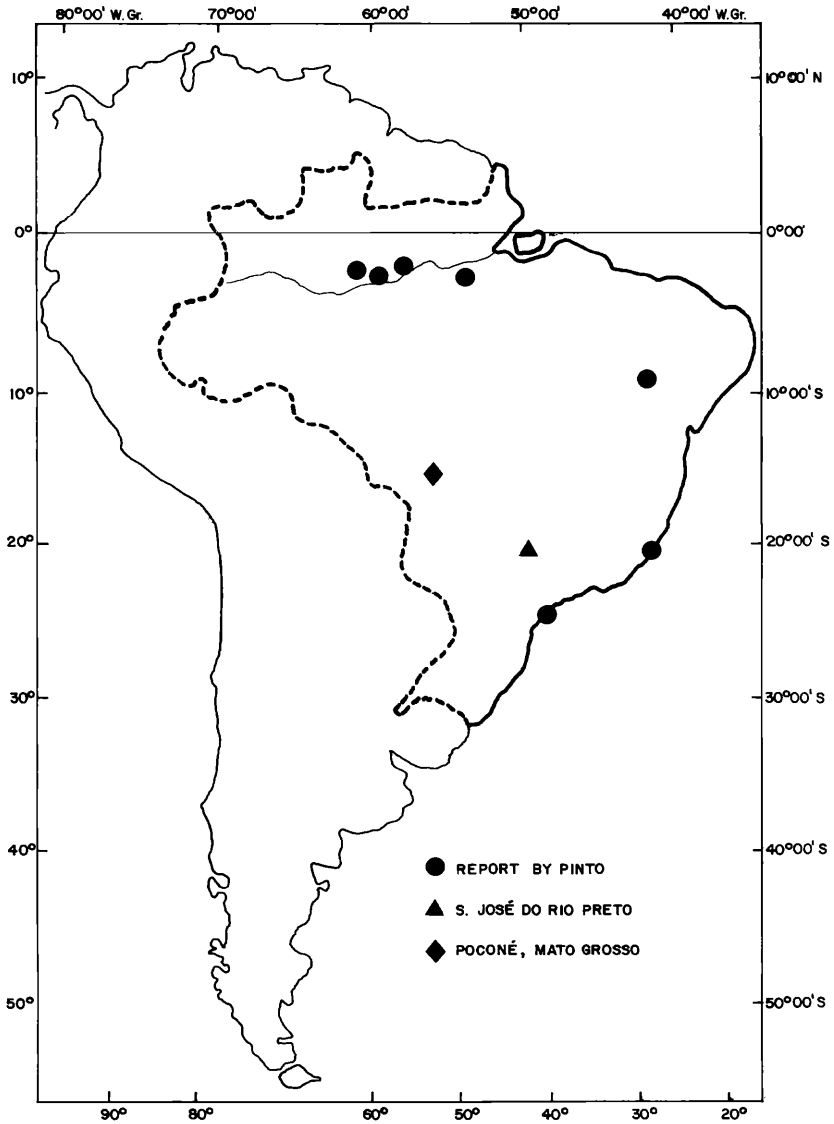


FIGURE 1. Known localities of Purple Martin in Brazil.

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