

**DRY SEASON HABITAT USE AND HOME RANGE OF THE WOOLLY OPOSSUM  
(*Caluromys derbianus*) IN SARAPIQUÍ RAINFOREST, COSTA RICA**

*Danica Lewis, Knox College*

*Advisor: Bernal Rodríguez, PhD*

*Caluromys derbianus*, of the family Didelphidae, is a relatively unstudied tropical arboreal mammal. To determine the home range of *Caluromys derbianus*, a radio-telemetry study was conducted during the late dry season (4 March to 27 April 2013) in the Tirimbina Biological Reserve, Heredia Province, Costa Rica. The study was conducted in mixed remnant cacao plantation and advanced secondary forest habitat. Data analysis was conducted using the Kernel Method for home range analysis. Home range at 100% inclusion was found to be 4.24 ha. Foraging Areas, a 95% kernel, were 2.54 ha, and Core Areas, a 50% kernel, were 0.43 ha. Vertical area was also calculated as an important factor in the home range of an arboreal species. Vertical space ranged from 0.6m to 79.3m in elevation. The calculated home range of *Caluromys derbianus* is not atypical of arboreal neotropical opossums, and may suggest a dietary emphasis on insects over fruits, as well as emphasizing the importance of vertical space as being part of home range and habitat use.