

## **MOVEMENT DYNAMICS OF RECENTLY DISPERSED JUVENILE FROM A HAREM OF THREE-TOED SLOTHS (*Bradypus variegatus*) IN A COCOA AGROFOREST**

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Little is currently known about the infant development of the brown-throated three-toed sloth (*Bradypus variegatus*) as a result of their solitary existence though it is considered that only maternal care is involved in the biological development of infant sloths. In a riparian forest neighboring a cocoa agroforest in Pueblo Nuevo, Limón, Costa Rica, a harem of seven three-toed sloths, including a dominant male, four adult females (two with infants), and two juveniles were observed using the tracking method of radio telemetry during the month of May 2015. This study recorded the behavior and the home range sizes of each sloth in the harem, compared home ranges of the dominant male to those of his two offspring, and estimated the temporal differences in linear distances between the dominant male and his two juvenile offspring. The juveniles tended to stay at a similar distance as the females who provided past maternal care to them from the male. There seems to be no strong paternal relationship between the two juveniles and the dominant male. The juveniles' location and distance from the male depended on the location of the adult females in the harem who they received care from. This data indicates that each sloth in the harem seems to have a unique behavior regardless of its age.