Various studies have focused on the richness and abundance of bats in tropical forests and how the composition of these forests affect bat assemblages, but there are few studies on the relationship of bats with riparian forests. The aim of this study was to ascertain the differences among bat assemblages of three riparian forest areas of the Tinguá region, state of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. These areas were: I) an agricultural area (Takume); II) a reforested area in primary succession (Canavarro); and III) an area with late secondary vegetation (Tinguá Biological Reserve). Assessments of bat species composition in these areas may shed light on how anthropogenic modifications in riparian forests can influence local bat assemblages. Bats were captured with mist nets during 72 sampling nights. Total bat abundance was 1,511 individuals in 26 species. The three areas differed in their species composition. The Tinguá Biological Reserve was the richest area, Canavarro presented the lowest diversity and the highest abundance of individuals, and the evenness index was highest in Takume. The differences found in the composition and ecological indices indicate that bat assemblages have distinct characteristics in the three areas studied, with varied degrees of transformation and anthropization.

KEY WORDS. Anthropogenic modifications; Atlantic Forest; buffer zone; conservation; Tinguá Biological Reserve.
can influence the local bat assemblage. Therefore, the aim of this study was to analyze whether there are differences in the bat assemblages of three riparian forest areas in the Tingüá region, state of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil: two areas inside the buffer zone of the Tingüá Biological Reserve (an agricultural and a reforested area in primary succession stage), and a third area inside the reserve characterized by late secondary vegetation. We expected to find the greatest richness, abundance and diversity of bats in the late secondary vegetation area, the least impacted area, followed by the reforested area. This hypothesis is based on prior knowledge that in environments where human pressure is stronger, species richness and diversity are lower (Odum & Barrett 2006, Reis et al. 2006).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

This research was carried out in the Tingüá region, in the extreme northeast of the municipality of Nova Iguaçu, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Three areas within the limits of the Tingüá Biological Reserve and its buffer zone were investigated, with distances between areas varying from 3.10 km to 4.39 km (Fig. 1) and elevation ranging from 65 to 140 m above sea level.

Area 1. This agricultural area, designated Takume, lies in the buffer zone of the reserve (22°35’16.53”S, 043°24’13.86”W), and is characterized by the presence of guava (Psidium guajava L.) and banana trees (Musa paradisiaca L.). Area 1 is 15 m wide and 150 m long, perpendicular to the bank of Boa Esperança River, and includes leguminous species such as Brazilian fire tree (Schizolobium parahybba (Vell.)) and green Ipê (Cybistax antisyphilitica (Mart.) Mart) and an understory filled with Guinea grass (Panicum maximum Jacq.). It is bordered by peach palm trees (Bactris gasipaes Kunth). Various fruit trees surround the main residence, such as Malay rose apple (Syzygium malaccense (L.) Merr. & L.M. Perry), cajá (Spondias lycorcapum St. Hil., Cecropia sp. and Trema micanthra (L.) Blume are also present.

Area 2. This area is located along the Ana Felícia River and was designated Canavarro. It is characterized as a reforested area in primary succession and is also located in the reserve’s buffer zone (22°36’50.69”S, 043°24’47.17”W). The vegetation in Canavarro consists mainly of Guinea grass, though Solanum paniculatum L., Solanum lycorcapum St. Hil., Cecropia sp. and Trema micanthra (L.) Blume are also present.

Area 3. This area, characterized by late secondary vegetation, was designated Bioreserve. It is within the reserve (22°34’57.4′S, 043°26’15.9′W) and contains vegetation resulting from natural succession after total or partial suppression of the primary vegetation by human intervention or natural causes. It contains an arboreal stratum with Ficus spp. and an understory with predominance of Piper spp. The sampling points were located near the banks of Tingüá River and nearby watercourses, just outside the reserve’s administrative building, on a trail starting at a workers’ lodging (CEDAE’s, the state water and sewer company) at the Macuco Dam, where there are banana, cajá and lemon (Citrus limonum Risso) trees.

Sampling was conducted monthly, one night in each of the areas, on consecutive days, totaling three nights per month and 72 nights in two years, from May 2011 to April 2013. Bats were captured with mist nets (usually ten mist nets measuring 12 x 3 m and 20 mm mesh) extended at ground level, which were opened at dusk and closed just after dawn. Sampling was performed regardless of the weather. The nets were placed in open areas, in the understory, on river banks and over water.

Bats were identified in the field using the descriptions of Vizotto & Taddei (1973), Gardner (2007) and Dias & Peracchi (2008), tagged with collars and then released. Some specimens that could not be definitely identified in the field were taken to the laboratory for confirmation and deposited in the Adriano Lucio Peracchi collection located at the Biology Institute of Federal Rural University of Rio de Janeiro, Seropédica, state of Rio de Janeiro (Appendix 1). These specimens were collected under license from SISBIO/ICMBio number 28064-2.
The sampling effort was calculated according to Straube & Blancani (2002) and the Kruskal-Wallis test was used to assess possible differences in sampling effort between areas. The Margalef richness and Simpson diversity indices (1-D) and Pielou’s evenness index were calculated for each area (Magurran 2004). For pairwise comparison of the areas’ ecological indices, randomized bootstrap was used.

The species accumulation curves (Sorbon & Llorente 1993) for each area were plotted by randomization (100 iterations) based on the total number of captures and the first-order jackknife (Jackknife-1) estimator (Cowell & Coddington 1994, Hellmann & Fowler 1999) was calculated, both with the EstimateS software (Cowell 2009).

To assess whether there are differences in the composition of bat species between areas, the Kruskal-Wallis test was used. One-way analysis of similarity (ANOSIM) was also used to assess possible differences among the three bat assemblages studied. ANOSIM was based on the use of Bray-Curtis dissimilarity measures between samples (areas) and within samples (nights). This test produces an R-statistic that varies from -1 to 1. The groups are considered to differ more as the statistic becomes more positive (Clarke 1993). Species turnover was represented using Whittaker’s beta-diversity index and based on the presence/absence of each species in each area. The Chi-square test was applied to compare species abundance among the areas. Ecological indices were calculated and statistical analyses were performed with the PAST version 1.44 software (Hammer et al. 2001).

**RESULTS**

The sampling effort was similar in the three areas (H = 1.139, p = 0.566) and comprised a total of 268,473 m²*h. Twenty-six bat species were captured (Table I), with a significant difference in species richness between Takume and Bioserve. The Bioserve was the richest area, also presenting the greatest Margalef richness. The Simpson diversity index was significantly lower in the Canavarro area than in the other areas. In turn, Pielou’s evenness index was higher in the Takume area than in the other two (Table II).

Species accumulation curves and jackknife-1 estimator of species richness showed that richness was the highest in Takume. In Canavarro, the curve showed signs of leveling, while in the Bioserve area the curve was ascending (Figs 2-5). In Canavarro, the richness found represented 85% of its estimated richness while in the Bioserve this value was 73% (Table II). The addition of species occurred until the 10th sampling night (36,150 m²*h – 141 individuals captured) in the Takume area, until the 19th in Canavarro (71,337 m²*h – 527 individuals) and until the 18th in the Bioserve (70,353 m²*h – 301 individuals).

The three areas differed in their composition of assemblages (H = 6.206, p = 0.045) due to differentiation between the Bioserve and Takume (p = 0.017). The analysis of similarity showed a significant difference among the three areas (R = 0.292, p < 0.001), although R was low, indicating low similarity between areas. Canavarro and Bioserve differed the most (R = 0.427), followed by Takume and Bioserve (R = 0.313) and lastly Canavarro and Takume (R = 0.144). Whittaker’s beta di-
University index was highest between Canavarro and Bioreserve (0.33), followed by the Takume and Bioreserve (0.30) and lastly Takume and Canavarro (0.12). The Bioreserve contributed 84.61% to the regional richness.

The total number of specimens captured was 1,511, ranging from 399 to 623 specimens in each area, with significant differences among areas. The most abundant species in the entire region was *Artibeus lituratus* (Olfers, 1818) (27.53%), followed by *Carollia perspicillata* (Linnaeus, 1758) (25.41%) and *Sturnira lilium* (É. Geoffroy, 1810) (15.95%). The dominant species in each area were *S. lilium* (35.95%) in Canavarro and *C. perspicillata* in Takume (29.45%) and Bioreserve (32.83%). The Bioreserve had eight exclusive species, Canavarro had two and Takume had none. Seven species were represented by only one individual in the samples, five of them in the Bioreserve and two in Canavarro. With one exception, *Myotis riparius* Handley, 1960, (Vespertilionidae) all captured species belong to the family Phyllostomidae. There was a difference in the abundance of some species among the three areas (Table I). This difference was significant for nine species.

### Table II. Sampling effort and ecological index in the areas of the buffer zone and Tinguá Biological Reserve, state of Rio de Janeiro.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Takume</th>
<th>Canavarro</th>
<th>Bioreserve</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Richness</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sampling effort (m²*h)</td>
<td>89,295</td>
<td>86,898</td>
<td>92,280</td>
<td>268,473</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackknife 1st-order estimator</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>20.83</td>
<td>30.62</td>
<td>28.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Confidence interval 95%)</td>
<td>(15-15)</td>
<td>(19.05-22.61)</td>
<td>(27.92-33.32)</td>
<td>(26.01-31.30)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margalef richness</td>
<td>2.26</td>
<td>2.48</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>3.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Bootstrap 95% Confidence)</td>
<td>(2.42-3.39)</td>
<td>(2.49-3.42)</td>
<td>(2.34-3.51)</td>
<td>(2.73-3.41)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simpson diversity (1-D)</td>
<td>0.81</td>
<td>0.74</td>
<td>0.78</td>
<td>0.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Bootstrap 95% Confidence)</td>
<td>(0.79-0.83)</td>
<td>(0.80-0.83)</td>
<td>(0.79-0.83)</td>
<td>(0.80-0.83)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pielou's eveness</td>
<td>0.73</td>
<td>0.58</td>
<td>0.62</td>
<td>0.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Bootstrap 95% Confidence)</td>
<td>(0.65-0.73)</td>
<td>(0.64-0.71)</td>
<td>(0.66-0.74)</td>
<td>(0.63-0.68)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figures 2-5. Randomized accumulation curves of bat species in the buffer zone and Tinguá Biological Reserve, state of Rio de Janeiro. (2) Bioreserve (black diamond), Canavarro (dark grey circle), Takume (light grey triangle); (3) Takume; (4) Canavarro; (5) Bioreserve: Sobs (Mao Tau) (black circle), Jackknife-1 estimator (empty circle), standard deviation (trace).
DISCUSSION

The riparian forests studied showed high richness and abundance of bats, as reported in some other studies (Fleming et al. 1972, Bordignon 2006, Cruz et al. 2007, Camargo et al. 2009, Arriga-Flores et al. 2012). Likewise, the composition of bat species followed the same pattern found in other Neotropical areas, with the predominance of Phyllostomidae, a few dominant species and many rare species (Estrada et al. 1993, Stevens & Willig 2002, Zanon & Reis 2007, Bobrowiec & Griebel 2010, Arriga-Flores et al. 2012).

The results of this study emphasize the relevance of these environments to bats of the family Phyllostomidae. This family has the largest number of species in the Neotropics, and includes species with varied feeding habits and many frugivorous species (Gardiner 2007), which were prevalent in our samples (see Kalko et al. 1996). The few studies focusing on riparian forest areas in the Neotropics have found high abundance and richness of frugivorous and insectivorous bats (Camargo et al. 2009, Lourenço et al. 2010a, b, Galindo-González & Sosa 2003, Arriga-Flores et al. 2012). The high richness and abundance of insectivorous bats in these environments is mainly related to the availability of water resources and the abundance of insects (Lourenço et al. 2010a, b, Costa et al. 2012). The richness of insectivores can vary according to the presence or absence of vegetation cover (Costa et al. 2012), while frugivorous species are more associated with the surrounding vegetation (Galindo-González & Sosa 2003, Avila-Caballero et al. 2012). Although our sampling method favored the capture of Phyllostomidae bats (Simmons & Voss 1998), open nets over the water were not efficient in capturing insectivores of other families, such as Molossidae and Vespertilionidae, as also demonstrated by other studies (Lourenço et al. 2010a,b, Costa et al. 2012).

Our sampling strategy, including three areas of riparian forest that have different vegetation, serves to increase knowledge of the diversity of the region. The greater the variety of environments sampled, the greater the chances of finding species not previously recorded in a particular region (Stevens & Willig 2002, Bergallo et al. 2003). Although Takume and Canavarro are in permanent preservation areas of riparian forest, and also in the buffer zone of the reserve, the local richness of these areas contributed little to the regional richness, with the Bioreserve contributing the most.

This study added six new records to the list of bats found in the reserve: Artibeus planirostris (Spix, 1823), Micronycteris hirsuta (Peters, 1869), Micronycteris minutus (Gervais, 1856), Phyllostomus hastatus (Pallas, 1767) and Chiroderma villosum Peters, 1960. Additionally, two other species, captured in the buffer zone of the Tinguá Biological Reserve, can be added to the list, Chiroderma doriae Thomas, 1891 and Choeronycteris australis (Peters, 1856). This increases the number of bat species recorded for the conservation unit from 28 (Dias & Peracchi 2008) to 36. Since bats tend to be better represented in riparian forest than in the surrounding areas, (Sherwin et al. 2000, Rogers et al. 2006, Camargo et al. 2009), our sampling strategy played a decisive role in finding the new records.

However, even though species richness in the Bioreserve was high, the highest diversity index obtained in this study was not for this area. This results from a number of species being represented by a few individuals and the high dominance of C. perspicillata. The highest diversity index was calculated for the Takume area, although it presented the lowest species richness. In Canavarro, dominance was also high, with most individuals belonging to only three species.

It is noteworthy that among the three areas, Takume was the only one that was detected in the accumulation curve stabilization and reached the maximum number of species according to the Jackknife-1 estimator. This probably results from the agricultural use of this area, which does not attract some bat species and mainly favors those that are adapted to anthropogenic environments, such as A. lituratus and C. perspicillata (Bonnaccorsob & Gush 1987, Estrada & Coates-Estrada 2002, Gallo et al. 2008). In the Bioreserve, the Jackknife-1 estimated 30 species, but this number is underestimated in relation to the richness now known, 34 species according to Dias & Peracchi (2008) and this study.

The differences in the assemblages of bats between areas were expected, especially between the agricultural area and the Bioreserve. The beta diversity between the areas reveals the specificity of habitats in the Bioreserve and a possible limitation on the dispersion of some species. When we analyzed the species composition between this and the other areas, it appeared that some species found exclusively in the Bioreserve are more strongly associated with preserved areas, as it is the case of species in the subfamily Phyllostominae (Fentons et al. 1992, Medellin et al. 2000, Bobrowiec & Griebel 2010). Species such as M. hirsuta and P. sternops have low density in Atlantic Forest areas (Reis et al. 2007, Sampao et al. 2008a, b, Peracchi & Nogueira 2010), which explains their low abundance in our data. These two species had only been previously recorded twice in the state (Peracchi & Albuquerque 1993, Esberard 2004, Esberard & Fabia 2006).

In Canavarro, we highlight the presence of C. doriae and C. auritus, both represented by a single individual. The occurrence of C. auritus in Canavarro was not expected, because it is more common in primary and secondary forests (Peracchi & Albuquerque 1993, Baptista & Mello 2001, Bianconi et al. 2004), although it has also been recorded in open areas (Emmons & Feer 1990, Gonçalves & Gregorin 2004).

In Canavarro, the high abundance and dominance of A. lituratus and S. lillium can be explained by the presence of S. lycocarpum, a solanaceous species (Solanaceae) that is one of the first to colonize anthropogenic environments. It bears fruit almost throughout the year (Moura et al. 2010), and has been listed as a food resource for these bats (Fabian et al. 2008, per-
sonal observation). Zanon & Reis (2007) observed large consumption of solanaceous species by A. littoratus and S. lilium in the state of Paraná. The presence of these bat species attracted to this key species can bring benefits to the successional process, as it can lead to dispersal of seeds to other areas, aiding in their restoration (Kung et al. 2011).

In Takume, the presence of guava fruits throughout the year may have influenced the dominance of A. littoratus and C. perspicillata. Both species are found in abundance in different biomes of the Neotropics (Reis et al. 2000, Simmons 2005, Esberard et al. 2006, Gardner 2007, Zanon & Reis 2007, Borrowiec & Greibel 2010) and have more generalist feeding habits, explaining their occurrence in a variety of environments. These species are considered to be well adapted to human disturbances (Bonnacorsio & Gush 1987), and cultivated fruit trees (Bernard et al. 2001, Kalko & Handley 2001, Reis et al. 2008), as guava in this study. Another species captured in abundance in Takume was D. rotundus. This may be associated with the proximity of cattle and horses, which are food resources for these bats, and a forest fragment that can provide shelter (Gomes & Ueda 2004, Costa & Esberard 2011). This result is consistent with the literature citing D. rotundus as a species commonly found in disturbed habitats (Fenton et al. 1992, Medellin et al. 2000, Costa & Esberard 2011). Among the species that were found in these three areas, C. perspicillata also stands out for its high abundance in all areas, demonstrating its plasticity (Borrowiec & Greibel 2010).

The variations in the assemblages of bats, such as richness, abundance, composition and diversity of species, in the three areas sampled demonstrate the impact of human disturbance and transformation of the riparian forest buffer zone of the Tingüá Biological Reserve. The different structures of riparian forests in the Tingüá region affected bat assemblages, although the expectation that the Biorreserve would have the highest ecological indices was not borne out. The Biorreserve did not have the greatest abundance of bats or the highest diversity index, but did have the highest richness and highest value of the Margalef richness index, as expected. Analysis of the composition and structure of its assemblage shows the importance of this area for some species and their relationship with the more preserved areas, emphasizing the importance of the area.

The higher rates of beta diversity of the Biorreserve in comparison with the other areas are indicative of two issues: the possibility of isolation of some populations of bats in the reserve and the ineffective protection of riparian forests. The areas studied are among those with the highest anthropogenic pressure in the reserve’s buffer zone (MMA 2006). Therefore, measures are needed to minimize the impacts of this anthropization and allow riparian forests to exercise their role as ecological corridors for greater dispersion of species. Since riparian forests are already degraded, the commitment to restoration and restoration is important and bats can accelerate this process through their ecological role as seed dispersers.

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LITERATURE CITED


Appendix 1. Vouchers deposited in the Adriano Lúcio Peracchi collection, Biology Institute, Federal Rural University of Rio de Janeiro.

Anoura caudifer (Geoffroy, 1818) ALP 10359 male/ALP 10370 male, Artibeus lituratus (Olfers, 1818) ALP 10356 male, Artibeus obscurus Schinz, 1821 ALP 10361 male/ALP 10343 female, Artibeus planirostris (Spix, 1823) ALP 10355 male/ALP 10353 female/ALP 10364 female, Carolia perspicillata (Linnaeus, 1758) ALP 10338 male/ALP 10375 male/ALP 10347 female/ALP 10374 female, Chiroderma doriae (Thomas, 1891) ALP 10345 male, Chiroderma villosum Peters, 1860 ALP 10371 male, Chrotopterus auritus (Peters, 1856) ALP 10354 male, Dermanura cinerea (Gervais, 1856) ALP 10351 male/ALP 10352 female, Desmodus rotundus (É. Geoffroy, 1810) ALP 10341 male/ALP 10342 male, Diphylla ecaudata Spix, 1823 ALP 10363 male/ALP 10362 female, Glossophaga soricina (Pallas, 1766) ALP 10350 male, Lonchophylla peracchii Dias et al. 2013 ALP 10369 female, Micronycteris hirsuta (Peters, 1869) ALP 10358 male, Micronycteris minuta (Gervais 1856) ALP 10357 female, Myotis riparius Handley, 1960 ALP 10340 male/ALP 10360 female, Phyllostomus stenops Peters, 1865 ALP 10365 male, Phyllostomus hastatus (Pallas, 1767) ALP 10367 male, Platyrhinus recifinus (Thomas, 1901) ALP 10366 male, Pygoderma bilabiatum (Wagner, 1843) ALP 10344 male, Sturnira lilium (É. Geoffroy, 1810) ALP 10346 male/ALP 10349 male, Tonatia bidens (Spix, 1823) ALP 10373 male, Vampyressa pusilla (Wagner, 1843) ALP 10339 male.