

EX TROPICIS



ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

AE
AGÊNCIA ESTADO

MAY FEATURES MENU

1. AMAZON: RUBBER-TAPPERS LEAVE THE FOREST AS RUBBER PRICES RISE

The first harvest of cultivated rubber in Brazil, in the southeastern state of São Paulo, is leading Amazon rubber-tappers to a serious crisis. Many are leaving the forest to live in the cities, creating yet another sociological problem to already crisis-riddled communities. Is this the end of the so-called "sustainable development" dream? By Altino Machado and Antonio Higa. (Color slides and B&W photos) 1500 words.

2. ANTHROPOLOGY: CURIAÚ - A RUN-AWAY SLAVE COLONY FROZEN IN TIME

An old "quilombo" - a run-away slave colony - still exists frozen-in-time near Macapá, the capital of the state of Amapá, in the Brazilian Amazon. For more than a hundred years these African-Brazilians have preserved their culture, religion, and the surrounding landscape. The approaching city is now threatening to change this society. Text by Alcinéa Cavalcanti. Photos by Clovis Ferreira. (Color slides) 2000 words.

3. ATLANTIC RAINFOREST: SUPERAGUI, HOME OF THE NEWLY FOUND LION-TAMARIN

The black faced lion-tamarin (*Leontopithecus caissara*), was discovered only last year by biologists of the University of Paraná, but it had never been photographed in its natural habitat. Last month, it was found and photographed by an Agencia Estado photographer and reporter at Superagui Park, in the state of Paraná, in southern Brazil. And although the very small primate has so recently been found by the scientific community, it is already in extinction. The few remaining specimens are doubly threatened by real estate speculation on Superagui. Text by Teresa Furtado. Photos by Carlos Ruggi. (Color slides and B&W photos) 1500 words.

4. PRESERVATION - NATURAL MIGRATORY BIRD HABITAT IS DECLARED AN INTERNATIONAL RESERVE, ENSURING THE SURVIVAL OF DOZENS OF BIRD SPECIES

The Lagoa do Peixe (Fish Lagoon) in southern Brazil, is a unique habitat. Part of the year, it is the home of pink flamingos and the sandpiper, seen in the northern hemisphere during the summer months. The very shallow fresh water lagoon, with its clean clear water is the perfect habitat for the proliferation of plankton, and a natural shelter for crustacean species, and limnicolous birds (which live by still water). Just in time, on April 16, before the large number of human predators who invade the lagoon with their fishing rods completely unbalance the area's food chain, the lagoon was added to the Limnicolous Birds Hemisphere Net. The area is now an international reserve and illegible for international aid. Text by Elza Pires and Liana John. Photos by Antonio Vargas. (Color slides and B&W photos) 800 words.