

This small flycatcher remains known only from two localities in humid lowland Atlantic Forest in Santa Catarina, Brazil, where further studies are needed to learn more of the bird and to assess options for the creation of a reserve.

DISTRIBUTION The type-specimen of Kaempfer's Tody-tyrant (see Remarks) was collected on 3 June 1929 at nearly 150 m in Salto (do) Piraí (Pirahy), near Joinville, Santa Catarina, southern Brazil (Zimmer 1953, Fitzpatrick and O'Neill 1979). The locality is further described as 9 km north-north-west of Vila Nova by M. Pearman (*in litt.* 1991), who observed an individual of this species there for 10 minutes on 20 July 1991. A second specimen (in MNRJ), apparently only just recognized, was collected c.100 km to the south at Brusque, also in Santa Catarina, in 1950 (Teixeira *et al.* in press).

POPULATION Numbers are not known, but the species must be at best rare in the region of the type-locality, as its collector usually obtained series of specimens in the localities he visited (see Naumburg 1939). In the course of three visits in 1987 to this area one observer failed to rediscover the species (M. A. Da-Ré *in litt.* 1987), and the observation of a bird in 1991, judged less than 1 km from the original collecting site, was the culmination of two days' searching in the area (M. Pearman *in litt.* 1991).

ECOLOGY Humid lowland Atlantic Forest (now partially cleared) occurs at the type-locality at the altitude in which the bird was collected (M. A. Da-Ré *in litt.* 1987, M. Pearman *in litt.* 1991) and is presumed to be the natural habitat of the species (Fitzpatrick and O'Neill 1979). The bird in 1991 actively hover-gleaned in the subcanopy some 6 m up, occasionally dropping to 2 m in trees along a river inside the forest, once at this lower level loosely associating with a lone Golden-crowned Warbler *Basileuterus culicivorus*, and being easily located by its distinctive call; it eventually disappeared into denser forest away from the river (M. Pearman *in litt.* 1991).

THREATS Forest destruction at Salto do Piraí itself is not a problem (see below) and, although the lowest slopes are second growth and the valley bottoms are cleared, there was no evidence in 1991 of recent logging within a 5 km radius of the dam, and forest appeared to be good and extensive in the surrounding hills; nevertheless, logging trucks in nearby Vila Nova indicated the vulnerability of the region to deforestation (M. Pearman *in litt.* 1991).

MEASURES TAKEN The species is protected under Brazilian law (Bernardes *et al.* 1990). Fortuitously CELESC (Centrais Elétricas de Santa Catarina) has established a 400 ha forest reserve off limits to the public, which encompasses the Salto do Piraí hydroelectric power station to assure a water supply from the slopes of the surrounding mountain range (M. A. Da-Ré *in litt.* 1987, M. Pearman *in litt.* 1991).

MEASURES PROPOSED A programme of ornithological studies is needed at Salto do Piraí to learn more of Kaempfer's Tody-tyrant, so that it can be efficiently managed and searched for over a wider area. The possibility of establishing a biological reserve to augment the CELESC reserve merits investigation, particularly as M. Pearman *in litt.* (1991) observed the threatened White-necked Hawk *Leucopternis lacernulata* and São Paulo Tyrannulet *Phylloscartes paulistus*, both (lowland) forest species, at the site (see relevant accounts), as well as the near-threatened upland Saw-billed Hermit *Ramphodon naevius* and Hooded Berryeater *Carpornis cucullatus*.

REMARKS Kaempfer's Tody-tyrant was originally described as a race of the Buff-breasted Tody-tyrant *Hemitriccus mirandae*, but it has subsequently been recognized as specifically distinct (Fitzpatrick 1976, Traylor 1979, Fitzpatrick and O'Neill 1979), most likely being a member of a superspecies including two other widely disjunct allospecies, the Buff-breasted Tody-tyrant and the Cinnamon-breasted Tody-tyrant *H. cinnamomeipectus* (Vuilleumier and Mayr 1987), both of which are also threatened (see relevant accounts).