

# **ECUADOR: TANDAYAPA PRE-TRIP**

**NOVEMBER 26-28, 2011**



**LEADERS:  
PAUL GREENFIELD  
BOB SUNDSTROM  
TONY NUNNERY**

**COMPILED BY: PAUL GREENFIELD**

**VICTOR EMANUEL NATURE TOURS, INC.  
2525 WALLINGWOOD DRIVE, SUITE 1003  
AUSTIN, TX 78746  
WWW.VENTBIRD.COM**

**TOUR REPORT  
TANDAYAPA PRE-TRIP  
November 26–28, 2011**

**By Paul Greenfield**

The “pint-sized” South American country of Ecuador is by no means a “little” nation when it comes to biodiversity. On the contrary, Ecuador can (for example) proudly boast of holding over twice as many bird species as the entire continent of North America, even though it is some 87 times smaller! So in preparation for VENT’s November Galapagos Islands Cruise, we offered a two-day visit to the species-rich northwestern slopes of the Ecuadorian Andes as an opportunity to “see-for-yourself” and to establish an enlightening basis of comparison with the isolated Galapagos Archipelago and its rather special, but limited biological diversity.

This is supreme hummingbird country and a land of tanagers, quetzals, toucans, and a slew of other Neotropical bird families. We are always bound to see a great variety of species—we normally expect over 20 species of hummingbirds and a similar number for tanagers! This November 2011 trip took us along part of the *Paseo del Quinde* Ecoroute to Pacha Quinde (the private residence of VENT leader Tony Nunnery and his lovely wife Barbara Boltz), and onward along the Ecoroute to our lodging for the night at Séptimo Paraíso. The following day we explored the area around the lodge and then headed out for a short drive to Milpe Bird Sanctuary, then back to Séptimo for lunch followed by the drive back to Quito—a straightforward and pleasant itinerary with a good dose of fun birding!

This enjoyable 48 hours brought us lots of excitement. Being virtually “glued” to the hummingbird feeders at various sites, surrounded by the frenzy of dozens of species and hundreds of individuals at each location, rendered us more or less speechless but for the oohs and aahs and the rattling off of one descriptive name after another: Tawny-bellied and White-whiskered hermits; Fawn-breasted, Green-crowned, and Empress brilliants; Buff-tailed and Velvet-purple coronets; Green Thorntail; Gorgeted Sunangel; Purple-bibbed Whitetip; Booted Racket-tail; Violet-tailed Sylph; and Purple-throated and White-bellied woodstars to name a few. We tallied a respectable 26 hummers on this trip...all seen well! Birds were mostly close at hand, and we were kept on our toes with several large mixed species foraging flocks around Séptimo Paraíso and Milpe Bird Sanctuary. Watching the weird display of Club-winged Manakin, calling in a Plate-billed Mountain-Toucan, and admiring nearly two dozen dazzling tanagers added more and more excitement at every turn. By the time we pulled into the Hotel Quito drop off area, we had amassed quite a collection of bird species and vibrant memories, along with the thirst for more! Now to get ready for one of the unforgettable Wonders of the World, the famed Galapagos islands.

#### ITINERARY

November 5 – Morning drive to Tandayapa Valley and to Pacha Quindi (Tony and Barbara’s property); continuing along the *Paseo del Quinde* Ecoroute to Séptimo Paraíso Lodge, with brief stops at Calacalí gas station and Bellavista Lodge (overnight at Séptimo Paraíso)

November 6— Early morning at Séptimo Paraíso (the ‘Y’ de Mindo and upper Mindo entrance road); mid-morning Milpe Bird Sanctuary; lunch and midday at Séptimo Paraíso; return to Quito

## THE SPECIES LIST

### HERONS, EGRETS & BITTERNS: ARDEIDAE

Great Egret (*Ardea alba*)—1 was seen flying above Séptimo Paraíso

Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*)—Small number were seen above Séptimo Paraíso

### NEW WORLD VULTURES: CATHARTIDAE

Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*)—Generally very common throughout Ecuador—seen on both days

Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aurea*)—As previous species, generally common throughout Ecuador—seen on both days

### KITES, EAGLES & HAWKS: ACCIPITRIDAE

**Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle** (*Geranoaetus melanoleucus*)—1 was seen perched, then it flew right at and over us; Calacalí

Roadside Hawk (*Buteo polyosoma*)—2 were seen well along the Ecoroute

### FALCONS & CARACARAS: FALCONIDAE

American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*)—3 or so were seen north of Quito

### PIGEONS & DOVES: COLUMBIDAE

Band-tailed Pigeon (*Patagioenas fasciata*)—A few were seen, along the Ecoroute

Plumbeous Pigeon (*Patagioenas plumbea*)—Heard only at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

Ruddy Pigeon (*Patagioenas subvinacea*)—A pair was seen at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

Eared Dove (*Zenaida auriculata*)—Generally common around Quito and more open areas

White-tipped Dove (*Leptotila verreauxi*)—1 was seen at Pacha Quindi

### PARROTS & MACAWS: PSITTACIDAE

Maroon-tailed Parakeet (*Pyrrhura melanura*)—Heard only at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

Red-billed Parrot (*Pionus sordidus*)—At least 4 were seen at Pacha Quindi

Bronze-winged Parrot (*Pionus chalcopterus*)—Heard only at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

### CUCKOOS: CUCULIDAE

Smooth-billed Ani (*Crotophaga ani*)—At least 4 were seen along the highway *en route* to Milpe Bird Sanctuary

### OWLS: STRIGIDAE

Cloud Forest Pygmy-Owl (*Glaucidium nubicola*)—Heard only along the Ecoroute

Mottled Owl (*Ciccaba virgata*)—Heard, and then 1 was seen at Séptimo Paraíso

### SWIFTS: APODIDAE

White-collared Swift (*Streptoprocne zonaris*)—Several were seen overhead at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

Chestnut-collared Swift (*Streptoprocne rutila*)—Several were seen at Pacha Quindi

## HUMMINGBIRD: TROCHILIDAE

- White-necked Jacobin (*Florisuga mellivora*)—3-4 were seen at Séptimo Paraíso
- Tawny-bellied Hermit (*Phaethornis syrmatorphorus*)—At least 1 was seen at Pacha Quindi
- White-whiskered Hermit *Phaethornis yaruqui*)—1 was seen at Séptimo Paraíso; 5 or so were seen at Milpe Bird Sanctuary
- Wedge-billed Hummingbird** (*Schistes [Augastes] geoffroyi*)—At least 1 was seen at *Datura* flowers at Pacha Quindi; another was seen at the ‘Y’ de Mindo
- Brown Violetear (*Colibri delphinae*)—1 was seen at Pacha Quindi feeders
- Green Violetear (*Colibri thalassinus*)—3-4 were seen well at Pacha Quindi feeders
- Sparkling Violetear (*Colibri coruscans*)—6 were seen at Pacha Quindi feeders; heard only at Séptimo Paraíso; common around Quito
- Gorgeted Sunangel (*Heliangelus strophianus*)—1 was seen at edge along the Ecoroute side-road
- Green Thorntail (*Discosura [Popelairia] conversii*)—Common at Milpe Bird Sanctuary
- Speckled Hummingbird (*Adelomyia melanogenys*)—6 were seen at Pacha Quindi feeders
- Violet-tailed Sylph** (*Agelaiocercus coelestis*)—This Chocó-Andean specialty with its stunning tail was quite common at Pacha Quindi; a few at Séptimo Paraíso
- Black-tailed Trainbearer (*Lesbia victoriae*)—At least 1 was seen outside of Quito
- Brown Inca** (*Coeligena wilsoni*)—3-4 were seen at Pacha Quindi feeders; 3 were found at Séptimo Paraíso
- Buff-tailed Coronet (*Boissonneaua flavescens*)—Very common at Pacha Quindi and Bellavista feeders; wing-lifting, cinnamon “wing-pits” and buffy tail; with glittering apple-green face in good light!
- Velvet-purple Coronet** (*Boissonneaua jardini*)—2 juvenile birds, of this spectacular Chocó-Andean endemic, were seen at Séptimo Paraíso
- Booted Racket-tail** (*Ocreatus underwoodii*)—This adorable little hummer was common at Pacha Quindi feeders; more common at Séptimo Paraíso
- Purple-bibbed Whitetip** (*Urosticte benjamini*)—8 were seen at Pacha Quindi; 5 more at Séptimo Paraíso (a very uncommon species away from feeders)
- Fawn-breasted Brilliant (*Heliodoxa rubinoides*)—Common at Pacha Quindi feeders; 3 more were found at Séptimo Paraíso
- Empress Brilliant** (*Heliodoxa emperatrix*)—1 this rather scarce, spectacular Chocó-Andean endemic was seen beautifully at Pacha Quindi feeders
- Green-crowned Brilliant (*Heliodoxa jacula*)—At least 4 were seen at Pacha Quindi
- White-bellied Woodstar (*Chaetocercus mulsant*)—1 female was seen at Pacha Quindi
- Purple-throated Woodstar** (*Calliflox mitchellii*)—Common at Pacha Quindi feeders; also at Séptimo Paraíso
- Western Emerald (*Chlorostilbon melanorhynchus*)—1 glittering male fed on *verbena* flowers at Pacha Quindi. This population has often been considered a subspecies of Blue-tailed Emerald (*Chlorostilbon mellisugus*) of the eastern Andes and lowlands
- Green-crowned Woodnymph (*Thalurania fannyi*)—1 was seen at Séptimo Paraíso
- Rufous-tailed Hummingbird (*Amazilia tzacatl*)—A common lowland species in western Ecuador; seen on both days
- Andean Emerald (*Amazilia franciae*)—Common daily at feeders

## TROGONS & QUETZALS: TROGONIDAE

- Golden-headed Quetzal (*Pharomachrus auriceps*)—1 was heard, then seen briefly along Séptimo Paraíso entrance road

#### MOTMOTS: MOMOTIDAE

Rufous Motmot (*Baryphthengus martii*)—1 was seen, others heard along Séptimo Paraíso entrance road

Broad-billed Motmot (*Electron platyrhynchum*)—Heard only at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

#### BARBETS: CAPITONIDAE

Red-headed Barbet (*Eubucco bourcierii*)—A pair was seen at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

Toucan Barbet (*Semnornis ramphastinus*)—Heard only along the Ecoroute

#### TOUCANS: RAMPHASTIDAE

Crimson-rumped Toucanet (*Aulacorhynchus haematopygius*)—A nesting pair was seen at Pacha Quindi; another 1 was seen at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

**Plate-billed Mountain-Toucan** (*Andigena laminirostris*)—Only 1 was seen along the Ecoroute; others heard. A special Chocó-Andean endemic

Pale-mandibled Araçari (*Pteraglossus erythropygius*)—3 were seen at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

Chocó Toucan (*Ramphastos brevis*)—Heard only at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

#### WOODPECKERS & ALLIES: PICIDAE

Smoky-brown Woodpecker (*Picoides [veniliornis] fumigatus*)—1 was seen at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

Golden-olive Woodpecker (*Colaptes rubiginosus*)—1 was seen at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

Crimson-mantled Woodpecker (*Colaptes rivolii*)—1 was seen along the Ecoroute, also heard there

#### OVENBIRDS & WOODCREEPERS: FURNARIIDAE

Azara's Spinetail (*Synallaxis azarae*)—Heard only along the Ecoroute

Rufous Spinetail (*Synallaxis unirufa*)—1 was seen briefly along the Ecoroute

Red-faced Spinetail (*Cranioleuca erythrops*)—Singles, of this arboreal species, were seen on both days at Séptimo Paraíso

Scaly-throated Foliage-Gleaner (*Anabacerthia variagaticeps*)—1 was seen gleaning the underside of mossy branches at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

Lineated Foliage-Gleaner (*Syndactyla subalaris*)—Heard only along the Ecoroute; 1 was seen skulking about along the Mindo entrance road

Buff-fronted Foliage-Gleaner (*Philydor rufus*)—At least 2 pair were seen at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

Plain Xenops (*Xenops minutus*)—1 was seen with a large mixed species foraging flock at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

Wedge-billed Woodcreeper (*Glyphorhynchus spirurus*)—1 was seen at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

Montane Woodcreeper (*Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger*)—4 or so were seen over the two days; the most common subtropical zone woodcreeper in Ecuador

**Strong-billed Woodcreeper** (*Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus*)—2 were seen working a dead tree-trunk along the Séptimo Paraíso entrance road

**Brown-billed Scythebill** (*Campylorhamphus pusillus*)—1 was seen with a large mixed species foraging flock at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

#### TYPICAL ANTBIRDS: THAMNOPHILIDAE

Slaty Antwren (*Myrmotherula schisticolor*)—1 female was seen with a large mixed species foraging flock at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

**Rufous-rumped Antwren** (*Teranura callinota*)—1 was seen with a large mixed species foraging flock at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

ANTTHRUSHES: FORMICARIIDAE

Rufous-breasted Antthrush (*Formicarius rufipectus*)—Heard only at Séptimo Paraíso

ANTPITTAS: GRALLARIIDAE

Chestnut-crowned Antpitta (*Grallaria ruficapilla*)—Heard only along the Ecoroute

TAPACULOS: RHINOCRYPTIDAE

Nariño Tapaculo (*Scytolopus vicini*)—Heard only at Séptimo Paraíso

Spillmann's Tapaculo (*Scytolopus spillmanni*)—Heard only along the Ecoroute

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS: TYRANNIDAE

White-tailed Tyrannulet (*Mecocerculus poecilircus*)—2 were seen at pacha Quindi; another along the Mindo entrance road (always with mixed species foraging flocks)

**Rufous-winged Tyrannulet** (*Mecocerculus calopterus*)—1 was seen at Pacha Quindi

Sierran Elaenia (*Elaenia pallatangae*)—1 was seen along the Ecoroute

Streak-necked Flycatcher (*Mionectes striaticollis*)—At least 1 was seen with a small mixed foraging flock along the Ecoroute

Slaty-capped Flycatcher (*Leptopogon superciliaris*)—1 was seen at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

Ornate Flycatcher (*Myiobrycon ornatus*)—6 of this attractive little flycatcher were seen around Séptimo Paraíso

Cinnamon Flycatcher (*Pyrrhomyias cinnamomeus*)—A pair this, yet another attractive flycatcher, were seen along the Ecoroute

Smoke-colored Pewee (*Contopus fumigatus*)—2 were seen along the Ecoroute

Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax virens*)—Heard only at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

Masked Water-Tyrant (*Fluvicola nengeta*)—1 was seen jumping around along the side of the highway, above Mindo (just out from the Ecoroute lower entrance)

Dusky-capped Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tuberculifer*)—Heard only on both days at a few sites

Rusty-margined Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes cayenensis*)—1 was seen at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

Golden-crowned Flycatcher (*Myiodynastes chrysocephalus*)—At least a pair were seen closely at the 'Y' de Mindo street-light

**Snowy-throated Kingbird** (*Tyrannus niveigularis*)—1 was seen beautifully at Milpe Bird Sanctuary parking area; a Tumbesian bioregional endemic

Tropical Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus*)—A few were seen at the 'Y' de Mindo and Milpe Bird Sanctuary, etc.

TITYRAS & ALLIES: TITYRIDAE

Barred Becard (*Pachyramphus versicolor*)—At least 1 was seen at Pacha Quindi

Cinnamon Becard (*Pachyramphus cinnamomeus*)—3 were seen at Séptimo Paraíso

One-colored Becard (*Platypsaris homochrous*)—1 male was seen at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

MANAKINS: PIPRIDAE

**Golden-winged Manakin** (*Masius chrysopterus*)—2-3 were seen feeding on *Miconia* fruit in canopy at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

**Club-winged Manakin** (*Machaeropterus deliciosus*)—3-4 males were seen at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

White-bearded Manakin (*Manacus manacus*)—heard and then 1 male was seen at Milpe

## Bird Sanctuary

### VIREOS & ALLIES: VIREONIDAE

- Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*)—Fairly common, especially at the ‘Y’ de Mindo
- Brown-capped Vireo (*Vireo leucophrys*)—3 or so were seen closely at the ‘Y’ de Mindo; also at Pacha Quindi

### CROWS, JAYS & MAGPIES: CORVIDAE

- Turquoise Jay (*Cyanolyca turcosa*)—Heard only along the Ecoroute

### SWALLOWS: HIRUNDINIDAE

- Blue-and-white Swallow (*Pygochelidon cyanoleuca*)—Common in general

### WRENS: TROGLODYTIDAE

- Bay Wren (*Cantorchilus [Thryothorus] nigricapillus*)—Heard only in thick undergrowth at Milpe Bird Sanctuary
- House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*)—A few were seen hanging around Séptimo Paraíso; others heard. Often considered a separate species, Southern House Wren (*T. musculus*)
- Gray-breasted Wood-Wren (*Henicorhina leucophrys*)—Heard only along the Ecoroute

### THRUSHES & ALLIES: TURDIDAE

- Andean Solitaire (*Myadestes ralloides*)—Heard only, on both days
- Swainson’s Thrush (*Catharus ustulatus*)—3 were seen at Milpe Bird Sanctuary
- Great Thrush (*Turdus fuscater*)—Generally common highland species; seen on both days; at higher elevations
- Glossy-black Thrush (*Turdus serranus*)—Heard only along the Ecoroute
- Ecuadorian Thrush (*Turdus maculirostris*)—Considered a race of Spectacled Thrush (*T. nudigenis*) by some authors. 1 was seen at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

### NEW WORLD WARBLERS: PARULIDAE

- Tropical Parula (*Parula pitiayumi*)—4 were seen at Milpe Bird Sanctuary
- Blackburnian Warbler (*Dendroica fusca*)—Several seen on both days; a fairly common boreal migrant in the Andes
- Slate-throated Whitestart (*Myioborus miniatus*)—A rather common mixed flock participant at lower elevations; 4 were seen at Milpe Bird Sanctuary. Also called Redstart by many authors (though the species has NO red!)
- Spectacled Whitestart (*Myioborus melanocephalus*)—2 were seen along the Ecoroute sideroad
- Chocó Warbler (*Basileuterus chlorophrys*)—Considered a race of Golden-bellied Warbler (*B. chrysogaster*) by some authors (though voices are totally different and ranges are totally separate). 6 were seen with a large mixed species foraging flock at Milpe Bird Sanctuary
- Russet-crowned Warbler (*Basileuterus coronatus*)—1 was seen in understory with a mixed foraging flock along the Ecoroute
- Three-striped Warbler (*Basileuterus tristriatus*)—Several were seen on both days

### TANAGERS & ALLIES: THRAUPIDAE

- Cinereous Conebill (*Conirostrum cinereum*)—2 were seen at Calacalí

Capped Conebill (*Conirostrum albifrons*)—1 male was seen along the Ecoroute with a mixed species foraging flock

Lemon-rumped Tanager (*Ramphocelus icteronotus*)—Considered a race of Flame-rumped Tanager (*R. flammigerus*) by some authors. A common species of the western lowlands

Blue-gray Tanager (*Thraupis episcopus*)—A few, of this generally widespread and common tanager, were seen mainly at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

Blue-capped Tanager (*Thraupis cyanocephala*)—At least 1 was seen along the Ecoroute

Blue-and-yellow Tanager (*Thraupis bonariensis*)—1 was seen at Calacalí

Blue-winged Mountain-Tanager (*Anisognathus somptuosus*)—Common, and beautiful; seen well on both days

**Grass-green Tanager** (*Chlorornis riefferii*)—2-3 were seen nicely along the Ecoroute

Fawn-breasted Tanager (*Pipraeidea melanonota*)—1 was seen at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

Golden Tanager (*Tangara arthus*)—Rather common, and seen well on both days

Flame-faced Tanager (*Tangara parzudakii*)—2 of this beauty were seen at Pacha Quindi; another was seen at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

**Rufous-throated Tanager** (*Tangara rufigula*)—3 of this Chocó-Andean endemic were seen nicely at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

Bay-headed Tanager (*Tangara gyrola*)—1 was seen well at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

Golden-naped Tanager (*Tangara ruficervix*)—At least 2 were seen well at Pacha Quindi

Metallic-green Tanager (*Tangara labradorides*)—1 was seen at Pacha Quindi

Blue-necked Tanager (*Tangara cyanicollis*)—2 of this beautiful tanager were seen at the ‘Y’ de Mindo

Beryl-spangled Tanager (*Tangara nigroviridis*)—Between 3-4 or so this attractive tanager was seen on both days

Black-capped Tanager (*Tangara heinei*)—A family group or so of 5 were seen nicely at the ‘Y’ de Mindo

Green Honeycreeper (*Chlorophanes spiza*)—1 male was seen at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

Buff-throated Saltator (*Saltator maximus*)—2 or so were seen at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

Slate-colored Grosbeak (*Saltator grossus*)—3 were seen at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

Black-winged Saltator (*Saltator atripennis*)—At least 4 were seen at Séptimo Paraíso

#### BUNTINGS, SPARROWS & ALLIES: EMBERIZIDAE

Band-tailed Sierra-Finch (*Phrygilus alaudinus*)—1 was seen closeby, but briefly at Calacalí

Ash-breasted Sierra-Finch (*Phrygilus plebejus*)—1-2 were seen at Calacalí

Variable Seedeater (*Sporophila corvina*)—1 female was seen at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

Band-tailed Seedeater (*Catamenia analis*)—A pair was seen at Calacalí

White-sided Flowerpiercer (*Diglossa albilatera*)—2 females were seen at Pacha Quindi; 1 male at Séptimo Paraíso

Masked Flowerpiercer (*Diglossa cyaneus*)—1 was seen at Pacha Quindi

Tricolored Brush-Finch (*Atlapetes tricolor*)—1 was seen at Pacha Quindi; 5 or so were seen the following day, best at the ‘Y’ de Mindo

**White-winged Brush-Finch** (*Atlapetes leucopterus*)—At least 2 of this Tumbesian bioregional endemic were seen nicely at Pacha Quindi

Rufous-collared Sparrow (*Zonotrichia capensis*)—Common species throughout the Andes

Dusky Bush-Tanager (*Chlorospingus semifuscus*)—5 were seen at ‘Y’ de Mindo and along the Mindo entrance road

Yellow-throated Bush-Tanager (*Chlorospingus flavigularis*)—Common at Milpe Bird Sanctuary



## SISKINS, & ALLIES: FRINGILLIDAE

Thick-billed Euphonia (*Euphonia lanirostris*)—5 or so were seen mainly at Milpe Bird Sanctuary (best at the fruit feeders)

Golden-rumped Euphonia (*Euphonia cyanocephala*)—Heard and then 1 seen well at Pacha Quindi

Orange-bellied Euphonia (*Euphonia xanthogaster*)—A pair was seen at Pacha Quindi

**Yellow-collared Chlorophonia** (*Chlorophonia flavirostris*)—1 was seen well in canopy, by a few of our group (also heard) at Milpe Bird Sanctuary

**Chestnut-breasted Chlorophonia** (*Chlorophonia pyrrhophrys*)—A beautiful pair was seen at Pacha Quindi

Hooded Siskin (*Spinus magellanicus*)—2 were seen in flight at Calacalí

## MAMMAL LIST

### SQUIRRELS: SCIURIDAE

Neotropical Red-tailed Squirrel (*Sciurus granatensis*)—1 was seen at Pacha Quindi

## OTHER CREATURES

Giant Black [Blue-bloom] Birdeater (*Pamphobeteus nigricolor*)—This may be the name of the large ‘violet-legged’ tarantula we saw on the highway near Milpe (it’s tough to get helpful information on classification of tarantulas). Apparently there are many subspecies, but one photo showed very purple-violet legs, like our tarantula had