

Olrog's Gull *Larus atlanticus* in Santa Catarina, Brazil: northernmost occurrence and first state record

Olrog's Gull *Larus atlanticus* is a threatened species (Vulnerable)⁵ that occurs on the Atlantic coast of southern South America. It breeds in eastern Argentina and moves north during the austral winter, reaching Uruguay and extreme southern Brazil^{5,7,8}. To date there are only a handful of records of *L. atlanticus* in Brazil, all of them from coastal Rio Grande do Sul^{4,10}. The first record was of one captured alive in winter 1971 on an island in front of Rio Grande town¹. Since then, the species has been reported at eight localities in Rio Grande do Sul, five of them around Lagoa dos Patos⁴. Formerly considered a vagrant to Brazil^{2,3}, Olrog's Gull is currently treated as a regular visitor in April–August^{4,6}.

In 2001, JOB found two different Olrog's Gulls at Saco da Fazenda, Itajaí, Santa Catarina (26°53'–26°55'S 48°38'–48°39'W), which were seen on 11 August, 8 September, 13 October and 17 November. The first bird to be found and photographed (August) had a dark head and body with clearly paler upperwing-coverts, which permitted its identification as a juvenile⁹ (Fig. 1). The bird photographed in November had a lot of white on the forehead, the wing was dark with many fewer pale feathers, and a whitish semi-collar was evident on the hindneck; it was thus largely in first-summer plumage (Fig. 2).

Several Lari have been recorded for the first time in Santa Catarina recently^{11,12}, and this species is also new to the state¹³, thereby extending the known range 380 km north from the previous northernmost locality in Rio Grande do Sul, Tramandaí⁴.

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Figure 1. Juvenile Olrog's Gull *Larus atlanticus*, Saco da Fazenda, Itajaí, Santa Catarina, 11 August 2001 (J. O. Branco)



Figure 2. First-summer Olrog's Gull *Larus atlanticus*, Saco da Fazenda, Itajaí, Santa Catarina, 17 November 2001 (J. O. Branco)

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