



COEXISTENCE BETWEEN HUMANS AND WILDLIFE

"Sustainability includes the three dimensions of economic, social, and ecological development, which are interdependent and cannot exist without each other in the long run. Within the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Goal 15 (Life on Land) was agreed upon, which shares common aspects with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), aimed at achieving the 2050 vision of living in harmony with nature". (WWF - UN Environment Programme, 2021)

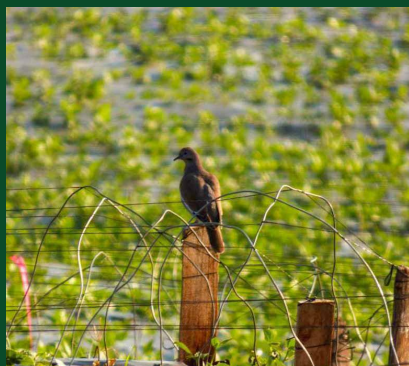
Coexistence between humans and wildlife refers to people and wildlife living nearby in a dynamic state where the interests and needs of both humans and wildlife are generally satisfied. In order for this coexistence to be beneficial, Unispice has adopted the best production practices to conserve the connectivity of natural habitats on the farms, so that wildlife can move freely and to ensure that the productive infrastructure does not disrupt this connectivity.

Conscious that the survival of multiple terrestrial species depends on good ecological management and successful coexistence, Unispice has a policy of "Conservation and Growth of Flora and Fauna," which dictates that "It is the company's policy to operate in a way that conserves and enhances wildlife and the landscape, through the protection and management of natural habitats, in accordance with national and local legislation. These areas will not be treated with pesticides or fertilizers." (Code AGR-D-007)

"Integrated and holistic approaches to human-wildlife conflict management allow species to survive in areas where their population would otherwise have declined or become extinct. Every species has an inherent right to survive and all species on our planet are essential to maintaining the health and functions of the ecosystem. Therefore, the benefits of coexistence can be reflected far beyond the survival of individual animals and species. All species are part of the complex web of life that provides the natural systems we depend on for clean air and water, fertile soils, and stable climate. Healthy ecosystems provide us with food, medicine, materials, and are a source of millions of jobs." (WWF - UN Environment Programme, 2021)

Some species have movement patterns that often lead them to areas dominated by humans. Tolerance towards species and effective survival strategies allow these species to move through larger human-dominated landscapes. Unispice encourages the capacity and willingness of its farm personnel to coexist with wildlife and makes its infrastructure serve as corridors between landscapes, a crucial function according to WWF, as wildlife needs to move to different areas and connect with different populations.

Below are some species that the staff managed to capture with their cameras to include in this article:



Paloma Torcasa (zenaida asiática)

A brown pigeon with a conspicuous white patch on the wings; also known as white-winged dove or white-winged pigeon.

"Raise awareness among people while at the same time conserve wildlife"

Credits: Rafael García
📍 San Jacinto Farm, Salamá, Baja Verapaz



Great Kiskadee (pitangus sulphuratus)

Also known as common bienteveo or pitohui; inhabits the surrounding areas of the bushes on the outskirts and roadsides.

"The method to protect these birds is by keeping the edges of bushes on the outskirts and roadsides"

Credits: Axel Chiqín
📍 San Jacinto farm, Salamá, Baja Verapaz



The Lizard (holcosus)

Feeds under leaf litter, and one of the places it lives in is trees planted in rows.

"We protect this species in the farm by planting trees in rows"

Credits: Maynor Ché
📍 Peña Blanca farm, Salamá, Baja Verapaz

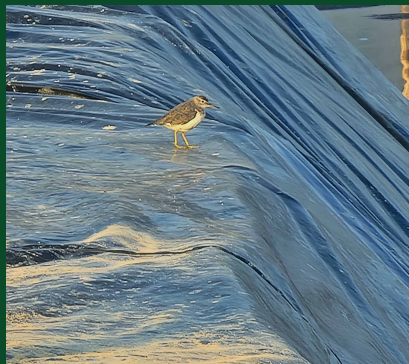


Wild rabbit (oryctolagus spp.)

This species is most commonly found in open fields with bushes; activities such as agriculture have helped this species to expand and colonize new areas.

"The method we use to protect them is by creating awareness among the staff so they don't harm them."

Credits: Rafael García
📍 San Nicolás farm, Salamá, Baja Verapaz



Green sandpiper (tringa ochropus)

Is a bird commonly found in shallow freshwater or saltwater bodies, rivers, and reservoirs.

"It is protected by not polluting bodies of water (rivers and reservoirs)"

📍 Credits: Henry Carrillo
San Rafael farm, Salamá, Baja Verapaz

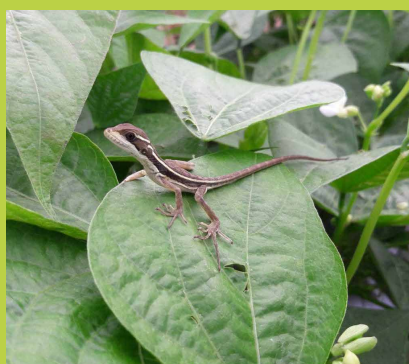


The American Kestrel (falco sparverius)

Also known as the Sparrow Hawk or Cuyaya, is a generalist and migratory raptor species of the Nearctic.

"I urge you to read more about this species interesting movement between habitats in order to better understand how to protect it"

📍 Credits: Sergio Tut
Andares farm, Jalapa



The Striped Basilisk (Basiliscus vittatus)

Also known as the Brown or Striped Basilisk, is a reptile that inhabits arboreal, terrestrial, and aquatic environments. It lives in shaded areas with abundant vegetation, as well as in areas near bodies of water, streams, and rivers.

"Conserve shaded vegetation and moisture, which are its ideal conditions for survival"

📍 Fotografía por Sergio Tut
San Nicolás farm, Salamá, Baja Verapaz

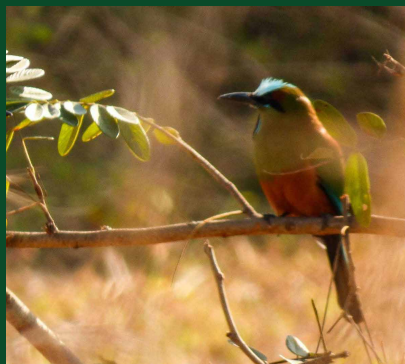


The Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis)

also known as the Cowbird or Livestock Egret, feeds on insects and larvae exposed by soil preparation.

"Be careful during soil preparation activities"

📍 Credits: Manuel López
San Nicolás farm, Salamá, Baja Verapaz



Turquoise-browed Motmot

(*eumomota superciliosa*); Also known as the Blue-browed Motmot, lives in trees on the outskirts, slopes, and fences of farms.

"It is advised to maintain the trees on the outskirts and fences of the farms, as well as not damage their nesting areas on slopes"

Credits: Axel Chiquín
 San Nicolás farm, Salamá, Baja Verapaz



The Black Spiny-tailed Iguana

(*Ctenosaura similis*), also known as the Striped Iguana or Black Iguana, is mainly herbivorous, feeding on flowers, leaves, stems, and fruits.

"Raise awareness among the staff for its conservation"

Credits: Maynor Ché
 Peña Blanca farm, Salamá, Baja Verapaz

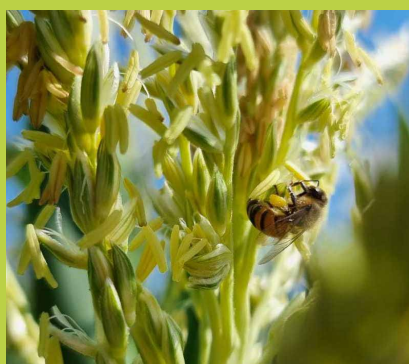


The Bearded Vulture (*caraca cheriway*)

Also known as the Lämmergeier or Quebrantahuesos, is a species of bird of prey that feeds on rodents, insects, and larvae exposed during soil preparation.

"Be careful during spoil preparation Activities"

Credits: Christian José Pérez
 San Nicolás farm, Salamá, Baja Verapaz

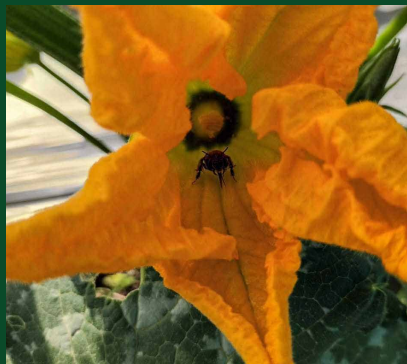


Bee (*anthophila*)

Bees are the most important pollinators in various crops; they live in hives in trees around the farms.

"We take care of this species by applying products during hours when bees are not active"

Credits: Marilyn Cifuentes
 San Nicolás farm, Salamá, Baja Verapaz



The European honeybee (*apis mellifera*)

Also known as the domestic bee or honeybee.

"In order to take care of the honeybees, we apply gentle products that do not affect them"

Credits: Axel Chiquín
📍 San Nicolás farm, Salamá, Baja Verapaz



Kestrel or common kestrel

(*Falco tinnunculus*); they are protected through nesting boxes located at different strategic points within the farms.

"They are cared for through nesting houses located at different strategic points within the farm"

Credits: Henry Carrillo
📍 San Nicolás farm, Salamá, Baja Verapaz

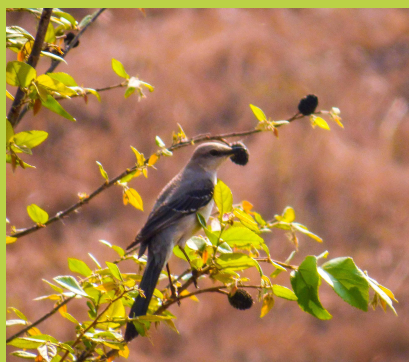


Lesser Roadrunner (*geococcyx velox*)

Tropical roadrunner, small roadrunner, or lesser roadrunner; it nests in tall grasslands a within the farms.

"Preserve tall grasslands within the farm as they nest in them"

Credits: Axel Chiquín
📍 San Jacinto farm, Salamá, Baja Verapaz



Tropical Mockingbird (*mimus gilvus*)

Tropical mockingbird, or paraulata llanera; inhabits the grasslands and groves within farms.

"Keep grasslands and groves within the farms, places where they can be protected from predators"

Credits: Axel Chiquín
📍 San Jacinto farm, Salamá, Baja Verapaz



Groove-billed Ani (*crotophaga sulcirostris*)

Also known as groove-billed ani, black cuckoo, or pijuil; its habitats are open areas filled with bushes, shrubs, and forests edges.

"Raise awareness among people about this bird, and also preserve the shrubs within the farm"

Credits: Rafael García
📍 San Nicolás farm, Salamá, Baja Verapaz



The white-collared seedeater

Variable seedeater, or mourning seedeater (*Sporophila americana*), nests in the trees found around the farms.

"Take care of the trees located around the farm, as it is where they can build their nests"

Credits: Manuel López
📍 San Nicolás farm, Salamá, Baja Verapaz



Tropical Kingbird (*tyrannus melancholicus*)

Also known as melancholic tyrant; it nests in trees and shrubs found within the farms.

"We can care for this species by conserving the trees and shrubs found within the farm, as they nest there"

Credits: Axel Chiquín
📍 San Nicolás farm, Salamá, Baja Verapaz



American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*)

Also known as little falcon or cuyaya, is a generalist and migratory bird of prey in the Neartic region.

"There are nesting houses located in strategic locations within the farm"

Credits: Rafael García
📍 San Nicolás farm, Salamá, Baja Verapaz

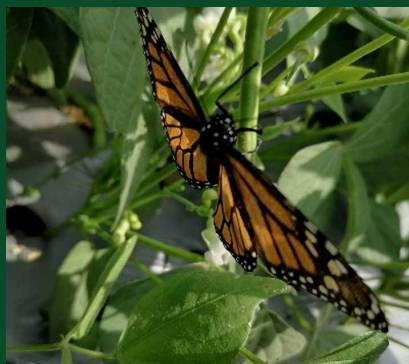


Blue-Black Grassquit (*volatinia jacarina*)

Also known as grass quit; nests in live fences within the farms.

"Preserve live fences as they provide shelter against predators, as well as nesting and breeding areas."

 Credits: Axel Chiquín
San Nicolás farm, Salamá, Baja Verapaz

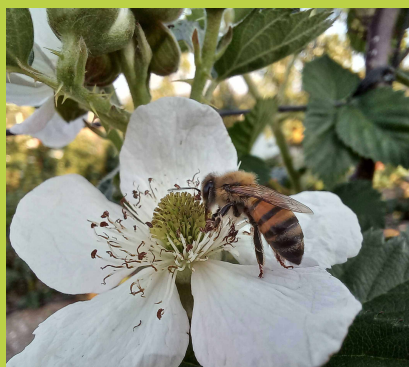


Monarch Butterfly (*danaus plexippus*)

Inhabits forested areas and feeds on the nectar of plants.

"Maintain the vegetation to preserve their food source."

 Credits: Marvin López
Andares farm, Jalapa



Worker Bee (*apis mellifera linnaeus*)

These bees are fundamental pollinators, essential for the production and reproduction of many crops or wild plants.


"Use of environmentally friendly pesticides, respect their habitat, maintain live fences to establish their hives, and care for the biodiversity of the farm"

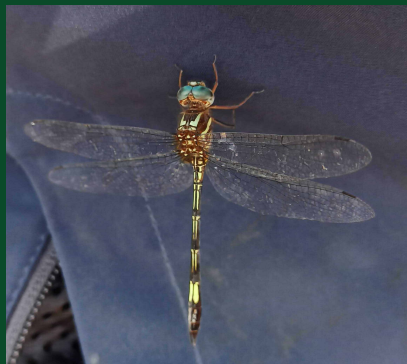
 Credits: Rolando Maas
Andares farm, Jalapa



Nest of Inca Dove (*columbina inca*).

"Take care of grassland areas, live fences, and cultivated areas because they nest in them. Likewise, it is necessary to raise awareness among the staff to avoid hunting and removal from the farms."

 Credits: Axel Chiquín
San Nicolás farm, Salamá, Baja Verapaz

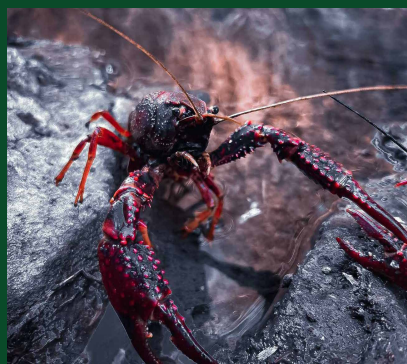


Dragonfly (Anisoptera)

Known in Guatemala as "Aguja del diablo".

"Using environmentally friendly pesticides and raising awareness among the staff to respect their habitat"

Credits: Feliciano Mendoza
San Nicolás farm, Salamá, Baja Verapaz



Crawfish (Procambarus clarkii)

They are also known as "Langostinos".

"By avoiding illegal fishing of the crustacean and conserving slow-moving rivers, ponds, and reservoirs where they usually inhabit"

Credits: Danny Alonzo
Andares farm, Jalapa

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Unispice, Departamento de Cumplimiento (2006). CONSERVACIÓN Y CRECIMIENTO DE FLORA Y FAUNA. Política Código AGR-D-007.

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