Transect and Point counts were tested in an irrigated rice field in the Paraíba Valley in São Paulo, Brazil (Fig. 1). The aim was to know which of these methods would perform best during the phase in which the rice reaches a height of 35-40cm, when the birds visualization is not always possible (Fig. 2).

According to the Jaccard index, the two methods were 62% similar.

Through transect method, 25 species and 355 individuals were detected, and 7 species were exclusive for this method. Using the point-count, were possible to detected 23 species and 245 individuals, with 5 exclusive species.

With the abundance of individuals, a difference was obtained between the methods (t = 2.633; p = 0.0338) and transect method performed better when compare with point counts. Through Chao1 estimator, transect was either more advantageous (t = 5.214; p = 0.0012) (Figs. 5 e 6).

With the results obtained, we can conclude that the transect method was more profitable as much to evaluate richness as abundance of avian fauna in this irrigated rice phase.