

(Von Haartman 1957, Cline *et al.* 1980, Raphael and White 1984, Li and Martin 1991), these changes can have profound effects on the cavity nesting community of Jamaica.

In other West Indian Islands, starlings have also expanded their range and may also pose a problem for primary and secondary cavity nesters. On Abaco, Willimont (1990) observed a starling displace a West Indian Woodpecker (*M. superciliaris*) from a cavity within the eaves of a house. In Cuba, during 1995 and 1996, Wiley (per. comm.) saw aggressive interactions involving nesting sites among starlings and West Indian Woodpeckers, Cuban Green Woodpeckers (*Xiphidiopicus percussus*), Cuban Parakeets (*Aratinga euops*), and Cuban Parrots (*Amazona leucocephala*).

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POSIBLE IMPACTO DE LAS ESPECIES EXOTICAS EN PUERTO RICO Y MEDIDAS ADOPTADAS POR EL DEPARTAMENTO DE RECURSOS NATURALES Y AMBIENTALES PARA MINIMIZAR EL MISMO

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PUERTO RICO POSEE UNA VARIEDAD de plantas y animales únicos en el mundo. Un gran número de personas solicitan permiso para importar especies exóticas a la Isla. Esta situación es cada día más preocupante debido al potencial efecto dañino que estas especies pueden ejercer sobre nuestra agricultura, fauna y flora endémica, particularmente nuestras especies en peligro de extinción.

La introducción de exóticos puede representar un problema mayor a la ecología de la Isla si no se toman medidas más estrictas para evitar esta situación. El Departamento de Recursos Naturales y Ambientales ha adoptado medidas para controlar la introducción, el trasiego y establecimiento de estas especies en Puerto Rico.