

CRITICAL THINKING MODULE 1: MANAKIN COOPERATION

One of the challenges of studying animal behavior is the need to distinguish between observations and inferences. Which of the following is an observation about clip 1, and which is an inference? Why is it important to distinguish between the two? Write down your own *observations* about the other clips as you watch.

- The males often fly past the female without landing on the perch.
- The female is not particularly interested in the displaying males.
- The display includes one bout of leaping display where the males jump over each other.
- When the female leaves the perch, only one of the males wants to continue displaying.

What hypotheses (proposed explanations) do you have about why beta male lance-tailed manakins cooperate?

What data would you need to collect to test each hypothesis?

What additional questions do you have about lance-tailed manakin behavior?