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NEW BIRDS FROM VENEZUELA

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An examination of the material in the American Museum of Natural History and in the Phelps Collection, Caracas, Venezuela, shows the new subspecies described below.

Many thanks are due to Mr. James L. Peters of the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, Cambridge, for the loan of a fine series of Costa Rican swifts which proved highly useful in the study of the species concerned.

In the lists of specimens examined, those in the Phelps and other collections are so characterized; the remaining material is in the American Museum of Natural History.

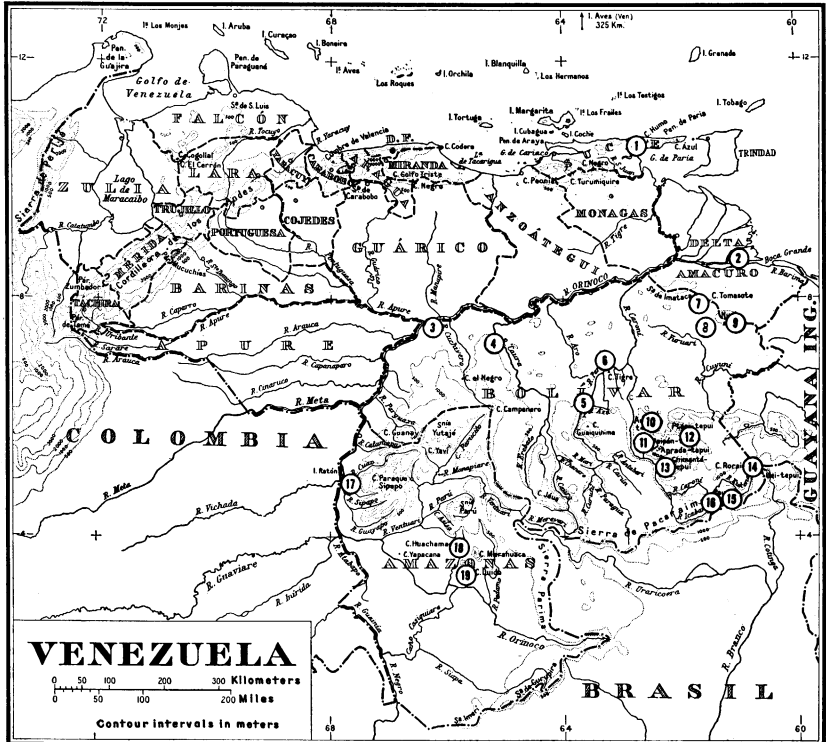
Names of colors are capitalized when direct comparison has been made with Ridgway's "Color standards and color nomenclature."

Chaetura spinicauda latirostris, new subspecies

TYPE: From Jobure, Río Jobure, Territorio Delta Amacuro, Venezuela; at sea level. No. 49617, Phelps Collection, Caracas, Venezuela. Adult male, collected February 27, 1950, by Ramón Urbano. (Type on deposit at the American Museum of Natural History.)

DIAGNOSIS: Differs from all other known races of *C. spinicauda* by larger (broader) bill, with a less sharply decurved culmen. Nearest to *C. s. spinicauda* of the Guianas, from which it differs additionally by having darker, more dusky, under parts and blacker, less brownish, upper parts. Differs from *C. s. fumosa* of Panamá and Costa Rica additionally by having shorter wings; paler, less dusky, under parts; less whitish throat; and more dusky, less bluish, back. Differs additionally from *C. s. aethalea* of central Brazil by having paler, less dusky, under parts.

RANGE: The lower Orinoco River from Caicara to the Delta, southward through the Paragua River valley to Mt. Paurai-tepui on the Brazilian frontier; apparently also northward to the State of Sucre.



LOCALITIES

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| 14 Arabupú | 6 La Paragua |
| 10 Auyan-tepui, Mt. | 9 Nuria |
| 3 Caicara (Bolívar) | 16 Paurai-tepui, Mt. |
| 13 Chimantá-tepui, Mt. | 14 Philipp Camp |
| 17 Cuao, Caño | 12 Ptari-tepui, Mt. |
| 19 Duida, Mt. | 14 Roraima, Mt. |
| 7 El Palmar | 15 Santa Elena, frontera |
| 18 Huachamacare, Mt. | 15 Santa Elena, Santa Teresa |
| 2 Jobure | 4 Suapure |
| 12 Kabanayén | 8 Tumeremo, San Felipe |
| 14 Kukenam, Mt. | 11 Uaipán-tepui, Mt. |
| 16 La Candelaria | 5 Uraima, Salto |
| 16 La Faisca Mine | 1 Yuaguaraparo |

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE: Top of head, back, and upper tail-coverts Sooty Black; rump nearest to Pale Smoke Gray; lores with a semi-concealed whitish patch; cheeks and sides of neck uniform with breast. Chin and throat whiter than Pale Smoke Gray, merging into the mixed fuscous and grayish breast, sides, under tail-coverts, and axillaries; throat with slightly darker subterminal areas, giving a weak mottled effect, but chin with the marks darker and stronger; belly more uniformly grayish brown. Wings blacker than the back, with a greenish luster on the upper surface. Tail uniform with the wings. Bill (in life) "black"; feet "black"; iris "dark." Wing, 103 mm.; tail, 39; exposed culmen, 4.5; tarsus, 11.5.

REMARKS: The sexes are alike.

TABLE 1
RANGE OF MEASUREMENTS (IN MILLIMETERS) OF *Chaetura spinicauda*

	Wing		Tail		Exposed Culmen
<i>fumosa</i>					
5 ♀ Costa Rica	108-114	(111.1)	39	-41 (40.4)	4.3-4.8 (4.6)
1 ♂ Puerto Valdivia	104			40	4.4
2 ♂ JuntasdeTamaná	104-104.5	(104.2)	38	-39 (38.5)	4.2-4.3 (4.2)
1 ♂ Nóvita	—			39	4.2
<i>latirostris</i>					
6 ♂ Jobure	100-103	(101.7)	38	-40 (39.2)	4.3-4.7 (4.5)
6 ♀ Jobure	101-105	(102)	38.5	-43 (40)	4.2-4.8 (4.6)
2 ♂ Suapure	103-104	(103.5)	38	-38.5 (38.2)	4.3-4.6 (4.5)
2 ♀ Suapure	105-104	(104.5)	40	-40.5 (40.2)	4.4-5.1 (4.7)
1 ♂ Yaguaraparo	103			38.5	4.6
<i>spinicauda</i>					
4 ♂ Cayenne	102-107	(104.7)	39.5	-41 (40.4)	3.7-4.5 (4.2)
2 ♀ Cayenne	102-104	(103)	38	-40 (39)	4.2-4.4 (4.3)
5 ♂ British Guiana	94-106	(98)	39	-40 (39.4)	4 -4.3 (4.1)
5 ♂ Trinidad	101-105	(103)	39	-42 (40.2)	4.1-4.3 (4.2)
1 (?) Cacagualito	105			42	4.5
<i>aethalea</i>					
1 ♂ Caño Cuao	107			40	4.3
1 ♀ Rio Tocantins	105			41.5	4.5

The bill of *latirostris* is broader than that of the other subspecies with a less sharply decurved culmen. The bills of *fumosa*, *spinicauda*, and *aethalea* are so similar, one to another, and those of *latirostris* so different, that it is possible that the last form is of specific rank.

The specimens from Suapure and Yaguaraparo are like *latirostris* in respect to the size and shape of the bill, but they have the under parts distinctly browner, less sooty. They appear to be in equally fresh plumage, although the Caicara specimens were collected longer ago than the others, including the Yaguaraparo skin. The color difference suggests fading or foxing, but until a fresh series of recently collected Caicara birds is available for study, it would be unwise to suggest taxonomic distinction from *latirostris*.

Three birds from western Colombia (Nóvita and Juntas de Tamaná) are more blackish below than our series of *spinicauda*, although not quite so blackish as most of the Costa Rican examples of *fumosa*. Nevertheless they appear to be closer to this latter form than to *spinicauda* to which a Santa Marta specimen can be referred. A Puerto Valdivia specimen, on the other hand, is still more blackish below and agrees rather exactly in color with the Costa Rican specimens, although it and the Nóvita and Juntas de Tamaná birds are smaller, at least in length of wing. For the present they may be referred to *fumosa*.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

C. s. fumosa.—COSTA RICA¹: El General, 1 ♂, 5 ♀; Pozo Azul de Pirris, 2 ♂, 2 ♀, COLOMBIA: Puerto Valdivia, Antioquia, 1 ♂; Juntas de Tamaná, Cauca, 2 ♂; Nóvita, 1 ♂.

C. s. latirostris.—VENEZUELA: Jobure, Orinoco Delta,² 6 ♂ (including type), 9 ♀, 2 (?); La Faisca Mine, Cerro Paurai-tepui,² 5 ♂, 4 ♀, 2 (?); La Candelaria, Cerro Paurai-tepui, 1 ♂²; Suapure, Río Caura, 2 ♂, 2 ♀; La Paragua, Río Paragua, 1 ♂²; Salto Uraima, R'o Paragua, 1 ♂²; Yaguaraparo, Estado Sucre, 1 ♀.²

C. s. spinicauda.—FRENCH GUIANA: Cayenne, 3 ♂, 2 ♀; "Cayenne," 1 (?). BRITISH GUIANA: Rockstone, 1 ♂, 3 ♀; Kamakusa, 2 ♂; "Br. Guiana," 1 (?). TRINIDAD: 5 ♂. COLOMBIA: Cacagualito, Santa Marta, 1 (?).

C. s. aethalea.—VENEZUELA: Caño Cuao, Territorio Amazonas, 1 ♂.¹ BRAZIL: Baião, Río Tocantins, 1 ♀.

Chlorostilbon mellisuga duidae, new subspecies

TYPE: From Mt. Duida (1400 meters), Territorio Amazonas, Venezuela. No. 270609, American Museum of Natural History. Adult male, collected February 21, 1929, by Olalla brothers, American Museum-Tyler Expedition.

¹ Specimens in Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge.

² Specimens in Phelps Collection, Caracas, Venezuela.

DIAGNOSIS: Males differ from those of *C. m. subfurcatus* of Mt. Roraima and southeastern Bolívar by having definitely longer tail in both sexes, averaging more deeply forked in the males; from *C. m. caribaeus* it differs by having longer (and less deeply forked) tail.

RANGE: Known only from Mt. Duida in the Subtropical Zone at altitudes from 1100 to 1850 meters.

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE: Crown and forehead metallic Cosse Green (bluer in certain lights); sides of head, back, and rump Oil Green, with a faint bronzy tint; upper tail-coverts bright Spinach Green. Chin and upper throat near Emerald Green, with metallic reflection, merging into Viridian Green on the lower throat and anterior breast; posterior breast and abdomen deep Chrysoprase Green with metallic luster; under tail-coverts dark Viridian Green; sides, flanks, and axillaries uniform with back. Wings Dusky Slate-Violet; upper wing-coverts and most of under wing-coverts uniform with back; under primary-coverts uniform with wings. Tail blackish, tinged with Dusky Orient Blue, more dusky basally. Bill (in dried skin) black; feet black. Wing, 48.5 mm.; tail, 27; fork of tail, 5; exposed culmen, 14; tarsus, 3.5.

TABLE 2

RANGE OF MEASUREMENTS (IN MILLIMETERS) OF ADULTS OF *Chlorostilbon mellisuga duidae* AND *C. m. subfurcatus*

	Wing	Tail	Fork of Tail	Exposed Culmen
<i>duidae</i>				
5 ♂ Mt. Duida	44-49 (47.7)	24-27.5 (25.9)	3-5 (4.6)	13-14.5 (13.9)
8 ♀ Mt. Duida	46-49.5 (47.7)	25-27 (26.4)	—	—
<i>subfurcatus</i>				
12 ♂ Mt. Roraima	44-47 (45.4)	21.5-24 (23.2)	3-4 (3.3)	12.5-14 (13.2)
5 ♀ Mt. Roraima	44.5-46 (45.5)	22.5-24 (23.2)	—	—

REMARKS: Sexes different in color but similar in size.

Specimens of *subfurcatus* from the other localities in southeastern Bolívar resemble those from Mt. Roraima.

The senior author, in his revision of the species *mellisuga*,¹ called attention to the fact that "Birds from Duida are rather

¹ Zimmer, 1950, Amer. Mus. Novitates, no. 1474, p. 8.

consistently larger than the Roraima birds. . . . I hesitate to propose a division of *subfurcatus* . . . at least until more is learned concerning the distribution on various of the mountains between Roraima and Duida." Material in the Phelps Collection has subsequently filled this void, and the above prognostication is supported by the new specimens.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

*C. m. caribaeus*¹.—VENEZUELA: 45 ♂, 10 ♀. CURAÇAO: 7 ♂, 2 ♀. BON-AIRE: 2 ♂. ARUBA: 3 ♂. TRINIDAD: 10 ♂, 1 ♀.

C. m. subfurcatus.—VENEZUELA: Mt. Roraima, 8 ♂, 4 ♂², 3 ♀; Philipp Camp, Roraima, 3 ♀; Arabupú, 4 ♂, 4 ♀; Mt. Kukenam, 1 ♀²; Mt. Auyan-tepui, 1 ♂, 1 ♂²; Mt. Paurai-tepui, 1 ♂²; Santa Elena (frontier), 1 ♂²; Santa Elena (Santa Teresa), 1 ♂²; Kabanayén, 2 ♀²; Mt. Uaipán-tepui, 1 ♂²; Nuria, 2 ♂²; Tumeremo (San Felipe)², 1 ♂, 1 ♀; El Palmar, 2 ♂ juv.²

C. m. duidae.—VENEZUELA: Mt. Duida, 17 ♂, 9 ♂², 1 ♂ juv.², 4 ♀, 4 ♀², 1 (?).

Elaenia dayi auyantepui, new subspecies

TYPE: From Mt. Auyan-tepui, State of Bolívar, Venezuela; altitude 2200 meters. No. 323548, American Museum of Natural History. Adult male, collected December 25, 1937, by E. Thomas Gilliard on the Phelps Venezuelan Expedition.

DIAGNOSIS: Differs from both *E. d. dayi* of Mt. Roraima and *E. d. tyleri* of Mt. Duida by having darker, more dusky, under parts. Chin and throat grayish, less whitish; breast more grayish, less yellowish olive; belly duller yellow, anteriorly with a stronger admixture of gray. Differs additionally from *E. d. tyleri* by being of smaller size.

RANGE: Confined to the summit plateau of Mt. Auyan-tepui at altitudes from 1850 to 2200 meters.

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE: Top and sides of head Fuscous Black; back and rump Clove Brown × Chaetura Drab; upper tail-coverts slightly paler; throat, breast, sides, and flanks Grayish Olive × Deep Grayish Olive, with a slight tinge of yellow; belly posteriorly Seafoam Green, anteriorly largely like the breast but medially tinged or mixed with Seafoam Green; point of chin with a faint indication of pale yellowish streaks; under tail-coverts like the upper belly. Wings largely like the crown;

¹ For localities, see Zimmer, 1950, Amer. Mus. Novitates, no. 1474, pp. 10, 11.

² Specimens in the Phelps Collection, Caracas, Venezuela.

primaries with slightly lighter and grayer outer margins (not reaching the tips); secondaries similar but outer margins tinged with green except basally where there is left a blackish patch; (tertials with outer margins broader and whitish; two prominent whitish olivaceous wing bands; bend of wing yellowish olivaceous; axillars and under wing-coverts like the upper belly. Tail uniform with crown and wings, the under surface paler, very narrowly and faintly tipped with grayish. Bill (in life) "brownish black, brown at base of lower mandible"; feet "black"; iris "dark brown." Wing, 94 mm.; tail, 87; culmen from base, 17; tarsus, 25.5.

REMARKS: Sexes alike. Range of measurements: type and five adult males: wing, 92–98 (94.1) mm.; tail, 84–94 (88.6); culmen from base, 16.5–17.5 (17.2); three adult females: wing, 87–92 (89.3); tail, 85–89 (87.1); culmen from base, 17–18 (17.3). Measurements of topotypical specimens of *dayi* from Mt. Roraima: six adult males: wing, 92–97.5 (95.1); tail, 87–92 (89.8); culmen from base, 16.5–18 (17.0); one adult female (type): wing, 92; tail, 89.5; culmen from base, 17.

The Auyan-tepui series had been originally identified as *dayi* because of the lack of a topotypical series of that form; only the type existed. Now that the Phelps Collection has obtained six topotypical examples, as well as six other specimens from Mts. Kukenam, Ptari-tepui, and Chimantá-tepui, it is seen that the Auyan-tepui population is recognizably distinct.

The Ptari-tepui and Chimantá-tepui birds are somewhat intermediate, tending toward the new form described herewith but are closer to typical *dayi*, to which form we assign them.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

E. d. dayi.—VENEZUELA: Mt. Roraima (8600 feet), 1 ♂ (type), (2225–2500 meters), 6 ♂¹; Mt. Kukenam (2000 meters), 1 ♂¹; Mt. Ptari-tepui (1800–1900 meters)¹, 2 ♂, 2 ♀, 1 (?); Mt. Chimantá-tepui (2000 meters), 1 ♂¹.

E. d. auyantepui.—VENEZUELA: Mt. Auyan-tepui (1850–2200 meters), 5 ♂ (including type), 1 ♂¹, 2 ♀, 1 ♀¹.

E. d. tyleri.—VENEZUELA: Mt. Duida (4400–7100 feet), 11 ♂, 1 ♂¹, 11 ♀ (including type); Mt. Huachamacare (2000 meters)¹, 6 ♂, 2 ♀; Mt. Parú (1600–1650 meters)¹, 3 ♂, 1 ♀.

¹ Specimens in the Phelps Collection, Caracas, Venezuela.

