

American Museum Novitates

PUBLISHED BY THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
CENTRAL PARK WEST AT 79TH STREET, NEW YORK 24, N.Y.

NUMBER 1709

MARCH 11, 1955

Three New Subspecies of Birds from Venezuela

BY JOHN T. ZIMMER AND WILLIAM H. PHELPS

Further studies of birds from Venezuela in the American Museum of Natural History and in the Phelps Collection, Caracas, have shown the new subspecies here described.

Specimens listed as examined are in the American Museum of Natural History unless otherwise specified. Names of colors are capitalized when direct comparison has been made with Ridgway's "Color standards and color nomenclature," 1912.

Xiphorhynchus obsoletus caicarae, new subspecies

TYPE: From Caicara, lower Orinoco River, Bolívar, Venezuela; [100 meters]. No. 438232, American Museum of Natural History. Adult male collected June 6, 1897, by George K. Cherrie.

DIAGNOSIS: Bill shorter than in *X. o. obsoletus* (Lichtenstein) of Amazonian Brazil, the Guianas, and the Orinoco Delta; *X. o. notatus* (Eyton) of northwestern Brazil and southwestern Venezuela; and *X. o. palliatus* (Des Murs) of Perú. In color, closest to *obsoletus* but with browner under parts, less grayish.

RANGE: KNOWN from Caicara and Altagracia on the lower Orinoco River and from near-by La Cascabel on the Río San Felix, Río Cuchivero.

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE: Top of head dark Buffy Brown, with sub-terminal pale buffy guttate shaft markings; back dark Antique Brown, with buffy white elongated shaft stripes with dusky edges; rump Sanford's Brown; upper tail-coverts Burnt Sienna; lores dull whitish; sides of head mixed grayish and dusky. Chin and throat Light Ochraceous-Buff; breast and sides dark Dresden Brown, with wide buffy whitish

shaft stripes. Primaries terminally Olive-Brown, basally near Sanford's Brown; secondaries Hazel \times Kaiser Brown; under surface of inner webs of remiges, except terminally on the primaries, nearest to Light Pinkish-Cinnamon; upper wing-coverts Buffy Brown, a few faint narrow shaft lines on the lesser coverts; under wing-coverts Pinkish Cinnamon. Median rectrices Auburn, remainder Mahogany Red; under surface of tail paler. Bill (in dried skin) pale brownish; legs black. Wing, 94 mm.; tail, 68; exposed culmen, 19; culmen from base, 23; tarsus, 21.

REMARKS: Sexes alike in color; males with longer wings and tail. Range of measurements (including type): eight adult males: wing, 90–96 (93) mm.; tail, 67–76.5 (71.3); culmen from base, 23–25 (24.1); four adult females: wing, 80–87 (84.5); tail, 60–68 (64.2); culmen from base, 24–25.5 (24.5). Measurements of *obsoletus* from the lower Amazon River (Rio Tapajoz, 7; Rio Tocantins, 1; Rio Jary, 1; Faro, 8; Villa Bella Imperatriz, 3; Cussary, 1): 13 adult males: wing, 92–100 (96); tail, 73–85 (77); culmen from base, 26–29 (27.4); eight adult females: wing, 85–91 (87.5); tail, 63–77 (67.4); culmen from base, 25–28 (25.9).

Among the 13 males from the lower Amazon there is no overlap in the length of the culmen. However, there are three overlaps (25 mm.) among the female Amazonian specimens. Of the eight males from the Rio Madeira, none has a bill less than 27.5 mm. From that region, 11 have bills averaging 27.2 mm., with one overlap of 25 mm. All four overlaps are females.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

X. o. obsoletus.—BRAZIL: 49¹. FRENCH GUIANA: Approuague, 1 ♀. DUTCH GUIANA: Interior of Surinam, 1 ♂. VENEZUELA: Sacupana, Orinoco Delta, 1 ♂; Misión Araguaimujo, Orinoco Delta², 6 ♂, 2 ♀, 1 (?).

X. o. caicarae.—VENEZUELA: Caicara, 6 ♂, 1 ♂², 3 ♀; Altagracia, 1 ♀; La Cascabel, Río San Felix, Río Cuchivero, 1 ♂.

X. o. notatus.—BRAZIL: Upper Rio Negro (various localities), 10¹. VENEZUELA: Cerro Cocuy, 1 (?)²; El Carmen², 1 ♂ juv., 5 (?); San Carlos², 1 ♂, 1 (?) juv.; Cerro Duida region (various localities), 78¹; Munduapo, 1 ♂, 1 ♀; Puerto Carretico, Río Mato, Río Caura², 2 ♂, 2 ♀; Cerro Mato², 4 ♂, 3 ♀; Río Mato, 1 ♀; La Prisión, 2 ♂, 2 ♀; Suapure, 4 ♂, 1 ♀; El Cambur², 4 ♂, 2 ♀, 4 (?); Salto Pará, 2 ♂, 2 ♀, 1 (?); Salto Guaiquinima, Río Paragua², 1 ♂, 1 ♀, 1 (?); Erebenequén, 1 ♂²; Raudal Capuri, 1 ♀²; Río Icabarú, Río Caroni, 1 ♀²; Caño Buey, Río Cuyuni², 1 ♂, 1 ♀; Caño Piedra, Río Manapiare, 1 ♀²; El Platanal², 2 ♂, 1 ♀; San Juan de Manapiare², 3 ♂, 1 ♀, 3 (?); Las Carmelitas,

¹ For localities, see Zimmer, 1934, Amer. Mus. Novitates, no. 756, p. 12.

² Specimens in the Phelps Collection, Caracas.

Río Ventuari¹, 4 ♂, 7 ♀, 2 (?); Yapacana, upper Orinoco River¹, 6 ♂, 1 ♀; San Fernando de Atabapo¹, 12 ♂, 2 ♀, 7 (?); Isla Ratón, 1 ♂¹. COLOMBIA: Across from El Carmen, Río Negro, 1 (?).

Myiopagis viridicata zuliae, new subspecies

TYPE: From Barranquilla, Sierra de Perijá, Perijá, Zulia, Venezuela; altitude 960 meters. No. 57795-A, Phelps Collection, Caracas, Venezuela. Adult female collected March 10, 1953, by Ramón Urbano. (Type on deposit at the American Museum of Natural History.)

DIAGNOSIS: Differs from *M. v. accola* Bangs of Nicaragua to the Mérida region of Venezuela, from *M. v. pallens* Bangs of the Santa Marta region of Colombia, and from *M. v. restricta* Todd of the Caracas region and lower Orinoco, by deep, more brilliant, yellow abdomen and brighter green, less brownish, back and uropygium.

RANGE: Tropical Zone in extreme northwestern Zulia at the base (50 meters) and the summit (450 meters) of Cerro Alto del Cedro, at the northernmost end of the Sierra de Perijá, and farther south at Barranquilla (960 meters) in the foothills of the Perijá Range, northwest of Machiques.

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE: Top of head Dark Grayish Olive, more grayish on forehead and whitish against bill; semi-concealed crown patch bright Primuline Yellow; back Serpentine Green, brighter on uropygium; lores dusky; ear-coverts olivaceous and a faint whitish eye ring suggested. Chin and throat grayish white, mixed with grayish and yellowish on breast; abdomen and under tail-coverts deep Citron Yellow; sides and flanks slightly shaded with olivaceous. Wings blackish; primaries, except outermost, faintly edged with olive grayish, except terminally; secondaries and tertiaries more so, but the edging more yellowish; inner vanes of remiges edged, except terminally, with yellowish white; upper wing-coverts, except primary ones, edged narrowly with yellowish green; bend of wing yellow; and under wing-coverts and axillaries Citron Yellow. Tail Deep Olive, under surface paler; outer margins of rectrices, except terminally, narrowly Yellowish Olive; upper surface of shafts brown, under surface whitish. Bill (in life) "black, base of mandible flesh color"; legs "gray"; iris "brown." Wing, 65 mm.; tail, 62; exposed culmen, 9; culmen from base, 12.5; tarsus, 17.

REMARKS: Sexes alike in color; males have longer wings and tail. Size similar to that of *accola*. Range of measurements: four adult males: wing, 69–71 (70) mm.; tail, 63–68 (65.6); culmen from base, 13–14

¹ Specimens in the Phelps Collection, Caracas.

(13.7); four adult females (including type): wing, 63–67 (66); tail, 58–63 (61.3); culmen from base, 12.5–14.5 (13.8). Measurements of *accola*: four adult males (from Chiriquí): wing, 64–74 (69.7); tail, 56–61 (58.7); culmen from base, 12.5–14 (13.1); four adult females (from Panamá): wing, 58–65 (62.5); tail, 55.5–64 (59.1); culmen from base, 13–13.5 (13.1).

The immature specimens lack the crown patch; top of the head is brown; back and wing-coverts olive brown; and abdomen and under tail-coverts are paler, Straw Yellow.

Four specimens from Seboruco, on the Lake Maracaibo watershed of the Andes, at an altitude of 1200 meters, are similar to the toptotypical *accola* from Chiriquí. Their measurements are: two adult males: wing, 68–71 (69.5); tail, 64–68 (66); culmen from base, 13.5–14.5 (14); two adult females: wing, 64–65 (64.5); tail, 61; culmen from base, 13. These specimens extend the range of *accola* into Venezuela.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

M. v. viridicata.—ARGENTINA: 4. PARAGUAY: 5. BOLIVIA: 2. PERÚ: 1. BRAZIL: Rio Tapajoz (various localities), 10; Rio Xingú, 1 ♀; Rio Tocantins, 1 ♀; Villa Bella Imperatriz, 2 ♂; Chapada, Mato Grosso, 1 (?); Descalvados, 1 ♀; Urucum, 4 ♀.

M. v. implacens.—ECUADOR: 6.

M. v. restricta.—VENEZUELA: Caicara, 3 ♂, 3 ♀, 1 (?); Quiribana de Caicara, 1 ♂; San Esteban, 1 ♀ juv.

M. v. zuliae.—VENEZUELA: Barranquilla, Perijá¹, 2 ♀ (including type), 1 (?); Cerro Alto del Cedro¹, 4 ♂, 3 ♀, 7 (?), 8 (?) juv.

M. v. pallens.—COLOMBIA: Bonda, Santa Marta, 2 ♀, 1 (?); Minca, 1 (?), juv.

M. v. accola.—NICARAGUA: 10. COSTA RICA: 12. PANAMÁ: 23. COLOMBIA: Los Cisneros, Cauca, 1 ♂, 1 ♀; Río Frío, 2 ♀; Caldas, 2 ♀; Cauca Valley, 1 ♂, 1 (?), Jiménez, 1 ♀; Media Luna, 2 ♂; Andalucía, Huila, 1 ♀; Honda, 2 ♂, 1 ♀; "Bogotá," 10 (?). VENEZUELA: Seboruco¹, 2 ♂, 2 ♀.

M. v. placens.—GUATEMALA: 8. HONDURAS: 4.

M. v. minima.—TRES MARIAS ISLAND: 2.

M. v. pacifica.—GUATEMALA: 5.

M. v. jaliscensis.—MÉXICO: 4.

Turdus fumigatus orinocensis, new subspecies

TYPE: From Nericagua, upper Orinoco River, Territory of Amazonas, Venezuela; [140 meters]. No. 503300, American Museum of Natural History, New York. Adult male collected April 1, 1899, by George K. and Stella M. Cherrie.

¹ Specimens in the Phelps Collection, Caracas.

DIAGNOSIS: Nearest to *T. f. fumigatus* Lichtenstein of southeastern Venezuela, the Guianas, and northwestern Brazil but differs by darker, browner, less rufous, upper parts and more olivaceous brown, less ochraceous, under parts. From *T. f. haurxwelli* Lawrence differs by lighter, more rufous brown upper parts; lighter, more ochraceous brown under parts; whitish area of abdomen less extensive; and under tail-coverts less whitish, more buffy. From *T. f. aquilonalis* (Cherrie) of Trinidad and the north coast of Venezuela differs by darker and warmer upper parts.

RANGE: Upper Orinoco River region from Las Carmelitas and Puerto Yapacana northward to Isla Ratón and Maipures (Colombia); and the upper Apure Valley in the lowlands of the states of Táchira (Burgua), and Barinas from Ciudad Bolivia to Barinitas; in the Tropical Zone.

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE: Top of head near Olive-Brown; back and uropygium Brussels Brown; sides of head paler than top; chin whitish; throat buffy whitish, streaked with Saccardo's Umber; rest of under parts Tawny-Olive, mixed with whitish on lower abdomen; under tail-coverts whitish, edged with Tawny-Olive. Remiges near Hair Brown; outer webs of remiges, inner tertials, and upper wing-coverts Brussels Brown, uniform with back; inner vanes of remiges Cinnamon; under wing-coverts and axillaries Ochraceous-Tawny. Tail Olive-Brown, paler on under surface; shafts of rectrices dark brown on upper surface, pale buffy on lower. Bill (in dried skin) brown. Wing, 112 mm.; tail, 84; exposed culmen, 16; culmen from base, 23; tarsus, 31.5.

REMARKS: Sexes alike. Range of measurements (specimens from upper Orinoco): five adult males (including type): wing, 106–112 (108.8) mm.; tail, 82–84 (83.5); culmen from base, 23–25 (23.6); five adult females: wing, 102–113 (106); tail, 80–83 (81.2); culmen from base, 22–24 (23.6). Measurements of *fumigatus*: five adult males: wing, 111–118 (114.4); tail, 84–91 (88.1); culmen from base, 22.5–25 (23.7); five adult females: wing, 106–111 (109.2); tail, 80–87 (83.6); culmen from base, 23.5–27 (24.9).

Haurxwelli must be eliminated as a Venezuelan and Colombian bird. Phelps and Phelps Jr., in their "Lista de las aves de Venezuela y su distribución,"¹ called the upper Orinoco birds and the Maipures specimen *haurxwelli*; and de Schauensee, in his "The birds of the Republic of Colombia,"² gave a Colombian range based on the same Maipures specimen, following the Phelps's check list.

¹ 1950, Bol. Soc. Venezolana Cien. Nat., vol. 12, no. 75, p. 242.

² 1951, Caldasia, vol. 5, no. 25, p. 915.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

T. f. nigrirostris.—SAINT VINCENT: 2 ♂, 2 ♀, 2 (?).

T. f. personus.—GRENADA: 1 ♂, 1 ♀.

T. f. aquilonalis.—TRINIDAD: 10 ♂, 7 ♀, 1 (?).

T. f. orinocensis.—VENEZUELA: Nericagua, Amazonas, 1 ♂ (type), 1 ♀; Isla Ratón, 1 ♀¹; San Fernando de Atabapo¹, 2 ♂, 1 ♀; Puerto Yapacana, 1 ♂¹; Las Carmelitas¹, 2 ♂, 3 ♀; Burgua, Táchira¹, 1 ♂, 1 ♀, 2 (?); Ciudad Bolivia, Barinas, 1 ♂¹. COLOMBIA: Maipures, Orinoco River, 1 ♀.

T. f. fumigatus.—BRITISH GUIANA: Bartica Grove, 1 (?); Essequibo River, 1 ♂. DUTCH GUIANA: Paramaribo, 1 ♂. FRENCH GUIANA: Cayenne, 1 ♂, 1 ♀; Approuague, 1 ♀; Roche Marie, 1 ♂. BRAZIL: Rio Guamá, Ourém, 1 ♀; Mexiana, 1 ♀; Pará, 1 ♂, 1 ♀; Santarem, 1 ♀, 1 (?); "Brasil," (?).

T. f. hauxwelli.—BRAZIL: Teffé, 1 ♂; Santa Isabel, Rio Madeira, 1 ♀; Humaythá, Rio Madeira, 1 ♂; Calamá, Rio Madeira, 1 ♀; BOLIVIA: Bolivia, 1 (?); Reyes, 1 (?). PERÚ: Boca Río Curaray, 2 ♀.

T. f. parambanus.—ECUADOR: Paramba, 1 ♂, 1 ♀; Mindo, 2 ♂, 3 ♀.

T. f. colombianus.—COLOMBIA: San Antonio, Cauca, 1 ♀.

T. f. obsoletus.—PANAMÁ: Tacarcuna, 3 ♂, 4 ♀; Mt. Tacarcuna, 3 ♀. COLOMBIA: Jiménez, west Colombia, 1 ♂.

¹ Specimens in the Phelps Collection, Caracas.