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NOTES ON VENEZUELAN BIRDS AND DESCRIPTION  
OF A NEW SUBSPECIES OF TROCHILIDAE

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Our thanks to the Curators of the American Museum of Natural History, Carnegie Museum, Museum of Comparative Zoology and U. S. National Museum for access to their collections during our research for this paper. Specimens listed are in the Phelps Collection, Caracas, unless otherwise specified. Names of colors are capitalized when direct comparison has been made with Ridgway's "Color Standards and Color Nomenclature," 1912. Wing measurements are of the chord.

*Lafresnaya lafresnayi greenewalti*, new subspecies

*Type*: From Llano Rucio, Estado Mérida, Venezuela; 2500 meters. Number 14185, Phelps Collection, Caracas. Adult male collected 7 September 1941, by Fulvio Benedetti. (Type on deposit at the American Museum of Natural History.)

*Diagnosis*: Differs from *L. lafresnayi liriopae* Bangs, of the Santa Marta Mountains, by having a more yellowish tint, being less greenish blue; from *L. l. saül* Delattre and Bourcier, of western Colombia and Ecuador, differs by having a straighter bill and longer wings without overlap; and from *L. l. lafresnayi* Boissoneau, of eastern Colombia and the Páramo de Tamá, by having white on the rectrices instead of yellow.

*Range*: The Cordillera de los Andes in eastern Táchira and Mérida, in forests in the Subtropical and Temperate zones at altitudes from 2200 to 3000 meters.

*Description of type*: Sides of head, back and uropygium Calliste Green × Scheele's Green, crown with a dusky tint. Chin, throat and upper breast Deep Turtle Green with metallic luster; center of lower breast and abdomen black; sides, flanks and under tail-coverts and axillaries similar to back, base of under tail-coverts white. Remiges Burnt Umber; greater wing-coverts similar to remiges; the median, lesser and under ones similar to back. The two central rectrices near Olive Lake, the others white partially margined apically with dark greenish.

Mandible (in life) "black"; maxilla "flesh"; feet "flesh"; iris "dark." Wing, 65 mm; tail, 39; exposed culmen, 26; culmen from base, 32.

*Remarks:* Sexes unlike in color, males with longer wings. Range of measurements: seven adult males, including type—wing, 64–68 (65.7); tail, 32–39 (36.7); exposed culmen, 25–26 (25.6); three adult females—wing, 61–62 (61.3); tail, 37–37 (37); exposed culmen, 26–27 (26.7). Measurements of *liriope*, of the Santa Marta Mountains: four adult males—wing, 63–69 (65.2); tail (3), 37.5–39 (38.1); exposed culmen (2), 24–24.5 (24.2). Measurements of *sauil*, from Ecuador: fifteen adult males—wing, 59–63 (61.5); tail (5), 36–38 (37.4); exposed culmen (7), 25–27 (25.9).

The adult female differs from the male by having a yellowish breast, whitish abdomen and immaculate yellow under tail-coverts, the breast lightly spotted with greenish.

The juvenile male differs from the female by having the breast yellowish green instead of yellow; the under tail-coverts are as in the adult.

The ranges of the white-tailed forms *sauil* and *liriope* are separated from that of the other white-tailed form, the new *greenewalti*, by the yellow-tailed *lafresnayi* of the eastern Andes of Colombia.

It is with special pleasure that we dedicate this new subspecies to our friend, Crawford H. Greenewalt, photographer extraordinary of hummingbirds, in recognition of his important contributions to the knowledge of the Trochilidae.

#### SPECIMENS EXAMINED

*Lafresnaya lafresnayi liriope*.—COLOMBIA: Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, San Miguel, 1 ♂<sup>2</sup>, 1 ♂<sup>3</sup>, 1 ♂<sup>4</sup>; Páramo de Chirucua, 1 ♂<sup>4</sup> (type); Chinchicua, 1 ♀<sup>3</sup>; Río Guatapuri, 6 ♀<sup>3</sup>.

*L. l. lafresnayi*.—VENEZUELA: Páramo de Tamá, 2 ♀. COLOMBIA:<sup>1</sup> "Bogotá," 12 ♂, 4 ♀, 3 juv. ♂; El Piñón, 1 ♂; Subía, 1 ♂; El Roble, 1 ♀; Río Toche, 1 juv. ♂; Chipaquá, 1 ♀.

*L. l. greenewalti*.—VENEZUELA: Cordillera de los Andes, Boca de Monte, Táchira, 1 ♂; Valle, Mérida, 1 juv. ♂; Llano Rucio, 1 ♂ (type), 1 juv. ♂; Páramo Aricagua, 1 ♂; "Merida,"<sup>1</sup> 3 ♂, 2 ♀; Montañas Culata, 1 ♂<sup>1</sup>; páramos Escorial, 1 ♀<sup>1</sup> y Tambor, 1 ♀<sup>1</sup>; Nevados, 1 ♀<sup>1</sup>; Montañas Conejos, 1 ♀<sup>1</sup>.

*L. l. sauil*.—ECUADOR: (var. loc.)<sup>1</sup>; 16 ♂, 15 ♀.

*L. l. orestes*.—PERÚ: (var. loc.)<sup>1</sup>; 4 ♂, 4 ♀, 2 juv. ♂.

*L. l. rectirostris*.—PERÚ: Ramicruz, Junín,<sup>1</sup> 2 ♂, 3 ♀.

*Veniornis fumigatus fumigatus* (D'Orbigny and Lafresnaye)

*Picus fumigatus* D'Orbigny and Lafresnaye, *Voy. Am. Merid., Ois.*, 1840; p. 380, 1847. (Yungas, Bolivia.)

*Phaeonerpes reichenbachi* Cabanis and Heine, *Mus. Hein.*, 4: 141, 1863. (Caracas, Venezuela.)

*Veniornis oleaginus tectricialis* Chapman, *Amer. Mus. Novit.*, no. 191, p. 6, 1925. (Turumiquire, 7900 ft, northeastern Venezuela.)

<sup>1</sup> Specimens in American Museum of Natural History.

<sup>2</sup> Specimens in Carnegie Museum.

<sup>3</sup> Specimens in U. S. National Museum.

<sup>4</sup> Specimens in Museum of Comparative Zoology.

Todd (1946: 308) was correct in considering that these three races, inhabiting the northern mountains of Venezuela, could not be separated one from the other.

Comparison of the 64 Venezuelan specimens in our collection: 27 *fumigatus* from the Perijá and Mérida regions; 32 former *reichenbachi* from the Caracas region; 5 former *tectricialis* from the Turumiquire (northeastern) region; and the 36 specimens of *fumigatus* in the American Museum of Natural History from Colombia, Ecuador, Perú and Bolivia, shows that these three races are similar the one to the other, in color and in size.

The supposed shorter wing of *reichenbachi* of the Caracas region (Cory, 1911: 473; Zimmer, 1942: 8) is not apparent. Chapman (1925: 6) described *tectricialis* on two specimens based on the character that both webs of the tectrices were barred. Our five specimens and those of the Carnegie Museum, from localities in the same mountain range, also lack the barring on the outer webs of the tectrices. Emmet R. Blake, Curator of birds at the Chicago Natural History Museum, writes to us that his five topotypical specimens from Mt. Turumiquire have the barring on the wing feathers restricted to the inner web. Four specimens in our collection from the Caracas region and one from the Mérida region have indications of barring on the outer web. Consequently we presume the character on Chapman's two specimens is individual variation.

These are the specimens in our collection: Perijá region: Kunana, 1 ♂, 1 (?); cerros Pejochaina, 3 ♂, Tetarí, 1 ♀ and Mashirampé, 2 ♂, 2 ♀; ríos Macoita-Apón, 1 ♀. Mérida region: Táchira—Las Delicias, Páramo de Tamá, 2 ♀; Río Chiquito, 1 (?); Queniquea, 3 ♂, 1 ♀, 2 (?); Páramo Zumbador, 1 ♂; Mérida—Valle, 1 ♀; La Azulita, 1 ♀; Santo Domingo, 1 ♂, 1 ♀. Caracas region: Yaracuy—Cerro Aroa, 2 ♀, 2 (?); Aragua—Colonia Tovar, 3 ♂, 5 ♀, 3 (?); Cerro Golfo Triste, 4 ♂, 1 (?); Distrito Federal—Galipán, 1 ♂, 3 ♀; El Junquito, 2 ♂, 4 ♀, 1 (?); Miranda—Guarenas, 2 ♀. Turumiquire region: Anzoátegui—Bergantín, 1 ♀; Monagas—Caripe, 1 ♀; Cerro Negro, 1 ♀, 1 (?).

*Thamnophilus punctatus subcinereus* (Todd)

*Erionotus punctatus subcinereus* Todd, Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, 28: 80. 1915. (Don Diego, Santa Marta, Colombia.)

In our "Lista de las Aves de Venezuela y su Distribución," p. 73, 1950, we erroneously gave a Venezuelan range to the race *atrinucha* Salvin and Godman. Further material and research show that our specimens are referable to *T. p. subcinereus* Todd, of the Perijá and Mérida regions.

*Contopus sordidulus saturatus* Bishop

*Contopus richardsonii saturatus* Bishop, Auk, 17: 116. 1900. (Haines, Alaska.)

1 (?), Sierra de Lema, Gran Sabana, Bolívar. Collected on 21 February 1959 at kilometer 125 on the new road from El Dorado.

This is the first record for South America. The A.O.U. Check List, 5th edition, p. 349, 1957, says: "winter home unknown."

*Basileuterus tristriatus auricularis* Sharpe

*Basileuterus auricularis* Sharpe, Cat. Birds Brit. Mus., 10: 386. (Bogotá.)

*Basileuterus tristriatus perijanus* Phelps and Phelps, Jr., Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, 66: 137. 10 August 1953. (Cerro Pejochaina, upper Río Negro, Sierra de Perijá, Zulia.)

Subsequent research has shown that *B. t. perijanus* is inseparable from *B. t. auricularis* and it thus becomes a synonym.

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