

PROCEEDINGS
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TWO NEW SUBSPECIES OF BIRDS FROM THE SAN
LUIS MOUNTAINS OF VENEZUELA AND
DISTRIBUTIONAL NOTES

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The San Luis Mountain Range is in the extreme northern part of the State of Falcón at the base of the Paraguaná Peninsula. It is isolated and has a lower subtropical fauna but the altitudes are not greater than 1400 meters. The range is 35 miles long from east to west and not more than 7 miles wide. We have previously described a number of new endemic forms from there. The affinity of the avifauna is more towards the Caracas Region than to the Mérida Region.

Besides describing the new subspecies we have added some taxonomic and distributional notes. We wish to thank the Curators of the U. S. National Museum and American Museum of Natural History for access to their collections.

Specimens listed are in the Phelps Collection, Caracas, unless otherwise specified. Names of colours are capitalized when direct comparison has been made with Ridgway's "Color Standards and Colour Nomenclature," 1912. Wing measurements are of the chord.

Oceanites oceanicus oceanicus (Kuhl)

Procellaria oceanica Kuhl, Beitr. Zool., Vergl. Anat., 1, p. 136, 1820. (South Atlantic.)

♂. Placer de La Guayra, high seas 15 kilometers off the north coast, July 26, 1958.

This specimen extends the range of the species to the high seas off the northern coast. Sight records have been cited by Cory and by Beebe; see Phelps and Phelps, Jr., Lista de las Aves de Venezuela con su Distribución¹.

Coeligena coeligena zuloagae, new subspecies

Type: From Curimagua, Sierra de San Luis, Estado Falcón, Venezuela; 1300 meters. No. 63357, Phelps Collection, Caracas. Adult male collected April 18, 1957, by Ramón Urbano. (Type on deposit at American Museum of Natural History.)

¹Tomo 2, Parte 1, Bol. Soc. Ven. Cien. Nat., No. 90, p. 16, 1958.

Diagnosis: Nearest to *C. c. coeligena* (Lesson) of the Caracas Region but differs from all races by chin and breast being dusky olivaceous, with feathers faintly margined with whitish, giving a lined appearance, instead of whitish with olivaceous spots; bill shorter.

Range: Known only by the type specimen, from the Subtropical Zone.

Description of Type: Top of head, neck and mantle nearest to Claret Brown; lower back and rump greenish, feathers basally barred with bronze; upper tail-coverts brownish bronze; lores black. Chin and throat dusky olivaceous, feathers narrowly margined with grayish white, giving a lined appearance; breast, sides and abdomen bronzy, faintly barred with greenish; a white patch on anal area, feathers brown basally; under tail-coverts bronze heavily margined with Sanford's Brown. Remiges and greater upper wing-coverts Dark Vinaceous Drab; lesser coverts and bend of wing Claret Brown. Tail shiny bronze.

Bill (in life) "black;" feet "black;" iris "dark." Wing, 71 mm.; tail, 48; exposed culmen, 27; culmen from base, 31; tarsus, 6.

Remarks: Size similar to *C. c. coeligena*. Measurements of *coeligena*: four adult males—wing (3), 74–78 (76.7) mm.; tail, 47–52 (49.7); exposed culmen 30–32 (30.5).

Specimens Examined

C. c. coeligena—VENEZUELA: Caracas Region, 8²; El Junquito, Dist. Federal, 2 (?); Cerro El Avila, 2 ♀, 1 (?).

C. c. zuloagae.—VENEZUELA: Curimagua, Sierra San Luis, Falcón, 1 ♂ (type).

C. c. zuliana.—VENEZUELA: Perijá Mountains, Zulia, 6².

C. c. columbiana.—VENEZUELA: Mérida Region, 4²; Río Chiquito, Táchira, 5 ♂, 2 ♀, 4 (?). COLOMBIA³: 11².

C. c. ferruginea.—COLOMBIA³: 18⁴.

C. c. obscura.—ECUADOR³: 23⁴.

C. c. boliviana.—BOLIVIA³: 5⁴.

Myrmeciza disjuncta Friedmann

Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., No. 50, p. 83, June 30, 1945. (Cerro Yapacana, Upper Orinoco, Venezuela.)

3 ♂, 2 ♀, Cerro Yapacana, April and May, 1947.

Friedmann had only an immature ♂ and an adult ♀. The imm. ♂ was chosen as the type. The adult male had been unknown until we collected these specimens at the same locality sixteen years later. The coloration of these is very different from that of the immature type and we describe it here.

Adult ♂. Phelps Collection No. 39340. Top of head, neck, back and uropygium Blackish Brown; a large concealed white patch on back; sides of head, neck, throat, breast, abdomen and thighs white; under

²For localities see Phelps and Phelps, Jr., Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., 66, p. 1, March 30, 1953.

³Specimens in American Museum of Natural History.

⁴For localities see Zimmer, Am Mus. Nov., No. 1513, p. 25, May 31, 1951.

tail-coverts grayish white; remiges Fuscous; upper wing-coverts blacker, tipped with white, making three interrupted wing-bands.

Measurements: three adult males—wing, 60–61 (60.3) mm.; tail, 44–46 (45); culmen from base, 19–20 (19.6); tarsus, 24–24 (24); two adult females—wing, 59–59 (59), tail, 45–45 (45); culmen from base, 20–20 (20); tarsus, 23–24 (23.5).

Corapipo gutturalis (Linné)

Pipra gutturalis Linné, Syst. Nat., 12^o ed., 1, p. 340, 1766. (Cayenne.)
Corapipo gutturalis carminae Barnés, Auk, p. 412, 1955. (Cerro Marahuaca, Terr. Amazonas, Venezuela.)

Of the 15 ♂, 17 ♀ and 2 ♂ juv. in our collection, collected from 1938 to 1948⁵, the senior author took the 17 ♀ and the 2 ♂ juv. to the U. S. National Museum in 1957 for comparison with the type of *C. g. carminae*, listed as an adult ♀. He found the type similar to our 2 ♂ juv.

Specimens in our Collection

VENEZUELA: Cerro Auyan-tepui, Bolívar, 2 ♂; Carabobo, Río Cuyuni, 5 ♂. 1 ♀; Cerro Paurai-tepui, 4 ♂, 8 ♀; Salto Maiza, Río Paragua, 1 ♂, 1 ♂ juv., 1 ♀; Salto María Espuma, 1 ♀; Cerro El Negro, Río Cuchivero, 2 ♂, 1 ♂ juv., 5 ♀; Taracuniña, Alto Caura, 1 ♂. BRITISH GUIANA: Paruma Mission, Kamarang River, 1 ♂.

Cotinga nattererii (Boissonneau)

Ampelis nattererii Boissonneau, Rev. Zool., 3, p. 2, 1840. ("Bogotá.")
1 ♀, Santa Elena, Rio Frío, Mérida; forest at 20 meters altitude.

This specimen constitutes an extension of range of the species to Venezuela from the Magdalena Valley in Colombia.

Rynchocyclus fulvipectus (Sclater)

Cyclorhynchus fulvipectus Sclater, Proc. Zool. Soc. London, 28, p. 92, 1860. (Nanegal, Ecuador.)

1 ♂, Río Chiquito, Estado Táchira, Feb. 19, 1956; 1800 meters.

This specimen constitutes an extension of range to Venezuela from the western slopes of the Eastern Andes of Colombia. Río Chiquito is a forested region in extreme southwestern Táchira on the eastern slopes of the Páramo de Tama massif.

Tyranniscus uropygialis (Lawrence)

Mecocerculus uropygialis Lawrence, Ann. Lye. Nat. Hist. New York, 9, p. 266, 1870. ("Ecuador.")

2 (?), Páramo de La Negra, Mérida, Nov. 2 and 3, 1958, 3,100 meters.

These specimens extend the range of the species to Venezuela, in

⁵Phelps and Phelps, Jr. Lista de las Aves de Venezuela con su Distribución. Bol. Soc. Ven. Cien. Nat. No. 75, p. 137, 1950.

the Temperate Zone, from the Bogotá region of Colombia where it is known in the Subtropical Zone.

***Henicorhina leucophrys sanluisensis*, new subspecies**

Type: From Curimagua, Sierra de San Luis, Estado Falcón, Venezuela; 1300 meters. No. 63465, Phelps Collection, Caracas. Adult male collected April 17, 1957, by Ramón Urbano. (Type on deposit at the American Museum of Natural History.)

Diagnosis: Differs from the other four Venezuelan subspecies of *H. leucophrys* (Tschudi) by darker back and uropygium, more brownish, less reddish; from *H. l. venezuelensis* Hellmayr, of the Caracas Region, differs additionally by darker breast and abdomen, more grayish, less whitish; from *H. l. meridana* Todd, of the Mérida Region, differs additionally by immaculate throat, instead of streaked and darker flanks and crissum; from *H. l. tamae* Zimmer and Phelps, of the Tamá Region, differs additionally by immaculate throat and in having the brown of flanks and crissum darker and more restricted; and from *H. l. manastarae* Aveledo and Ginés, from the Perijá Region, differs additionally by darker brown flanks and crissum.

Range: Known from the San Luis Mountains in northern Falcón, in the Subtropical Zone at 1300 meters.

Description of Type: Top of head dusky with dark olivaceous blotches; back, scapulars and uropygium darker than Auburn; superciliary stripe from bill to neck white; lores and ear-coverts black; malar region, cheeks and sides of neck black, heavily streaked with white. Chin and throat white merging into near Light Mouse Gray of breast and sides which becomes more whitish on abdomen; flanks and crissum Antique Brown. Remiges Benzo Brown; outer webs of tertials barred Auburn and black; wing-coverts margined with Auburn; under wing-coverts and axillaries grayish. Rectrices olivaceous barred with black.

Bill (in life) "black;" feet "grayish brown;" iris "dark." Wing, 58 mm.; tail, 28; exposed culmen, 15; culmen from base, 18; tarsus, 26.

Remarks: Sexes alike. Size similar to *venezuelensis*. Range of measurements: two adult males (including type)—wing, 54–58 (56) mm.; tail, 24–24 (24); culmen from base, 18–18 (18); two adult females—wing 52–54 (53); tail, 24–26 (25); culmen from base, 16–17 (16.5). Measurements of *H. l. venezuelensis*: five adult males—wing, 54–57 (56); tail, 26–28 (27.5); culmen from base, 18–19 (18.5); five adult females—wing, 52–54 (53); tail, 25–27 (25.6); culmen from base, 17–18 (17.6).

Specimens Examined

H. l. manastarae.—VENEZUELA: Cerro Pejochaina, Perijá, Zulia, 2 ♂, 6 ♀, 8 (?); Kunana, 1 ♀, 3 (?); Cerro Mashirampé, 1 ♂, 2 (?); Divisorio ríos Macoita y Apón, 1 ♂, 1 ♀.

H. l. tamae.—VENEZUELA: Páramo de Tamá, Táchira, 7 ♂, 6 ♀, 1 (?); Río Chiquito, 15 ♂, 6 ♀, 10 (?).

H. l. meridana.—VENEZUELA: Mesa de Lino, Santo Domingo, Mérida, 2 ♂, 1 ♀, 2 (?); Mérida Region, 20⁶.

H. l. sanluisensis.—VENEZUELA: Curimagua, Sierra San Luis, Falcón, 2 ♂ (ine. type), 1 ♂ juv., 2 ♀, 1 (?), 1 (?) juv.

H. l. venezuelensis.—VENEZUELA: Caracas Region, 28⁶; Bucaral, Yaraucy, 1 ♂, 1 ♀; El Junquito, Dto. Federal, 1 (?); Cerro El Avila, 1 ♂, 2 (?); Cerro Negro, Miranda, 1 ♂, 2 ♀, 2 (?).

Hylocichla minima bicknelli Ridgway

In our Check List⁷ we listed this form from Venezuelan localities and also gave it a Colombian range. All this was in error as our specimens are *H. m. minima*.

Vermivora chrysoptera X *Vermivora pinus*

Helminthophaga leucobronchialis Brewster, American Sportsman, 5, p. 33, Oct. 17, 1874. (Newtonville, Mass.)

1 (?). Río Chiquito Hacienda La Providencia, Estado Táchira; forest at 1800 meters.

This specimen of the hybrid Brewster's Warbler, with pure white under parts, is similar in color to these two specimens in the American Museum of Natural History: ♂. Valle, Mérida, Venezuela and ♂, Bonilla, Costa Rica. The latter specimen, which he calls a "back-cross," is illustrated by Kenneth C. Parkes⁸ in the plate facing page 5 of his exhaustive exposition on the genetics of this hybrid.

As far as we know, this is the second specimen of Brewster's Warbler collected in Venezuela or in South America. One of the parent species, *V. chrysoptera*, occurs regularly during the winter in Colombia and in Venezuela but the other, *V. pinus*, is known from South America only by a specimen taken in March at Chirúa, in the Santa Marta Mountains of Colombia⁹.

Parkes lists a specimen of Lawrence's Warbler, *V. lawrencii* (Merriek), hybrid between *V. pinus* and *V. chrysoptera*, in the American Museum of Natural History, from Cumbre de Valencia, Venezuela, January 31, 1910. We believe that this is the only record from South America.

Arremon tocuyensis (Todd)

Arremonops tocuyensis Todd, Ann. Carnegie Museum, p. 198, 1912.

Following de Schauensee¹⁰, in our Check List¹¹ we listed this bird as a subspecies of *A. conirostris* (Bonaparte). de Schauensee says that *tocuyensis* is found in the Río Hacha region of Colombia at Arroyo

⁶For localities see Zimmer and Phelps, Am. Mus. Nov., No. 1270, p. 14, Dec. 26, 1944.

⁷Lista de las Aves de Venezuela con su Distribución. Bol. Soc. Ven. Cien. Nat., 75, p. 249, 1950.

⁸The Genetics of the Golden-winged X Blue-winged Warbler Complex. Wilson Bulletin, 63, No. 1, pp. 5-15, March, 1951.

⁹R. M. de Schauensee. The Birds of Colombia, p. 965, 1951.

¹⁰The Birds of Colombia. Caldasia, 5, No. 25, p. 1108, Aug. 31, 1951.

¹¹List de las Aves de Venezuela con su Distribución, Pt. 2, Passeriformes. Bol. Soc. Ven. Cien. Nat., 12, No. 75, p. 307, 1950.

de Arenas, only eight miles distant from Loma Larga where *A. c. conirostris* occurs.

We now find that the two birds occur in Venezuela in the same locality at Mirimire on the eastern coast of the State of Falcón at 250 meters altitude. On December 6, 1957, we collected a male of *A. tocuensis* there and on the 11th a male of *A. c. conirostris*. On the 3rd we had already collected a male of *A. tocuensis* at San Juan de los Cayos, 27 miles to the east. We also have specimens of *tocuensis* from Paraguaipoa at the base of the Goagira Peninsula, Cerro Santa Ana on the Paraguaná Peninsula and San Miguel, Lara, near Barquisimeto.

A. c. conirostris is a common bird throughout Venezuela from the Orinoco River northward. From the semi-arid region occupied by *A. tocuensis* we have specimens of *A. c. conirostris* from the San Luis Mountains and Quebrada Arriba, Lara; also from Cerro Alto del Cedro on the border of Colombia at the foot of the Goagira Peninsula.

Inasmuch as *A. tocuensis* is a larger bird in wing, bill and tarsus, and has differences in coloration, and as it has now been found in the same locality as *A. c. conirostris*, we agree with Hellmayr¹² that *tocuensis* should rank as a species.

¹²Catalogue of Birds of the Americas, etc., Part XI, p. 443, 1938.