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TWO NEW WOOD-HEWERS OF THE GENUS *DENDROPLEX* FROM VENEZUELA AND COLOMBIA.

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Detailed examination of extensive series of Dendrocolapids of the genus *Dendroplex* that have been obtained recently for the Phelps collection from Venezuela, and for the U. S. National Museum from Colombia, indicate two unrecognized forms related to *picrostris*. Their recognition has come during a study of all of the more northern forms of the genus, by which the specific unity of *picrostris* and *picus* has been definitely established through specimens that show graduated stages in intergradation along the lower Río Orinoco between Caicara, Bolívar and Barrancas, Monagas.¹ All forms of these two groups, therefor, are placed under *picus* as the older of the two names.

Descriptions of the two additional subspecies here recognized follow:

***Dendroplex picus choica* subsp. nov.**

Characters.—Similar to *Dendroplex picus picrostris*² but extent of light (Colombia).

color of foreneck restricted distally so that it barely reaches the upper breast; dark markings on sides of head behind the eye averaging heavier, more extensive; light markings on crown and hindneck smaller; light superciliary narrower; slightly smaller.

Description.—Type, Phelps Collection No. 29,106, male adult, in breeding condition, from Borburata, Puerto Cabello, Estado Carabobo, Venezuela, collected May 6, 1945, by W. H. Phelps, Jr. Crown and hindneck sepia, the anterior feathers spotted with pinkish buff, the light spots edged with fuscous black; forehead mainly pinkish buff with little of the darker color; on the posterior part of the crown the spots smaller,

¹ See also Zimmer, Amer. Mus. Nov., no. 753, November 10, 1934, pp. 16-17.

² *Dendroplex picrostris* Lafresnaye, Rev. Zool., vol. 10, March, 1847, p. 76 (Río hacha,

more elongated with little of the dark margin, becoming larger but still elongate on hindneck, and also becoming lighter, cartridge buff, and extending as elongated light streaks, bordered narrowly with fuscous black, on to upper back; rest of upper surface, including wings and tail, russet, slightly lighter on back and rump; sides of head, including superciliary, lighter than cartridge buff; an indistinct line of sepia behind eye; lores pinkish buff to cartridge buff; sides of neck cartridge buff to white, margined with fuscous black; throat and foreneck cartridge buff to white, this color extending to upper breast, where it is margined with fuscous black in distinct squamations, which become indistinct anteriorly, and are very faintly indicated to middle of foreneck; breast tawny-olive lined with light cartridge-buff, margined faintly with fuscous, the light streaks becoming narrower and disappearing toward the lower breast; sides, flanks, and abdomen sayal brown; under tail-coverts snuff brown with somewhat brighter, narrow shaft streaks; under wing-coverts tawny, with the bend of the wing cinnamon; tips of outer primaries clove brown. Bill hair brown, with gonys, mandibular rami, and sides of maxillae near center pale olive-buff; tarsus and toes chaetura black (from dried skin).

Measurements.—Males (9 specimens), wing 92.0–98.5 (95.7), tail 69.8–81.7 (76.4), culmen from base 27.5–32.6 (29.1), tarsus 21.0–23.0 (21.8) mm.

Females (8 specimens), wing 87.1–98.4 (93.1), tail 70.3–79.5 (76.7), culmen from base 26.9–31.5 (29.3)³, tarsus 21.0–22.3 (21.7) mm.

Type, male, wing 96.8, tail 80.1, culmen from base 29.0, tarsus 21.0 mm.

Range.—Northern Venezuela, from extreme eastern Falcón (Tucacas) eastward, north of the Cordillera de la Costa, through Carabobo (Urama, Puerto Cabello) Distrito Federal (Los Caracas, Río San Julián) and Miranda (Carenero).

Remarks.—This form is quite distinct from typical *picrostris* in the restriction of the light markings on the upper breast, and in the increase in the darker markings on the side of the head and neck. The smaller size is an average character that is evident in series. The increase in dark markings on the side of the head is a slight resemblance to the *picus* group of subspecies from which, however, *choica* is completely separated by the broad range of *phalara*.

***Dendroplex picus dugandi* subsp. nov.**

Characters.—Similar to *Dendroplex picus picrostris* but with feathers of upper breast, lower foreneck, and sides of neck edged with fuscous black, so that the light color is definitely restricted; light superciliary narrower and not extending so far behind the eye; light markings on upper back less extensive; light spotting on crown less extensive, especially on the forehead.

Description.—Type, U. S. National Museum No. 373,327, male adult, from Puerto Sagoc, La Gloria, Magdalena, Colombia, collected May 24,

³ 7 specimens.

1943, by M. A. Carriker, Jr. (original number 3981). Crown slightly darker than clove brown; forehead cream-buff with the feathers tipped with clove brown, the cream-buff decreasing on forecrown until the marks become elongated spots near the tips of the clove brown feathers; feathers on hindneck dull cartridge buff, bordered by clove brown; lores pale cartridge buff; superciliary cartridge buff anteriorly, becoming dull white posteriorly, this color continuing over the side of the head to become cartridge buff again on the side of the neck; feathers of posterior part of superciliary, behind eye, tipped very narrowly with clove brown, these tippings becoming wider over side of neck; an indistinct line of clove brown behind eye; upper two-thirds of back, and lesser and middle wing-coverts, Mars brown; lower back, rump, upper tail-coverts, greater wing-coverts, wings and tail russet; alula and tips of primaries clove brown; chin white; throat, foreneck and extreme upper breast whitish cartridge buff, with very narrow edgings of clove brown beginning at center of foreneck and becoming more pronounced laterally and posteriorly; an indistinct, fine line of clove brown below auricular region, and another below posterior half of malar area; middle and lower breast buffy brown, with a few narrow light streaks bordered with clove brown; abdomen brighter than Saccardo's umber; sides and flanks dull snuff brown; under tail coverts Verona brown, with indistinct shaft lines of pinkish buff; bend of wing pinkish buff; under wing coverts Sayal brown. Bill olive-buff, browner along the culmen and at the base; tarsus and toes blackish slate (from dried skin).

Measurements.—males (12 specimens), wing 92.8–102.5 (98.6), tail 73.2–79.8 (76.9), culmen from base 27.3–29.5 (28.6), tarsus 21.2–23.2 (22.2) mm.

Females (10 specimens), wing 93.0–102.5 (97.9) tail 65.5–82.7 (76.4), culmen from base 27.7–31.7 (29.4), tarsus 21.5–23.7 (22.7) mm.

Type, male, wing 98.1, tail 77.0, culmen from base 27.3, tarsus 22.2 mm.

Range.—Northern Colombia, from the western and southern base of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, and the valley of the Río César in northern Magdalena (Gaira, Punto Caimán on Isla Salamanca, Fundación, Codazzi, Casacará) west and south through Atlántico (La Plata, Aguada de Pablo), Bolívar (Puerto Zapote, Calamar, Turbaco, Cartagena), the lower Río Atrato in northern Chocó (Sautatá), and southern Magdalena (La Gloria, Puerto Sagoc, Gamarra), Antioquia (Malena) to Tolima (Honda, Chicoral on the Río Coello).

Remarks.—This form extends through the drainage system of the Río Magdalena. In restriction of the light color on the upper breast, and in the markings on the sides of the head, it shows definite approach to the more heavily marked subspecies of the *picus* group, from which, however, it is separated by high mountains. It suggests somewhat *D. p. choica*, here described, from the coastal plain of north central Venezuela, but differs in much more extensive dark markings on the side of the head, darker upper back, darker lower surface, and in more extensive light markings on the lower hindneck and upper back. One bird from Isla Salamanca at the mouth of Ciénaga Grande is placed here tentatively

as it appears to be intermediate toward *picrostris*. A bird from Gaira, southwest of Santa Marta, is definitely *dugandi*. A specimen in the Carnegie Museum taken by Carriker on the lower course of the Río Atrato at Sautatá is assigned here also, as is one in the American Museum of Natural History labelled "Atrato River" taken December 20, 1909, by Mrs. E. L. Kerr. These are a little lighter than average on the upper back but agree otherwise with birds from farther east.

This new race is named in honor of Dr. Armando Dugand, Director of the Instituto de Ciencias Naturales of Bogotá, in recognition of his contributions to the knowledge of the ornithology of his country.