

West African Ornithological Society Société d'Ornithologie de l'Ouest Africain



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Finfoot in Northern Nigeria. Macgregor's note on the Finfoot Podica senegalensis (Bull. N.O.S. 3: 16) prompts me to put on record a bird I saw in Kaduna in 1955, and P. Blasdale's records from Bornu.

I had an excellent view of a Finfoot in the Kaduna River on 4th April 1955. It entered the water from the grassy bank immediately opposite the Army Swimming Pool and swam leisurely downstream.

Blasdale reported many interesting birds from the Tsetse Control Area on the river 20 miles North of Potiskum, and showed me several excellent photographs that he had taken of Finfoots there.

R.E.Sharland

Sokoto Birds: Addendum . (see p. 2-5) On a visit to Lake Natu from 4th to 7th January 1965 I saw the following species additional to

Fry's list: Black Heron Melanophoyx ardesiaca 2
Night Heron Nycticorax nycticorax 2
Great White Heron Casmerodius albus 2
Marsh tern Chlidonias sp. 5
Black-tailed Godwit Limosa limosa 1
Pratincole Glareola pratincola 5
Gull Larus (cirrhocephalus) 1

pp R.B.Walker

R E.Q U E S T S

Effects of Pesticides on Birds. D.M.Robinson (Medical Field Unit, P.P.B. 20, Ilesha) would be grateful for any information regarding the effects of pesticides (chlorinated hydrocarbons) on birds e.g. birds of prey, fish-eaters, graminivorous species etc. With the increasing use of insecticides in this country, the usual story of indiscriminate destruction of the fauna may be expected to unfold.

Egg-while for Analysis. The structure of protein in the white of eggs has become a very useful tool in taxonomy. Since egg-white will keep in clean glass sealed containers at 70° for several weeks, lack of refrigeration does not preclude successful collecting of samples in the field. A minimum of apparatus is required - pipettes, small glass or plastic containers with cork or screw-on caps, scissors. Prof. C.G. Sibley, Dept. of Conservation, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, U.S.A., will be very grateful for egg-white samples and will send instructions, pipettes and labelled containers to potential collectors.

April/May Excursion to Mambila Plateau. H.Boulter (Okungwo Memorial Grammar School, Nnewi, Onitsha) wishes to make another expedition to Mambila for a fortnight at the end of April / beginning of May. Would anyone interested in accompanying him, especially owners of Land-Rovers and mist-nets, please contact him.

OMISSION

The author's name, R.E.Sharland, was omitted from his paper 'Two interesting Plateau Birds' Bull. N.O.S. 2: 4. Editor's apologies.