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ADDITIONAL BIRD RECORDS FROM BAMINGUI-BANGORAN
NATIONAL PARK, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

by Arthur A. Green

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From observations made during 1980-82, I reported on the 258 species of birds found in the guinea savanna portion (southeastern half) of Bamingui-Bangoran National Park in northern Central African Republic (Green 1983). In that paper I described the study area, the climate and the bird habitats. I visited the same part of the park again from 10 February to 16 March 1984, travelling extensively on foot and by bicycle. I confirmed the identity of some previously unreported birds and discovered many new ones, bringing to 20 the number of new species for the Park, and gathered additional information on the status of 32 others. There follows a list of these 52 species, the new ones asterisked, and changes affecting the others being underlined. Place names may be located on the map in my former paper. Sequence and nomenclature follow White (1960-65). STATUS: R resident whole year, I irregular visitor, A intra-African migrant, P Palaearctic migrant; ABUNDANCE: A 1-2 sightings, B rare, C frequent, D common, E abundant; HABITAT: A commonest habitat shown by x: A riparian, B wetland, C grass savanna, D wooded savanna, E forest, F inselberg, G human occupation.

	Status	Abundance	Month (1-12)	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
* <i>Egretta garzetta</i>		B	2-3			x				
<i>Leptoptilus crumeniferus</i>		D	11-12,1-5	x	x	x				
* <i>Circus macrourus</i>	P	<u>C</u>	2-3				x			
<i>Polyboroides radiatus</i>		C	10-12, <u>2-4</u>	x				x		
<i>Accipiter melanoleucos</i>		<u>C</u>	2-3					x	x	
* <i>Nelierax gabar</i>	P	<u>C</u>	<u>2-3</u>						x	
* <i>Aquila rapax</i>		C	2-3					x		
<i>Falco chicquera</i>		C	11,2-3					x		
* <i>Guttera plumifera</i>	R	<u>B</u>	12,1-3							x
* <i>Crex egregia</i>	R	C	11-12,1-3				x			
<i>Podica senegalensis</i>		C	10-11, <u>2-3</u>	x						
<i>Vanellus tectus</i>		<u>B</u>	1-3				x	x		
* <i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>	P	<u>C</u>	<u>2-3</u>			x				
<i>Tringa totanus</i>	P	C	1-3			x				
<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	P	<u>C</u>	<u>2-3</u>			x				
* <i>Calidris temminckii</i>	P	<u>B</u>	<u>2-3</u>	x	x					
* <i>Cursorius temminckii</i>		C	2-3				x			
<i>Oena capensis</i>	A	C/D	12,1-3			x	x		x	
* <i>Turtur brehmeri</i>	R	C	2-3						x	
<i>Treron waalia</i>	I	B	12,1-3					x		x
<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	I	<u>C</u>	11, <u>2-4</u>				x			x
<i>Otus leucotis</i>		<u>B</u>	<u>2-3,6</u>	x						x
<i>Apus apus</i>	P	<u>C</u>	<u>1-3</u>	x	x	x				
<i>Ceryle maxima</i>	R	<u>C</u>	1-12	x	x					
<i>Halcyon malimbica</i>		<u>C</u>	<u>2-3,6-9</u>	x			x	x		
* <i>Merops breweri</i>		A	3							x

	Status	Abundance	Month (1-12)	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
* <i>Coracias garrulus</i>	P	B	2-3					x		
* <i>Coracias naevia</i>		B/C	2-3					x		
<i>Lybius dubius</i>		C	12, 1-3					x		
<i>Lybius bidentatus</i>	I	B/C	2-3					x		x
<i>Campethera caillautii</i>		B/C	2-4							x
* <i>Hirundo daurica</i>	P	D	2-3					x	x	
<i>Hirundo griseopyga</i>	?	C/D	2-3, 6-9	x				x		
<i>Motacilla flava</i>	P	D	10-12, 1-3					x	x	
<i>blue-headed races</i>	P	D	10-12, 1-3					x	x	
<i>yellow-headed races</i>	P	C	10-12, 1-3					x	x	
* <i>black-headed race</i>	P	A	3					x		
<i>Macronyx croceus</i>	R	D	1-12					x		
<i>Malaconotus sulfureopectus</i>		C	2-4							x
<i>Malaconotus blanchoti</i>	A	C	10, 2-4						x	x
<i>Coracina pectoralis</i>	R	C	2-3, 6, 8-9	x				x		
* <i>Ixonotus guttatus</i>		B	2-3	x				x		
<i>Phyllastrephus scandens</i>	R	C	1-12	x				x		
* <i>Cossypha albicapilla</i>	R	C	2-3	x				x		
<i>Prinia erythroptera</i>		C	2-3, 9					x		
* <i>Prinia subflava</i>	R	D	1-12	x				x		
<i>Camaroptera brachyura</i>		C/D	2-3, 809					x		
<i>Batis orientalis (minor)</i>		C	2-4	x				x		
* <i>Terpsiphone rufocinerea</i>		B/C	2-3					x		
<i>Anthreptes longuemarei</i>	R	C	1-12					x		x
<i>Zosterops senegalensis</i>	R	D	2-3, 8-10							x
<i>Plocepasser superciliosus</i>		B	3, 9					x		
<i>Pytilia phoenicoptera</i>	R	D	1-12	x				x		
<i>Lagonosticta rufopicta</i>		B	2, 8, 10	x						x
<i>Lagonosticta senegala</i>		C	1-3	x				x		

DISCUSSION

It is evident that many forest birds penetrate far into the north of the Central African Republic, as far as the southern edge of the Sudan savanna zone. This is due to the extensive blocks of dry deciduous forests and gallery forests. Both Crested Guinea-fowl *Guttera edouardi* and Plumed Guinea-fowl *G. plumifera* are resident in forested areas of the park, the latter much rarer than the former. The Spotted Greenbul *Ixonotus guttatus* was uncommon in the riparian/gallery forest area along the Bamingui River at Gandossi's hunting safari camp during my 1984 visit. I was surprised to find that Blue-headed Doves *Turtur brehmeri* are not uncommon in forest and are frequently seen in the forest at Mandabale. I saw a pair of Black-casqued Hornbill *Ceratogymna atrata* forest on 23 March 1984 between Azene and Koukourou, 65 km south of Bamingui.

On 21 December 1981 in deciduous forest near Azene 90 km south of the park I saw a Black-headed Bee-eater *Merops breweri*. I was very surprised to discover a pair in a gallery forest along the Biankourou 85 km west of Bamingui, south of the southern inselbergs. Then in late March 1984, during a trip to Manovo-Gounda-Saint Floris National Park, I was told by Peace Corps Volunteers that Black-headed Bee-eaters were nesting in the vast gallery forest along the upper Manovo river east of N'Dele (about 80

km ENE of my study area) at 08°15'N, 21°05'E: Malbrant (1952) had reported the species from Haute Pata, high ground 15-20 km east of the Upper Manovo.

Nanaqua Doves *Oena capensis* were much more common than in previous years, perhaps due to the severity of the drought (ponds and streams which had never been known to dry up, did so in 1984). I believe the birds pushed farther south and in greater numbers due to this factor.

During 1980-82 I saw only blue-headed and yellow-headed races of Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*; in 1984 blue-headed birds were common, yellow-headed ones were frequent, and I saw a flock of black-headed birds at Foubouloulou on 5 March. Red-rumped Swallows *Hirundo daurica*, not noticed in previous years, were common over the floodplain prairies and at Koudi Cave (17 km west of Bangoran village).

During 1980-82 I frequently saw Red-bellied Paradise Flycatchers *Terpsiphone rufiventer* in riparian/forest areas 60 to 90 km downstream of Bamingui village, but I did not see any in 1984. Instead I found Rufous-vented Flycatchers *T. rufocinerea* in riparian/gallery forest areas near Gandossi's safari. Further investigation seems required to verify that both species are present in the park.

RÉSUMÉ

Pendant Février-Mars 1984 des observations sur l'avifaune du Parc National de Bamingui-Bangoran, RCA ont adjouté 20 espèces à la liste de 258 espèces déjà indiqué et ont augmenté l'information sur 32 de ses espèces.

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