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wise a good 'marker' species for the Sudan zone.

Four Chestnut-bellied Starlings Spreo pulcher were sighted at dusk on 24th January 1965 crossing the Kubani stream to roost in a fairly large thorn bush. The piece of country has a dry scrubby appearance resulting from the concentration of cattle at a near-by veterinary station. The same four birds were seen the following evening by C.H.F. and myself, and on 26th January, after several attempts made difficult by the harmattan winds we mist-netted a single specimen. A record was made of the living bird on colour film, and then a skin prepared.

On 22nd March 1965 whilst doing routine observations in the same area as above I flushed a pair of plovers which I supposed to be Spur-winged Plovers Hoplopterus spinosus. Through binoculars however they proved to be Black-headed Plovers Sarciphorus tectus. They were feeding over a bare area just next to the main cattle route, and on tilled fields. I followed the birds through several short flights on the Honda more to enjoy the sheer beauty of these birds than to convince myself of their identity. They were in fact almost Spur-wings in negative, white neatly replacing black.

The following day I took C.H.F. to see the birds (he is very difficult to convince if the bird is not on his list!) and we found them in exactly the same place. I suggested they might be nesting. Later C.H.F. took visitors from Ife University, including K.Blackwell, to see these spectacular birds, and found a nest with three eggs, the incubating bird being disturbed. The nest was a very shallow depression devoid of lining. Unfortunately we were unable to continue observations on this interesting discovery, owing to absence from Zaria.

R.B.Walker

Anthus richardi lynesi at Mambila. D.Ebbutt netted a pipit on the Mambila Plateau on 24th February 1965 which the British Museum confirmed to be A. richardi lynesi, extending the known range slightly of this Cameroon montane population. Cameroon Mountain itself has another race, A. r. cameroonensis, the Cameroon Mountain Pipit. -Ed.

Red-capped Lark Breeding on the Jos Plateau. On 26th November 1962 at Sabon Gida Dam near Vom, whilst walking round the dam in the late afternoon I watched a slim boldly-marked lark with an unstroked chestnut cap feeding alternately two young, well-concealed beneath the grassy lip of an old wheel rut. I handled one fledgling, which could barely fly. On subsequent discussion with V.W.Smith we identified the bird as a Red-capped Lark Calandrella cinerea. Since then we have often observed the species together, but have no further evidence for breeding, except that at the same place on 29th January 1965 I saw one of these larks singing musically at a great height, then diving earthwards and continuing to sing from a rock outcrop. It may thus be double-brooded. (Bull. N.O.S. 2 : 4 and this issue p. 6 refer. -Ed.)

D.Ebbutt