



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



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Gymnobucco peli	Bristle-nosed Barbet	Occasional, Ipake For.
Pogoniulus leucolaima	Lemon-rumped Tinker-Bird	Frequent.
Indicator minor	Lesser Honey-guide	Occasional, Ipake.
Illadopsis moloneyanus	Moloney's Akalat	Netted Ipake, 6.vi.65
Phylloscopus sibilatrix	Wood Warbler	Occasional dry season, Ipake
Apalis rufogularis	Slate-breasted Forest-Warbler	Frequent, Ipake.
Eremomela badiceps	Rufous-crowned Eremomela	Frequent /college.
Lamprocolius purpureus	Purple Glossy Starling	Dry season, Egbado
Cyanomitra cyanoaema	Blue-throated Brown Sunbird	Occasional, Ipake.

Status re-assessments :

Gymnogenys typicus W. fr. Harrier-Hawk Frequent all year round.
 Corythornis leucogaster White-bellied Kingfisher Rare, Ipake.
 Halcyon leucocephala Grey-headed Kingfisher Occasional, dry season.
 Lophoceros camurus Red-billed Dwarf Hornbill Frequent.
 Illadopsis rufescens Rufous-winged Akalat Delete - most definitely
 I. rufipennis.
 Saxicola rubetra Whinchat Frequent, dry season 1964/5. /season.
 Campephaga phoenicea Red-shouldered Cuckoo-Shrike Occasional, dry
 Chaunonotus sabinii Sabine's Puff-backed Shrike Frequent.

J.A. Button

Plateau Province Over 3,000 ft. An adult Skimmer Rynchops flavirostris was watched at Pan Yam Fish-farm, Plateau, on 11th April 1965.

D. Ebbutt

Malamfatori, Lake Chad. Five additional species have been observed in the Malamfatori area since April, 1965 (see Bull. N.O.S. 4 : 7-15 & 5 : 18-19). These are :

Leucopoliis marginatus White-fronted Sand-Plover - up to 5 on the sandy shores of Lake Chad near Malamfatori between 26th May and 4th June 1965.

Arenaria interpres Turnstone - one flying northwards up the lake shore on 1st January 1965.

Phyllolais pulchella Acacia Warbler - about 4 in Acacia nilotica woodland on the banks of the Komodougu Yobe near Yo. We have also seen this species on several occasions in A. raddiana woodland near Kukawa and in A. sayel near Maiduguri. P. pulchella appears to be thinly but widely distributed in suitable habitats throughout the Sudan and Sahel savannahs of North-East Bornu. It may be of interest to add that the focus of distribution of this species lies to the East in the Sudan and Abyssinia and that Bornu apparently lies to the extreme West of its range.

Dicrurus adsimilis Glossy-backed Drongo - one in Acacia raddiana bush near Arege on 14th May 1965. D. adsimilis has been seen regularly in the more wooded portions of the Sahel savannah between Kukawa and Arege. It has been observed at all seasons of the year and is probably resident. The present record is the furthest North that we have seen the species in Bornu and the first time it has appeared in the Malamfatori area which is 13° 30' N. and probably lies at the extreme northern limit of its range.

Estrilda troglodytes Black-rumped Waxbill One on newly-cultivated field near Malamfatori on 31st May 1965.

A.J. and J.Hopson

N O T E S

Harlequin Quail at Ilaro and Ibadan. A dead female Harlequin Quail Coturnix delegorguei delegorguei was brought to me by one of my pupils, Miss Mopelola Smith, on 4th December 1964. Its lower mandible was injured and it seemed to have flown into telegraph wires on the Egbado College compound. A male was found at Ibadan about the same time (J.H. Elgood, pers. comm.) and these records extend the known range of the species into the southern forested area of Nigeria. Bannerman 1953, I. p. 331) states " I have given the range of this bird as a greater part of Africa, but not the forest region. It occurs from ... Abyssinia and Kordofan West to the Ivory Coast, Lake Chad and probably the Bauchi Plateau of Nigeria. Southwards it does not enter the equatorial forest..."

The female Harlequin closely resembles the female Common Quail C. coturnix; main differences are that the latter has a pale whitish belly, cinnamon-buff breast with round or oblong dark spots, and a larger wing (105-119 mm (Bannerman) or 100-115 (Witherby et al., Handbook of British Birds, 1941)). My specimen of C. delegorguei has the entire underside from the throat to the vent dark buff ('pale chestnut' - Bannerman) with no dark spots on the breast. The wing measures 100 mm.

J.A.Button

Cut-Throat Weavers at Zaria. R.B.Walker (1965, Bull. N.O.S. 5:22-23) has recently reported a southerly extension of range for two Sudan savannah birds, the Chestnut-bellied Starling Spreo pulcher and the Black-headed Plover Sarciophorus tectus. These birds were recorded on the edge of farmland near settlements on the Kubani stream close to Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, and well within the broad vegetal region normally classified as Northern Guinea Savannah. On 26th March 1965, yet another record of a species normally associated with the semi-arid regions of the Sudan and Sahel Savannah, the Cut-throat Weaver Amadina fasciata, was obtained in the same area. A pair of birds was seen on this occasion in thorn bushes and since then, over a period of two months, up to 4 birds have been seen by other observers in the same locality. Bannerman (Birds of Trop. West Afr. VII p.289) quotes records for Nigeria from Maiduguri and other parts of Bornu and from northern Bauchi Province. In January, 1963 I recall seeing caged specimens of this bird offered for sale by traders in Kano where presumably it is found locally or just to the North. It is interesting to speculate whether these birds are normally found in small numbers well South of the Sudan Savannah zone or whether they have wandered unusually far South this year during the particularly prolonged dry season.

N.J.Skinner