

**Article XXIII.—DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW BIRDS FROM
ECUADOR.**

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In pursuit of its plans for a detailed ornithological survey of South America, the American Museum of Natural History has extended its work from Colombia into Ecuador where for some time Mr. William B. Richardson has been collecting in certain localities selected with a view to their bearing on problems in distribution. A detailed report on Mr. Richardson's large collections is not possible at this time, but a casual examination of them reveals several forms which appear to be unnamed and which are described herewith.

***Leptotila ochraceiventris* sp. nov.**

Char. sp.— Not closely related to any described species of *Leptotila*; whole abdominal region rich ochraceous-buff as in *Geotrygon montana*; head without gray, the forehead pale pinkish buff; a clearly defined vinaceous breast-band.

Type.— No. 129338, Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., ♂ ad., Zaruma (alt. 6000 ft.), Prov. del Oro, Ecuador, Sept. 22, 1913; W. B. Richardson.

Description of Male.— Hind-head and nape deep brownish vinaceous approaching livid brown with slight purplish reflections, passing through pale brownish vinaceous anteriorly and becoming pale pinkish buff on the forehead and supraloral region; purplish reflections increasing in intensity posteriorly covering the foreback and spreading to the sides of the neck; remainder of the back and the upper tail-coverts olive-brown, the center of the back and, to a lesser extent, the upper tail-coverts with deep purplish reflections; central tail-feathers somewhat deeper olive-brown than the rump, the lateral rectrices slaty black, the three outer pairs tipped with a white tip which measures 16–18 mm. along the shaft of the outer feather and 5–7 mm. on the third feather; primaries externally fuscous or fuscous-black, the outer ones (except the short, sharply incised outer one) narrowly edged with pale cinnamon apically; inner quills and wing-coverts olive-brown, the latter with slight purplish reflections; inner webs of all the quills hazel or Mikado-brown, the under wing-coverts and axillars slightly deeper; chin and upper throat white surrounded by the pinkish or light pinkish cinnamon of the sides of the head and lower throat; breast light, purplish vinaceous, spreading to the purplish vinaceous of the sides of the neck and more or less sharply defined from the rich, uniform light ochraceous-buff of the abdomen and flanks; under tail-coverts white more or less tinted and margined with ochraceous buff; “legs pink, bill black, eyes yellow” (Richardson). Measurements of type: length (skin), 245; wing, 135; tail, 97; tarsus, 31; culmen, 17 mm.

Description of Female.— Resembles the male in color but averages slightly smaller. Wing, 134; tail, 95; tarsus, 31; culmen, 16 mm.

Description of Immature.— Immature birds of both sexes differ from adults in

having the vinaceous and purplish areas more or less tipped with buffy, the upper wing and tail-coverts and inner quills tipped with tawny, the white tips of the outer tail-feathers narrower; the wings and tail shorter. Wing, 126; tail, 90; tarsus, 31; culmen, 16 mm.

Remarks.—In addition to the six specimens from the type-locality we have an immature male from Daule near Guayaquil and an adult female from Chone, Manavi, in Western Ecuador. The species is obviously, therefore, not rare, and ranges from sea-level to at least 6000 ft., facts which increase our surprise that it should heretofore have eluded collectors. Only three species of *Leptotila*, however, seem to have been previously recorded from Ecuador, *L. verreauxi occidentalis*, *L. pallida*, and *L. rufaxilla*, all of which were obtained by Mr. Richardson. To none of these does the species here described bear close relationship; rather would it appear to be nearer to the group containing *L. rufinucha* and *L. cassini* species with which (except for a slightly longer tail) it agrees in size and resembles in the pattern of coloration of the upperparts, the hind-head and nape being more or less clearly defined from the forehead and mantle, while in the color of the remaining portions of the upperparts the three species are much alike, *ochraceiventris* being somewhat more olivaceous. Below, however, *ochraceiventris* is wholly unlike any other species of *Leptotila* known to me, and in coloration of these parts bears a singularly strong superficial resemblance to the adult male of *Geotrygon montana*. The color of the abdomen is essentially alike in both species, but in *montana* the vinaceous breast-band is broader and deeper, the chin buff instead of white.

***Speotyto cunicularia punensis* subsp. nov.**

Char. subsp.—Most nearly related to *S. c. nanodes* Berl. & Stolz., but much paler throughout, the whitish or buffy areas of the upperparts larger particularly on the hind-head and nape which appear to be streaked rather than spotted, the underparts much less barred, the throat bar greatly reduced.

Type.—No. 123970, Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., ♂, Puna Island, Ecuador, April 6, 1913, W. B. Richardson. Wing, 166; tail, 76; tarsus, 44; culmen, 19 mm.

Remarks.—Mr. Richardson collected seven specimens of this form on Puna Island from April 3 to 12, 1913. For comparison with them I have an equal number of skins of *S. c. nanodes* in the Brewster-Sanford collection taken by Beck at and near the type locality (Lima, Peru) in January, February, and April, 1913. The Puna Island birds are in somewhat more worn plumage than those taken in Peru in January and February, but a specimen of *nanodes* collected at Chorillos, April 11, is in wholly comparable plumage

and shows that the characters attributed to the Puna Island bird in the preceding diagnosis are racial, not seasonal. The differences in the underparts are especially marked, the barring being reduced to a minimum making, in connection with the extent of the whitish areas above, *punensis* the palest known form of its group.

Speotyto cunicularia juninensis, of which the Brewster-Sanford collection contains four specimens from Lake Junin, the type locality, is a much browner, more heavily barred bird which is even larger than true *cunicularia* from Chile. The Colombian form, *S. c. tolimæ* Stone, is described as being "darker than any of the other forms of *Speotyto*" and is doubtless as unlike *punensis* as the Upper Magdalena Valley it inhabits is unlike the arid portions of the coast of Ecuador.

While a number of birds have been described from Puna Island none of them, so far as I am aware, are confined to it and it is probable therefore that the Burrowing Owl recorded from Sta. Elena on the coast of Ecuador by Salvadori and Festa (Boll. Mus. Tor., No. 368, XV, 1900, p. 34) belongs to the form here described.

***Pyrrhura albipectus* sp. nov.**

Char. sp.—Differing from any known species of *Pyrrhura* in having the throat and breast buffy white without or with but slight indication (in immature specimens only ?) of terminal bars, and in other characters.

Type.—No. 129379, Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., ♀, Zamora, alt. 3000 ft., Prov. Loja, Ecuador, Oct. 18, 1913, W. B. Richardson.

Description of Type.—Crown sepia the feathers with a paler terminal margin which increases in width and paleness and becomes nearly white on the nape; a faint indication of rose at the base of the bill; sides of the crown, from in front of eye to nape, yellowish green, region at the base of sides of the bill mixed yellow-green yellow and blackish; ear-coverts mixed scarlet-red and lemon-chrome; back and upper tail-coverts bright parrot-green, the latter with traces of bluish laterally; tail without indication of red, parrot-green above, blackish below, the outer feathers largely blackish, with a greenish tinge particularly on the outer web, the green increasing in extent inwardly and basally and occupying both webs of the central feather; outer primary black, the others Berlin blue with a greenish edge externally, the blue on the inner web increasing inwardly; secondaries largely parrot-green externally, blackish internally, all the quills blackish apically; bend of the wing and primary coverts scarlet-red, remaining coverts, above and below, parrot-green; throat and breast buffy white tipped faintly with lemon-yellow increasing in extent posteriorly, sides of the throat with a barely discernible indication of terminal grayish bars; rest of underparts yellowish parrot-green with bluish reflections, centre of the belly with a small amount of more or less concealed red; under tail-coverts bluish; feet blackish, bill horn, lower mandible whiter. Length (skin), 240; wing, 134; tail, 116; bill, 20 mm.

Remarks.—A second female, taken at the type-locality October 18, appears to be somewhat younger than the type, from which it differs in having the crown darker, the outer primary coverts green, the ear-coverts more orange, the sides of the throat, breast and underparts more distinctly barred with grayish, while, in certain lights, a suggestion of claret-brown appears in the darker areas of the rectrices.

A third specimen, from which unfortunately the label has become detached, agrees with the type in the practical absence of bars or terminal margins below but has the crown darker and with some traces of green, the cheeks green and the darker areas of the tail-feathers with an even stronger suggestion of claret-brown than in the second specimen mentioned.

This Parrot is apparently not closely related to any described species of *Pyrrhura*. It is possibly nearer *P. rupicola* than to any other member of the genus, but its differences from that species are too marked to require mention.

***Tityra semifasciata esmeraldæ* subsp. nov.**

Tityra personata (not of Jard. & Selb.) SCL., P. Z. S., 1860, p. 295 (Esmeraldas).

Tityra semifasciata (not of Spix) HART. Nov. Zool., V, 1898, p. 489 (Paramba, 3500 ft.)

Tityra semifasciata columbiana (part; not of Ridgw.) HELM., P. Z. S., 1911, 1142 (Esmeraldas in text).

Char. subsp.—Tail in the male with a broad subterminal black band which reaches the shaft of every feather and is of essentially equal extent on each; closely agreeing therefore in tail-pattern with *T. s. costaricensis* but with the terminal white band narrower, the subterminal band broader, the body plumage whiter and size smaller; female wholly unlike the female of *costaricensis*, and closely resembling in general coloration the female of *T. s. semifasciata* but with the black subterminal band much broader, the basal gray band correspondingly reduced, and dimensions much smaller.

Type.—No. 118803, Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., ♂ ad., Esmeraldas, Ecuador, Nov. 10, 1912, W. B. Richardson.

Remarks.—The exceptionally well marked characters of this race are supported by six adult specimens (four males and two females) from the type locality, a female from Barbacoas, Col., a male from Chone, Ecuador, and a single native skin received through Söderström labeled "San Miguel, 4000 ft." Of allied forms we have six males and five females of *costaricensis* from Panama, Chiriqui and Costa Rica; ten specimens of *T. s. personata*, an equal number of *T. s. griseiceps*; nine (including eight topotypes) of *T. s. columbiana*, and fourteen of *T. s. semifasciata* from the western borders of Amazonia.

With *personata* and *griseiceps*, in both of which the male is darker than in

costaricensis, no comparison is needed, but Hellmayr's (*l. c.*) reference of Esmeraldas specimens to *T. s. columbiana* should receive the attention always due the opinion of this authority on Neotropical birds. Fortunately our topotypical series of both forms is so adequate that examination of them permits one to reach satisfactory conclusions. Study of this material shows that *esmeraldæ* is a constantly smaller form in which the male has the upperparts, and particularly the nuchal region, whiter; the black area on the inner vane of the outer tail-feather always reaches the shaft and is never appreciably smaller than the corresponding area in the succeeding feathers, while in *columbiana* this area is either smaller on the outer than on the succeeding feather, or is separated from the shaft of the outer feather by a white line of varying width which connects the white tip with the white base of the feather. In short, so far as the tail pattern in the male is concerned, *esmeraldæ* differs from *columbiana* essentially as *costaricensis* differs from it, and the males of *esmeraldæ* and *costaricensis* more nearly resemble each other than either does that of *columbiana*.

When it comes to the females, however, the relationships of *esmeraldæ* are seen to be with true *semifasciata*, our three specimens being much grayer above than our four females of *columbiana* and quite as gray as the grayest of our females of *T. s. semifasciata*. The black tail-band, however, as has been mentioned in the preceding diagnosis, is wider in *esmeraldæ* than in *semifasciata*.

Measurements of Males.

	Wing	Tail	Bill
118803 Esmeraldas, Ecuador	117	67	24.5
118804 " " "	117.5	67	26
118806 " " (Type)	117	67	25.5
118808 " " "	118	70	25
71176 Santa Marta, Col.	121	72	24.5
72917 Valparaiso, Santa Marta, Col.	123.5	67	25.5
72918 " " " "	122	72	27
102262 Boruca, Costa Rica	123	73	26
123703 Atirro, " "	127	71	26.5

Measurements of Females.

118805 Esmeraldas, Ecuador	111	65	24.5
118807 " " "	111	67	24
118048 Barbacoas, Col.	111	67	24
71177 Cacagualito, Santa Marta, Col.	118	67	26
72920 Minca, " " "	119	67	25
97865 Valparaiso " " "	119.5	66	24
77487 Chitra, Panama	117	70	25
106531 " " "	118	65	25

Pitylus nigriceps sp. nov.

Char. sp.— Not closely related to any described species of *Pitylus* but most nearly resembling *P. fuliginosus* from which it differs in having the head as well as throat black, the outer tail-feathers tipped with white, and in other characters.

Type.— No. 130262, Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., ♂, Loja, alt. 7000 ft., Prov. Loja, Ecuador, Oct. 14, 1913, W. B. Richardson.

Description of Type.— Head, neck and throat all around black, the feathers of the centre of the throat with snowy white, but wholly concealed, bases; upperparts deep neutral gray with a faint olivaceous tinge which becomes more pronounced on rump; exposed superior surfaces of the tail like the back, concealed portions more fuscous, the two outer pairs of feathers with a white blotch at the end of the inner web; wings externally gray like the back, the concealed areas darker; breast gray like the back, becoming somewhat paler posteriorly; the belly warm-buff, lower tail-coverts ochraceous-buff, flanks gray washed with buff; feet blackish horn; bill (in skin) salmon-orange, tomæ more yellowish. Length (skin), 220; wing, 103; tail, 99; tarsus, 29; culmen, 22; depth of bill at nostril, 15.5 mm.

Remarks.— A second unsexed (possibly female) specimen, collected at Loja, October 11, resembles the type, but the concealed white area which forms so interesting a character of that bird and reveals its relationships with *P. grossus*, is barely evident, the plumage is slightly more olivaceous, the bill somewhat longer, proportionately as well as actually less deep (culmen, 25; depth of bill at nostril, 15 mm.) and browner in color.

This species is obviously a member of the restricted genus *Pitylus* which contains also *P. grossus* and *P. fuliginosus*. The bill is less pronouncedly dentate than in *grossus* and more closely agrees in this respect with that of *fuliginosus* but is less laterally inflated than in that species.

In its buffy abdomen and white-tipped rectrices *nigriceps* suggests certain species of *Saltator* and indicates a possibly even closer relation between that genus and *Pitylus* than has heretofore been suspected.

The color terms employed in this paper will be found illustrated in Ridgway's 'Color Standards and Color Nomenclature' (Washington, 1912).