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## NEW SPECIES AND SUBSPECIES OF BIRDS FROM THE HIGHLANDS OF NEW GUINEA

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In 1950 the junior author made a representative collection of birds in the previously only poorly known area of the Hagen, Bismarck, and Kubor Mountains. Until the full report on these collections, including field notes, is published, it may be useful to have available the descriptions of the new forms.<sup>1</sup>

### ***Synoicus ypsilophorus lamonti*, new subspecies**

TYPE: A.M.N.H. No. 348202; adult male; Tomba, south slope of Mt. Hagen, Central Highlands, Mandated Territory of New Guinea; July 26, 1950; 8000 feet; E. T. Gilliard.

DIAGNOSIS: Nearest to *mafulu* but males more richly colored with reddish brown above, less amber, particularly on exposed edges of wings and scapulars; also under parts brighter, more buffy chestnut, not buff washed with vinaceous. Size as in *mafulu*.

RANGE: The Chimbu, Wahgi, and Tomba valleys between 5200 and 8300 feet (Kegalsugl, 8300; Nondugl, 5200; Melgavais, 6500; Tomba, 8000).

REMARKS: Females are indistinguishable from those of *mafulu*. Males of *lamonti* are closer to those of *mafulu* than is either *plumbeus* or *monticola*. This is surprising because of the great distance (about 300 miles) separating these two mid-mountain populations (*lamonti* and *mafulu*) while *plumbeus*, *mafulu*, and *monticola* occur within a few miles of one another in the low, middle, and high mountain grasslands of eastern New Guinea.

The variation displayed by our series shows a trend towards

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<sup>1</sup> See also American Museum Novitates, 1950, no. 1473, pp. 1-3, for a description of *Archboldia papuensis sanfordi* by the same authors.

*monticola* in that no trace of the prominent lowland character, the vinaceous under parts and grayish upper parts in the male, is present. Furthermore, the Wahgi population agrees with *monticola* by having individual variants in which the chest and under parts are richly tinted with chestnut or the back very dark, while the vinaceous breast coloration in males of *mafulu* is a step in the direction of *plumbeus*.

This new quail is named in honor of a true sportsman, Mr. William Lamont, of Lae, New Guinea.

***Rallus pectoralis captus*, new subspecies**

TYPE: A.M.N.H. No. 348204; adult male; Tomba, south slope of Mt. Hagen, Central Highlands, Mandated Territory of New Guinea; July 18, 1950; 7800 feet; E. T. Gilliard.

DIAGNOSIS: Nearest to *alberti* but bill and wing longer (see table 1). Top and sides of head, neck, and upper back darker, more maroon, less reddish brown. Compared with *mayri*, crown and hind neck brighter, more clear brown, not dark brown with blackish streaks; bill and wing shorter; below, much less white on throat; chest less heavily washed with olive.

TABLE 1  
MEASUREMENTS (IN MILLIMETERS) OF *Rallus pectoralis*

	Wing	Exposed Culmen
<i>alberti</i>		
♂	93, 94 <sup>a</sup>	29, 30 <sup>a</sup>
♀	93, 93.5, 94, 94, 97	27, 28
<i>captus</i>		
♂ Wahgi region	95, 96, 101, 101, 102	32, 33, 33, 33, 34.5
♀ Wahgi region	97, 100, 101	29, 31, 34, 34
♀ Bele River	96	33
<i>mayri</i>		
♂	105, 105, 109	38, 39, 39
♀	98, 101	35, 35

<sup>a</sup> Type.

RANGE: The Central Highlands from the Wahgi Valley region to the vicinity of Lake Habbema, Dutch New Guinea.

REMARKS: Rand's (1942, p. 436) bird (adult male) from the Bele River agrees with *captus* in size, but it has the light areas of

the back slightly more reddish, less olive, than any of the others at hand. It was taken at 6600 feet. Our series was trapped by natives between 7500 and 8500 feet.

***Rallus philippensis wahgiensis*, new subspecies**

TYPE: A.M.N.H. No. 348203; adult male; Nondugl, Wahgi Valley, Central Highlands, Mandated Territory of New Guinea; June 23, 1950; 5600 feet; E. T. Gilliard.

DIAGNOSIS: Nearest to *reductus*, but the male with the rufous pectoral band wider and complete; above blacker, particularly on forehead, crown, and upper back; rufous ocular stripe darker, more blackish, due to more numerous black tips; lores dusky brown, not rufous. Differing from *lacustris* by having blacker upper parts and darker crown; ocular stripe and lores more blackish, less rufous; wing and bill shorter than in either of above

TABLE 2  
MEASUREMENTS (IN MILLIMETERS) OF *Rallus philippensis*

	Wing	Tail	Bill (from Lateral Feathering)	Tarsus	Average Tarsus- Wing Ratio in Males
<i>australis</i>					
♂	139, 147, 151	63, 68, 69	25, 27, 28	38, 40, 40	26.7
♀	140, 140	64, 67	26, 29	38, 39	—
<i>yorki</i>					
♀ (type)	132, 133	58, 62	25	38, 40	—
<i>reductus</i>					
♂	140, 142, 144	63, 65, 65, 65	28, 31, 31, 32	40, 43, 45, 48	31.0
♀	135, 135, 137	53, 55, 58	25, 25, 27	39, 40, 42	—
<i>lacustris</i>					
♂	146, 146, 151	61, 67, 68	30, 30, 31	44, 44, 45	30.1
♀	145	67	25	40	—
<i>wahgiensis</i>					
♂	137, 140	62.5	27, 27.5	44, 45	32.1
♀	136, 136	61, 62.5	24, 24.5	40, 43	—
<i>randi</i>					
♂	150, 151	65, 72	27, 27	43, 44	28.9
♀	133, 145	62, 72	24, 25	39.5, 42	—

rates (see table 2). In the coloration of upper parts remarkably similar to *praedo* of Skoki Island, Admiralty Islands, but wing shorter, tarsus longer, and scapular edges paler, more olive, less walnut.

RANGE: Known only from the Wahgi Valley at 5200 feet.

***Rallus philippensis randi*, new subspecies**

TYPE: A.M.N.H. No. 338521; adult male; 7 miles northeast of Mt. Wilhelmina, Dutch New Guinea; August 26, 1938; 3390 meters; A. L. Rand.

DIAGNOSIS: Near to *australis* and *yorki* in coloration but differing from both by having longer tarsus (see table 2) and more olivaceous, less brownish, upper parts in males. Differing from all other New Guinea races by having the upper parts, particularly the upper back, pale olive, with much reduced black feather centers, not dark brownish or blackish.

RANGE: Known only from the Wilhelmina-Habbema region of the Snow Mountains between the altitudes of 3225 and 3400 meters.

REMARKS: The series of *wahgiensis* differs greatly from *randi* because of darker, more blackish, less olivaceous upper parts, particularly crown, back, and ocular stripe.

The characters upon which *randi* is based were first noted by Rand (1942, p. 436). Acquisition of additional material and recent contributions towards an understanding of the geographical variation of the species (Mayr, 1949, p. 10) now make it clear that the Wilhelmina-Habbema series is a well-marked race.

It gives us great pleasure to name this land rail for its collector, Dr. Austin L. Rand, co-leader of the Archbold Snow Mountain Expedition, who has contributed so much to the knowledge of New Guinea birds.

In the following analysis all of the New Guinea and Australian forms of *R. philippensis* are graded in accordance with standards formulated by Mayr for the six races occurring in the Bismarck and Solomon archipelagos. (For a key to the 14 variables, see Mayr, 1949, p. 10.)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	K	L	M	N	O
<i>australis</i>	2	1.5	1	1	2	1	2	1.5	1.5	1.5	2	1	3	2
<i>yorki</i>	1	1.5	1	1	2	1	2	3	1	1	2	1	3	2
<i>reductus</i>	1	1.5	2	2	2	2	1	4	2	2	1.5	1	2	1

<i>lacustris</i>	3	2	2	1.5	1	2	2	2	1.5	1.5	3	1	2	1.5
<i>wahgiensis</i>	2.5	2	2.5	3	2	1.5	2	3	1.5	1	2	1	2.5	1
<i>randi</i>	1	1.5	1	3	1	1	1	3.5	1.5	1.5	1	1	3	1

Difference *yorki-randi*: 7.5

Difference *wahgiensis-reductus*: 8.5

Difference *wahgiensis-lacustris*: 7.5

### ***Psittacella modesta hallstromi*, new subspecies**

TYPE: A.M.N.H. No. 348205; adult male; Yandara, north slope of Mt. Wilhelm, Bismarck Mountains, Mandated Territory of New Guinea; May 16, 1950; 6000 feet; F. Shaw Mayer.

DIAGNOSIS: Male: Nearest to *madarászi* but head and upper back darker than in either *madarászi* or *major* owing to the fact that the feather edges are more chocolate brown, less yellowish brown. The yellow feather streaks of the occipital and auricular region are narrower. Compared with *madarászi*, throat and upper chest darker, less dull yellowish, more greenish washed with dark brown; above and below, generally darker green, with less of a yellowish cast. Compared with *major*, somewhat darker green above and below; sides of neck and throat much darker, less yellowish brown, more dull green washed with chocolate brown. In size about intermediate between *major* and *madarászi* (see table 3).

TABLE 3  
MEASUREMENTS (IN MILLIMETERS) OF *Psittacella modesta*

	Wing	Tail
<i>major</i>		
♂	97	56
♀	91, 95.5	59, 59
<i>hallstromi</i>		
♂	91	52
♀	90, 94.5	52, 55
<i>madarászi</i>		
♂	85, 86, 90	53, 55, 55
♀	82, 88, 90	50, 50, 53

FEMALE: Hind crown and occipital region brighter than in *madarászi* owing to wider, brighter, more brick red, less orange tipping; black barring of hind neck broader.

RANGE: Known only from the Bismarck Mountains.

REMARKS: We take pleasure in naming this new parrot for Mr. E. J. L. Hallstrom of Sydney, Australia, who has long been known for his deep interest in parrots.

***Psittacella picta excelsa*, new subspecies**

TYPE: A.M.N.H. No. 348206; adult male; Mt. Orata, Kubor Mountains, Central Highlands, Mandated Territory of New Guinea; May 25, 1950; 7500 feet; E. T. Gilliard.

DIAGNOSIS: Male: Above, crown dull olive brown like that of *lorentzi*, not reddish chestnut as in *picta*; rump and upper tail coverts blood red as in *picta*, not yellowish green as in *lorentzi*; below, throat and sides of head dull olivaceous brown as in *picta*, not green washed with cobalt blue on chin and midline of throat as in *lorentzi*, but without the reddish chestnut collar of *picta*; upper chest strongly washed with cobalt blue as in *picta*, not generally greenish as in *lorentzi*; abdomen darker green, with a faint cobalt blue wash as in *picta*, not greenish strongly washed with yellow as in *lorentzi*.

Female: Above, diagnostic characters similar to those of male; below, collar brownish olive like crown and hind neck, not reddish chestnut as are both collar and crown of *picta*, and not bright green like the collar of *lorentzi* (in which the crown is dark brownish olive unlike the collar).

Inner rim of iris Orange (Ridgway), outer rim, Cadmium Yellow; bill in life blue gray, with whitish cutting edges; feet in life dark bluish gray. Total length in life, 196 mm., 198, 199, 200, 203, 206, 214, 220.

TABLE 4  
MEASUREMENTS (IN MILLIMETERS) OF *Psittacella picta*

	Wing	Tail
<i>picta</i>		
♂	106, 111, 111, 112.5, 113, 114	71, 71, 71, 74, 74, 76
♀	108, 108, 109, 110, 111	68, 72, 72, 72
<i>excelsa</i>		
♂	106, 109, 110, 110, 110, 112	71, 72, 72, 73, 74, 74.5, 79
♀	109, 109, 109, 111, 112, 112	69, 69, 70, 70, 74, 78
<i>lorentzi</i>		
♂	111, 111, 116, 116, 117, 119	77, 77, 78, 81, 83, 83
♀	110, 111, 111, 115, 116	79, 79, 80, 81, 84, 86

RANGE: Above 8000 feet in the mountains surrounding the Wahgi Valley. The expedition secured specimens on Mt. Kubor, Mt. Hagen, and Mt. Wilhelm.

REMARKS: Kubor Mountain native name: Bor-ga-lam; Mt. Hagen region native name: To-gap-pee.

Discovery of this remarkable bird reduces the number of bird species known from New Guinea by one for it provides us with a clear-cut link between *picta* and *lorentzi*, which must now be considered as conspecific.

### ***Turdus poliocephalus carbonarius*, new subspecies**

TYPE: A.M.N.H. No. 348208; adult male; Mt. Wilhelm, Bismarck Mountains, Central Highlands, Mandated Territory of New Guinea; June 10, 1950; 11,500 feet; E. T. Gilliard.

DIAGNOSIS: Differs from other New Guinea subspecies in size of wing and tail and from *versteegi* in length of tarsus (see table 5). Nearest to *papuensis*, but throat, sides of neck, and upper chest somewhat darker, more blackish, less brownish. Compared with *keysseri*, above and below more blackish, less brownish (particularly neck and crown). Compared with *versteegi*, equally dark above and below, but neck more blackish, less brownish buff.

TABLE 5  
MEASUREMENTS (IN MILLIMETERS) OF *Turdus poliocephalus*

	Wing	Tail	Tarsus
<i>papuensis</i>			
7 ♂	129.5-134	97-105	33.5-38
4 ♀	125.5-126.5	91-94.5	36-37.5
<i>keysseri</i> (topotypical)			
1 ♂	121	85	36
1 ♀	120.5	80	38
<i>carbonarius</i>			
1 ♂	124.5	89	36.5
4 ♀	122.5-125	85-90	35-37.5
<i>versteegi</i>			
5 ♂	136-144.5	100-108	39.5-42
3 ♀	135.5-136	96-102	40-40.5

RANGE: Known only from summit grasslands (above 11,000 feet) of Mts. Wilhelm and Hagen; presumably occurs also on Mt.

Spinks and Mt. Gilowe and other peaks in the Wahgi Valley region.

REMARKS: The tendency of this genus to fox is well known and was taken into account. Color comparisons were with a 17-year old series from eastern Papua, a 12-year old series from Dutch New Guinea, and two 38-year old examples of *keysseri*.

***Saxicola caprata wahgiensis*, new subspecies**

TYPE: A.M.N.H. No. 419990; adult female; Mafulu, Central Division, Papua, New Guinea; September 29, 1933; 1250 meters; A. L. Rand.

DIAGNOSIS: Female nearest to *aethiops* but wing and tail longer (see table 6). Differs from *belensis* by having much lighter, more grayish plumage, particularly of the under parts, rump, and sides of neck. Males indistinguishable except for size, *aethiops* being small, *wahgiensis* almost as large as *belensis*.

TABLE 6  
MEASUREMENTS (IN MILLIMETERS) OF *Saxicola caprata*

	Wing	Tail
<i>aethiops</i>		
4 ♂ New Britain	69.5-74	53-54
1 ♀ New Britain	68	51
3 ♂ Long Island	74.5-75.5	54.5-55
3 ♀ Long Island	73-74	54-55
1 ♂ Huon Peninsula	73.5	55
3 ♀ Huon Peninsula	73-75	53.5-55
4 ♂ Sentani Lake	75-76.5	54-57
5 ♀ Sentani Lake	69.5-72	49-52
<i>wahgiensis</i>		
3 ♂ Wahgi region	79-81.5	61-61.5
1 ♀ Wahgi region	72	55
<i>belensis</i>		
2 ♂ Habbema region	82-83.5	61.5-64
2 ♀ Habbema region	81-82	59, 59

RANGE: The Wahgi Valley region eastward through the mountains of southeastern New Guinea.

REMARKS: One adult female in fresh plumage from Nondugl (May 1, 1950) is virtually indistinguishable from fresh-plumaged Huon Peninsula females.

The fresh-plumaged, rust-colored specimen from southeastern New Guinea mentioned by Rand (1940, p. 4) is possibly an aberrant male (A. S. Meek, the collector, sexed it as a male). Other adult females from southeastern New Guinea are like the type of *wahgiensis* but more worn and appearing darker owing to the exposing of the dark subterminal portions of the plumage.

***Megalurus timoriensis montanus*, new subspecies**

TYPE: A.M.N.H. No. 348221; adult male; summit grasslands of Mt. Hagen, Central Highlands, Mandated Territory of New Guinea; July 20, 1950; 12,000 feet; William Lamont.

DIAGNOSIS: Near *alpinus* and *wahgiensis* but differing from both by having the light areas of the upper parts generally darker, much more rufous, not buffy, particularly on the back and rump; ear coverts and sides of neck averaging darker, more brownish, less grayish.

RANGE: Summit grasslands of Mt. Hagen.

***Megalurus timoriensis wahgiensis*, new subspecies**

TYPE: A.M.N.H. No. 348222; adult male; Tomba, south slope of Mt. Hagen, Central Highlands, Mandated Territory of New Guinea; July 27, 1950; 7800 feet; E. T. Gilliard.

DIAGNOSIS: Nearest to *alpinus* but tail longer (see table 7); upper parts averaging brighter, more reddish brown, less tan; lower parts, particularly chest and flanks, brighter, more whitish, less brownish gray.

TABLE 7  
MEASUREMENTS (IN MILLIMETERS) OF *Megalurus timoriensis*

	Tail
<i>montanus</i>	
♂	100, 101.5
♀	89.5, 99
<i>wahgiensis</i>	
♂	97, 103, 105, 105, 111, 113, 118, 119
♀	95, 95, 96, 97, 101, 103
<i>alpinus</i>	
♂	91, 94, 95, 98, 102
♀	89, 95, 96

**RANGE:** Known only from the mid-mountain grasslands of the Wahgi and Melgavais valleys.

**REMARKS:** Specimens from the Wilhelmina-Habbema region are very near to *alpinus* of southeastern New Guinea. However, they differ (as pointed out by Rand, 1942, p. 471) by having the upper parts blacker, owing to broader, more extensive black striping, and the crown darker, more brownish, less chestnut. Although these characters are definitive in series, they are not of sufficient quality to permit the naming of the western population.

***Epimachus meyeri megarhynchus*, new subspecies**

**TYPE:** A.M.N.H. No. 677998; adult male; Gebroeders Mountains, Weyland Range, Dutch New Guinea; altitude 6000–7000 feet; July 24, 1930; F. Shaw Mayer.

**DIAGNOSIS:** Adult male differs from that of all other races by its longer, heavier bill (see table 8). Females and young males, compared with those of *albicans* of the Habbema region, have the crown lighter brown, the back brighter, with more of an ochraceous than an olive cast. Under parts generally lighter than in *albicans*, with the black of the throat extending less far down on the chest and with the light bars averaging wider.

Females of *megarhynchus*, compared with those from Mt. Hagen and Mt. Wilhelm in the Bismarcks, have the crown darker, more chestnut brown, less ochraceous brown, and the back somewhat lighter, more ochraceous, less olive. Below they are lighter without the fine buff throat flecking of Mt. Hagen birds and with a less pronounced blackish chest wash.

**RANGE:** Known only from the Weyland Mountains.

***Epimachus meyeri bloodi*, new subspecies**

**TYPE:** A.M.N.H. No. 348211; adult male; Mt. Hagen, Central Highlands, Mandated Territory of New Guinea; altitude 8300 feet; July 15, 1950; E. T. Gilliard.

**DIAGNOSIS:** Adult male differs from that of all other subspecies by having the flank plumes drab gray, not white as in the western races, *albicans* and *megarhynchus*, or brown as in *meyeri* of the southeast. Adult females agree with those of *albicans* below except on the throat which is finely flecked with ochraceous as in *meyeri*, not pure blackish as in *albicans* and *megarhynchus*. Above *bloodi* females are lighter than those of *albicans*, with the crown averaging brighter reddish brown and the back somewhat less

TABLE 8  
MEASUREMENTS (IN MILLIMETERS) OF *Epimachus meyeri*

	Wing	Tail	Bill
<i>meyeri</i>			
♂	178, 180, 184, 185, 191	605, 670, 700, 725, 785	65, 66, 68, 70, 70, 70
♀	150, 159, 170, 173	315, 343, 354	60, 62, 68, 70
<i>bloodi</i>			
♂	173, 173, 174, 174, 175	610, 637, 655, 700, 710	68, 70, 70, 70
♀	149, 150, 151, 155, 155	270, 272, 285, 333, 344	64, 65, 67, 69, 70
<i>albicans</i>			
♂	176		70
♀	146, 151, 152, 153, 154	225, 287, 287, 293	59, 62, 71, 72, 73
<i>megarhynchus</i>			
♂	182	700	80
♀	152	350	—

olivaceous, more brownish. Compared with those of *meyeri* they are darker, less ochraceous brown, more olivaceous brown, and the crown is darker reddish brown. Below they are less heavily washed with pale buff and are generally more blackish about the upper chest. Also the throat tends to be less prominently flecked with pale buff than in *meyeri*.

RANGE: Known only from Mt. Hagen; probably also on Mt. Kubor.

REMARKS: Immature females were not used for comparison. They can be distinguished by the presence of incompletely developed reddish brown crowns or, if very young, by having the crown nearly as olive colored as the back.

It is with great pleasure that we name this new Sickle-billed Bird of Paradise for Capt. Neptune Blood of Nondugl whose aid was largely responsible for the success of the expedition.

***Paradisaea rudolphi margaritae*, new subspecies**

TYPE: A.M.N.H. No. 348209; adult female; Kimil River, 20 miles west-northwest of Nondugl, Wahgi Valley, Central Highlands, Mandated Territory of New Guinea; April 20, 1950; 5800 feet. Gift of N. B. Blood.

DIAGNOSIS: Female differs from that of *ampla* (one female examined) and of *rudolphi* by having central belly and flanks uni-

formly barred like chest and lower abdomen, not rufous brown without black bars. All three subspecies agree in size.

REMARKS: The two specimens collected were birds captured by natives which died at the Nondugl aviaries.

This lovely blue bird of paradise is named in honor of Margaret Fitzell Gilliard.

***Pteridophora alberti hallstromi*, new subspecies**

TYPE: A.M.N.H. No. 348210; adult female; forests above Tomba, south slope of Mt. Hagen, Central Highlands, Mandated Territory of New Guinea; altitude 8200 feet; July 5, 1950; E. T. Gilliard.

DIAGNOSIS: Female: Nearest to *bürgersi* but light areas of lower parts brighter, more whitish, less brownish buff, particularly the throat and lower abdomen; under tail coverts paler, more cinnamon, less chestnut; wing and tail longer (see table 9). Compared with *alberti*, under parts generally whiter owing to narrower black barring and brighter, broader white areas, particularly on sides and abdomen.

TABLE 9  
MEASUREMENTS (IN MILLIMETERS) OF *Pteridophora alberti*

		Wing	Tail
<i>bürgersi</i>			
3 ♀ adults	Schraderberg	111, 112, 109 (type)	79
<i>hallstromi</i>			
5 ♀ adults	Mts. Hagen and Kubor	112.5, 113, 118, 119, 122.5 (type)	83, 84, 87 (type), 91
<i>alberti</i>			
8 ♀ adults	Lake Habbema region	110, 111, 112, 112, 112.5, 113, 113.5, 114.5	80, 81, 83, 83, 83.5, 84.5, 85
3 ♀ adults	Weyland Mountains	111.5, 112, 113	81.5

Male: Since the male of *bürgersi* is unknown, *hallstromi* can be compared only with males of the nominate form, as follows: sides of body and abdomen paler, less egg yellow, more straw yellow; under tail coverts darker, less pale cinnamon, more brownish.

REMARKS: The brownish rather than whitish coloration of

lower parts in the female, which serves chiefly to distinguish *bürgersi* from *hallstromi* and *alberti*, is faintly though clearly present in specimens from the Bismarck Mountains.

It is with genuine pleasure that we name this lovely new bird of paradise in honor of Mr. E. J. L. Hallstrom of Sydney, Australia, who has been instrumental in bringing together at the Taronga Zoological Park the greatest collection of living birds of paradise ever assembled.

### **Melidectes princeps, new species**

TYPE: A.M.N.H. No. 348207; adult male, Mt. Wilhelm, Bismarck Mountains, Central Highlands, Mandated Territory of New Guinea; June 10, 1950; 11,800 feet; R. Doyle.

DESCRIPTION: Adult male: crown black, upper parts blackish, tinged with dusky olive; face blackish; chin and throat whitish, with a black central streak. Individual feathers of the chin and throat have the bases black and the exposed portions white except on the midline where the black is exposed, forming the black throat streak. The white feathers on the sides of the throat are long and pointed, reaching a length of 28 mm. and extending beard-like over the sides of the upper chest. Elsewhere below sooty, washed faintly with dull brown; abdomen and under tail coverts gray tinged with buff on under tail coverts. Tail above blackish, with narrow olive gray edges on basal half. Outer three tail feathers narrowly tipped with pale gray; wings above blackish, with fine olive gray edges; under wing coverts blackish, with narrow ochraceous tipping; concealed inner edges of flight feathers narrowly pale gray. Middle of abdomen with narrow white tipping. Bill in life black; legs in life pale blue-gray; iris in life dark reddish brown; naked area below eye ivory in life; naked area behind eye yellowish orange.

MEASUREMENTS OF TYPE: Wing, 117 mm.; tail, 120.5; bill from base, 46; tarsus, 38. Total length in life, 288.

Adult female similar to male but smaller. Immature blackish, the bearded portions of chin and throat dull yellowish white, not white; abdomen washed with buff.

Nestling sooty above; washed with olive buff below, particularly on abdomen; throat nude in the only skin at hand.

RANGE: Highlands (above 10,000 feet) of Mt. Kubor, Mt. Hagen, and Mt. Wilhelm. Probably in the vicinity of tree line on all of the high mountains of the Wahgi region.

REMARKS: Nearest to *M. nouhuysi* but proportions quite different (see table 10); bill much more slender and more sharply decurved; throat feathering long, pointed (and beard-like), and ornamenting the sides of the throat, neck, and sides of chest, not restricted to white throat patches composed of plumage of average length.

TABLE 10  
MEASUREMENTS (IN MILLIMETERS) OF *Melidectes princeps* AND *nouhuysi*

	Wing	Tail	Bill	Tarsus
<i>princeps</i>				
♂	117-123 (120)	116-120.5 (117.4)	46-50.5 (48)	36-37.5
♀	107.5-115 (110.9)	111-113 (112)	43-46.5 (45)	32.5-35
<i>nouhuysi</i>				
2 ♂	139-141	131-132	35-36	42-43

A nestling was taken on Mt. Hagen, 11,200 feet, July 23, 1950. A fledgling just able to fly was collected on Mt. Wilhelm, 11,000 feet, June 11, 1950.

***Zosterops novaeguineae wahgiensis*, new subspecies**

TYPE: A.M.N.H. No. 348223; adult male; Nondugl, Wahgi Valley, Central Highlands, Mandated Territory of New Guinea; April 28, 1950; 5200 feet; E. T. Gilliard.

DIAGNOSIS: Nearest to *novaeguineae* but lower chest and abdomen darker, more grayish, less whitish, particularly on the flanks; yellow of throat and neck more extensive, extending to the upper chest in *wahgiensis*; upper parts averaging darker, more greenish, less yellowish. Eye ring white; lores grayish as in the nominate form.

RANGE: Apparently restricted to the southern slopes of the Bismarck Mountains.

***Zosterops novaeguineae shaw-mayeri*, new subspecies**

TYPE: A.M.N.H. No. 348224; adult male; Yandara, north slope of Mt. Wilhelm, Central Highlands, Mandated Territory of New Guinea; April 28, 1950; 6000 feet; F. Shaw Mayer.

DIAGNOSIS: Nearest to *oreophila* but lores black, not gray; eye ring complete, the upper half being white, not dark grayish, and

the lower half white as in *oreophilia*; bill more slender and longer (see table 11).

TABLE 11  
MEASUREMENTS (IN MILLIMETERS) OF *Zosterops novaeguineae*

	Wing	Tail	Bill
<i>wahgiensis</i>			
♂	58, 60.5, 61.5	37.5, 39, 41.5	11, 12, 12.5
♀	62	40	12
<i>shaw-mayeri</i> (type)			
♂	60	40.5	14

RANGE: North slopes of the Bismarck Mountains in the vicinity of Mt. Wilhelm.

REMARKS: It is a pleasure to name this new white-eye in honor of Mr. Fred Shaw-Mayer, veteran scientific collector, who presented the junior author with the only specimen obtained.

A single skin from Mt. Orata, Kubor Mountains, has the powder brown abdomen coloration of *Z. n. crissalis*, from which it appears to be inseparable.

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