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A NEW BOWER BIRD (*ARCHBOLDIA*) FROM MOUNT HAGEN, NEW GUINEA

BY ERNST MAYR AND E. THOMAS GILLIARD

In 1940 Dr. A. L. Rand (Amer. Mus. Novitates, no. 1072, pp. 9-10) described a remarkable new species of bower bird from the Snow Mountains of Dutch New Guinea. So distinct was the species that Rand was obliged to erect a new genus for it. The only known eight specimens had been collected by the 1938-1939 Richard Archbold Expedition. The record of one additional specimen from the Wisselmeer was published subsequently (Rand, 1942, Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., vol. 79, p. 498).

In 1950, in July, while collecting on Mount Hagen in the Mandated Territory of New Guinea, natives brought the junior author adult males belonging to the genus *Archboldia* which differed drastically from Rand's description of the male of *papuensis*. It was at once obvious that these birds represented either the unknown male of *Archboldia* or a quite distinct, unknown species. Natives also brought in an adult female of the same species which agreed closely with Rand's description of the adult male except for peculiarities to be mentioned below.

Through the courtesy of the Australian authorities the junior author was permitted to bring home four specimens of this remarkable bird ahead of the general collection. We find that these represent an undescribed race of *A. papuensis*.

***Archboldia papuensis sanfordi*, new subspecies**

TYPE: A.M.N.H. No. 348448; adult male; southwestern slope of Mount Hagen, 4 miles west of Tomba, Central Highlands, Mandated Territory of New Guinea; altitude 8500 feet; July 18, 1950; E. T. Gilliard.

DIAGNOSIS: Female much like subadult males and females of *Archboldia papuensis* but tail absolutely and relatively longer (see table 1); body plumage darker, more sooty black, less brown; also less vividly contrasted with dusky scalloping, particularly on the lower back and abdomen; under side of wing and tail feathers blackish, not prominently washed with yellowish olive.

RANGE: Known only from the type locality.

DESCRIPTION: Adult male. Entirely jet black, except crown. Head with a golden crest which, except for a narrow black frontal band, covers the entire crown and extends about 50 mm. beyond. There is a striking difference between the anterior and the posterior part of the crest. On the crown (in front of the eyes) there is an erected crest, the feathers of which are rather broad and decomposed; the upper two-thirds of each feather is pure gold, the base is black (this black base shows as the black forehead). The feathers of the posterior part of the crown (behind the eyes) are narrow, depressed, and on the occiput elongated into a long crest, consisting of feathers up to 57 mm. long. The individual feathers have a golden tip and a broad black base, producing a general effect of gold mottled with black. This black is most conspicuous at the top of the crown where the feathers (and their golden tips) are shortest.

The shafts of the wing quills and tail feathers are black above and yellowish buff below. The base of the primaries is yellow. The plumage is very deep black, almost glossy black on back and scapulars; the under parts are less deeply black, particularly on flanks and crissum.

The tail is deeply forked. Depth of fork, male, 35, 43, 47. Iris Carob Brown (Ridgway); bill black; legs gray.

FEMALE: Upper parts sooty brownish black, faintly more brownish on the head. Individual feathers of the back have faintly darker edges suggestive of the scaled appearance of *A. p. papuensis*, though much weaker. Alula and upper wing coverts like the back; primary coverts chiefly ochraceous with narrow dark brown tips, forming a vivid light patch against the dark wing. In females of *papuensis* the light patch is rather similar to that of *sanfordi*, but it is lighter and inclined to be less extensive. In *sanfordi* the under sides of the primaries have the basal halves of inner vanes pale ochraceous; otherwise they are dark olive black with yellow shafts. The throat is dark brownish black with an olivaceous wash. The concealed portions of the body plumage are dark gray.

TABLE 1
MEASUREMENTS OF *Archboldia papuensis* (IN MILLIMETERS)

	Wing	Tail Feathers		Tail Index	Culmen
		Longest	Shortest		
<i>papuensis</i>					
3 ♂ subadults	155, 155, 162	129.5, 135.5, 147	123, 124, 136	84.5, 87.5, 91	25, 25, 27.5
4 ♀ adults	142, 144, 147, 153.5	126, 130.5	113.5, 123.5	85, 85.5, 87.5	25, 26, 26, 26.5
<i>sanfordi</i>					
3 ♂ adults	163.5, 167, 167	176, 189, 190	143, 143, 146	105, 113.5, 115.5	24.5, 25, 25
1 ♀ adult	146.5	145	138	99	22

REMARKS: A complete report will be issued following study of the Mount Hagen collections. Photographs of the display ground of this rare bird will be published at that time.

Rand's statement (1940, p. 9) that *Archboldia* is related to *Amblyornis* is strengthened by the discovery of the male of *A. papuensis* with its golden crest. Whether or not the nominate race has also a golden-crested, fully adult plumage remains to be discovered. There is no trace of it in any of the three males collected by Rand. However, all three of these birds give an indefinite impression of not being fully adult. Although a golden-crested adult plumage is probable also for nominate *papuensis*, it is worth remembering that in the related genus *Amblyornis* the adult males in one of the four species (*inornatus*) lack the crest.

We take great pleasure in naming this remarkable new bower bird in honor of Dr. Leonard C. Sanford who sponsored the Mount Hagen Expedition and to whose enthusiasm ornithology in general, and the exploration of New Guinea in particular, owe so much.

