



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



**Join the WAOS and support
the future availability of free
pdfs on this website.**

<http://malimbus.free.fr/member.htm>

If this link does not work, please copy it to your browser and try again.

If you want to print this pdf, we suggest you begin on the next page (2) to conserve paper.

**Devenez membre de la
SOOA et soutenez la
disponibilité future des pdfs
gratuits sur ce site.**

<http://malimbus.free.fr/adhesion.htm>

Si ce lien ne fonctionne pas, veuillez le copier pour votre navigateur et réessayer.

Si vous souhaitez imprimer ce pdf, nous vous suggérons de commencer par la page suivante
(2) pour économiser du papier.

THE IDENTIFICATION OF ANDROPADUS BULBULS

J.A.Button

The following data are from observations made between September 1962 and April 1964 in and around Egbado College (Ilaro) compound and in bush adjoining the Ilaro reservation. Four species are treated: Andropadus curvirostris, A. gracilis, A. latirostris and A. virens (respectively the Sombre, Little Grey, Yellow-whiskered and Little Green Bulbuls). A. gracilirostris the Slender-billed Bulbul has not so far been encountered.

Ilaro is in the South-West corner of the Western Region, 56 miles from Lagos and 47 miles from Badagry. The town is close to unspoiled forest (Ilaro Forest Reserve), though the birds have been studied in thick secondary growth of varying degrees of maturity. A. gracilis was once seen and heard in parkland on the College compound.

	curvirostris	gracilis	latirostris	virens
Netted Status	18 resident	1 (20.iv.1963) ?	12 resident	33 resident
Song	Soft "Trrrrrrrrr" 2 or 3 times. The odd "twit, twit"	"Shut-the-gate weat-a-bik" - clear ringing tone.	Loud prolonged chirruping, often ending on three staccato notes.	Spirited warbling with wide variety of notes.
Singing Position	3' - 6' in secondary growth below thickest foliage.	Prominent, 20' - 50' high in parkland or secondary tree growth.	Concealed in dense foliage, 40' - 50' high. Thick secondary bush.	Usually 20' in tree or bushes; difficult to spot.
Singing Period	(First identified vocally 24.ii.19-64) regularly since then; more in evidence since end of March.	(Identified 20.v.1963); heard 20.vi.1963; two on 4.viii.1963; 23.i.1964.	(Identified 20.v.1963). Silent November to March.	Quiet September to December; February to April.
Physical Identity in Field	Greenish-olive legs; greyish-olive plumage.	White feathers on eyelids contrast with rest of head	Yellow moustachial streaks on throat.	General green-olive appearance; yellowish brown legs.
Identity in Hand	(i) eye-lid feathers grey, distinct from olive head. (ii) Bill narrow at gape; over 12 mm long. (iii) reddish brown eye.	As above	As above	(i) Eye-lid feathers concolorous with rest of face, olive. (ii) bill wide at gape, less than 12 mm long. (iii) greyish-brown eye.
Typical Behaviour	Perches for long periods on bare branches in low levels of mature bush.	Active in canopy of small trees, 20' - 50'.	Concealed at all times.	Active in new secondary bush & mature secondary bush between 30' and 40'. Difficult to spot.