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Pachyphantos pachyrhynchus	Compact Weaver	o
Malimbus scutatus	Red-vented Weaver	c
Spermestes cucullatus	Bronze Mannikin	c
Lagonosticta senegalensis/rufopicta	Fire-finch sp.	c

TOPO AVIFAUNA : ADDENDUM

C.H.Fry

I have recorded the following species in the same area of Topo Island in addition to Button's list above, on 15th April and 2nd May 1962 :

Falco tinnunculus	Kestrel
F. ardosiaceus	Gray Kestrel
Centropus senegalensis epomidis	Rufous-bellied Coucal
Corythornis cristata	Malachite Kingfisher
Phyllanthus atripennis	Capuchin Tabbler
Vidua macroura	Pin-tailed Whydah
Estrilda (paludicola)	(Fawn-breasted) Waxbill

Discounting C. epomidis as a race of C. senegalensis, this gives a total of 67 species, distributed by habitat (Elgood 1964a, or for species not mentioned therein, Elgood 1964b) as follows :

Aquatic	...11	(Pyrherodia, Casmerodius, Butorides, Ixobrychus, Limnocorax, Actophilornis, Stephanibyx, Actitis, Glottis, Ceryle, Corythornis)
Coasts	... 1	(Chalcomitra fuliginosa).
Marine	... 1	(Sterna)
Widespread*	9	(Milvus, Stigmatopelia, Cypsiurus, Collocaltes, Halcyon, Acropus, Hypergerus, Pycnonotus, Vidua)
Forest	...11	(Kaupifalco, Gypohierax, Streptopelia semitorquata, Turtur, Pyrrhurus simplex, Andropadus, Sylvietta, Tchagra, Anthreptes, Malimbus, Phyllanthus)
Savannah	...34	(Remainder)

The savanna relations of Topo are reflected in a considerably higher proportion of savanna birds (51%) than at Ibadan (41%) where there is a forest/savanna interface fauna. At Topo there are only 16.5% forest birds, as compared with 36% at Ibadan (Table I).

	Ibadan		Topo	
	No. of species	%age	No. of species	%age
Aquatic	42	16	11	16.5
Coastal	0	0	1	1.5
Marine	0	0	1	1.5
Widespread	19	7	9	12
Forest	96	36	11	16.5
Savannah	109	41	34	51

Table I.

Particular attention may be drawn to the record of Estrilda (paludicola), small flocks of which were seen in reeds in the lagoon side of Topo on both my visits. Field description taken at the time corresponds with Bannerman and with B.M. skins, except that the bill was red, not horn-coloured. Specimens require collection, as this

might afford an interesting extension in range of a species known in West Africa only from the Ananbra Creek, Onithsa (Bannerman).

References

- Bannerman, D.: The Birds of West and Equatorial Africa
 Elgood, J.H. & Sibley, F.C. (1964a) The tropical forest edge avifauna of Ibadan, Nigeria. *Ibis* 106 : 221-248
 Elgood, J.H. (1964b) Provisional Check-list of the birds of Nigeria. *Bull. Nig. Orn. Soc.* 1 : 13-25.

* "Widespread" of Elgood 1964b is here equated with "Indifferent" of Elgood & Sibley 1964a. Habitat assessments in these two papers are similar, except that Streptopelia semitorquata (Indif.) and Hypergerus atriceps (For.) of Elgood & Sibley are respectively Forest and Widespread in Elgood 1964b. The latter assessment is used here.

NOTES ON THE STATUS OF THE PYCNONOTIDAE AT ILARO

J.A. Button

The Ilaro with its secondary growth of varying density and maturity is excellent bulbul country. Of the twenty-six species of Pycnonotidae given in Elgood (1964), thirteen have been observed at Ilaro - eleven in the grounds of Egbado College.

An attempt has been made to estimate the relative numbers of those species which appear to be resident in the area by comparison with Pycnonotus barbatus the Common Bulbul, the most conspicuous species, which is arbitrarily given an abundance grade of 10. This indicates about 20 individual birds seen or heard during an average morning's birding over an area of about 1 sq. mile.

Four species, Bleda canicapilla Grey-headed Bristle-bill, Thescelocichla leucopleura Swamp Bulbul, Baeopogon indicator White-tailed Greenbul and Phyllastrephus baumanni Baumann's Greenbul have been selected for tabular comparison of abundance, habitat and behaviour.

The mist-netting figures represent results obtained between September 1962 and April 1964; the status figures are based on observations made regularly over the same period : at best they can only be general approximations.

Pycnonotus barbatus and Andropadus virens, both given a status of 10, have netting figures of 6 and 33 respectively. This great difference is due to the fact that A. virens is eminently 'nettable' and prefers the rather thick growth where the nets are usually placed. P. barbatus likes a more open environment; it also seems adept at avoiding the net even when it frequents thick secondary bush. In this respect it is unlike Pyrrhurus simplex.

I should like to thank Prof. J.H. Elgood for his help in identifying some of these birds in respect of both plumage and voice.

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