



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.

might afford an interesting extension in range of a species known in West Africa only from the Anarbra 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.

cont./

	<u>Status</u>	<u>Netted</u>	<u>Notes</u>
<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>	10	6	Farm & parkland; new bush
<i>Trichophorus barbatus</i>) No records) Egbado College	1	Ipake Forest Res.; dense mature growth
<i>Trichophorus calurus</i>		5	Seen once Ipake Forest Res.
<i>Bleda canicapilla</i>	3	5	Dense secondary & mature growth
<i>Thescelocichla leucopleura</i>	occasional		Status 2 at Ipake.
<i>Pyrrhurus simplex</i>	5	11	New secondary growth
<i>Baeopogon indicator</i>	2		Secondary growth, trees
<i>Phyllastrephus baumanni</i>	4	5	Secondary growth & parkland
<i>Phyllastrephus albigularis</i>	1 (?)	4	Skulks in dense new and mature growth
<i>Andropadus curvirostris</i>	6	18	Skulks in new and mature growth
<i>Andropadus gracilis</i>	occasional	1	New secondary growth & parkland
<i>Andropadus latirostris</i>	5	12	Matured secondary growth
<i>Andropadus virens</i>	10	33	New and matured second. growth

i. The Ilaro *Pycnonotidae*

	<i>Bleda canicapilla</i>	<i>Thescelocichla leucopleura</i>	<i>Baeopogon indicator</i>	<i>Phyllastrephus baumanni</i>
Status and estimate of relative nos. Ilaro (<i>Pycno. barbatus</i> = 10)	Frequent 3	Occasional Egbado Coll. 2 Ipake Forest	frequent 2	Fairly common
Netting	5	Nil. Habitat apparently too high & open	Nil. Usually too high for netting	5
General habitat	Dense new and matured secondary growth	Well-matured forest with streams and usually <i>Raphia</i> palms	Secondary bush with high trees	Secondary bush and parkland with high trees
Vertical niche	2 - 8 ft. from ground; barer branches at lower levels	20 - 50 ft. ; middle storey of trees	Canopies of large trees	Tops of trees and lower growth 10 - 70 ft. high.
Voice	Excited 'Chityu, chityu, chityu, wirra, wirra' often at dusk	Hoarse human chatter, like 'Watcher Christopher!' etc. etc.	Oriole-loke 'Piddle-chow'.	Thrush-like 'Seer, seer' sometimes with a few guttural notes
Typical behaviour	Frenzied chases thro' barer levels of lower bush. Cf <i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i> .	Often in groups of 4-5 working thro' Ipake For. Never more than a pair at Egbado Coll.	Groups of 4-7 seen regularly same trees. Excited chases at canopy level. Occasionally seen lower levels in 'bird army'.	Perching or moving quietly topmost levels; often in groups of 3-5.
Field identification	Brown with bright yellow breast & belly	Voice; a brownish bird with white corners to tail.	Brown bird; white outer tail feathers.	nondescript brown with long rusty tail. By voice and behaviour

ii. Comparison of 4 Selected Species