



**West African Ornithological Society
Société d'Ornithologie de l'Ouest
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Black-faced Dicoch	Quelea quelea	5 approx.	* Cordon-bleu	Uraeginthus bengalus	frequent
Bishop sp.	Euplectes (orix)	few	* Combassou sp.	Hypochora sp.	frequent
* Senegal Firefinch	Lagonosticta senegala	common	Paradise Whydah	Steganura orientalis	frequent
Lavender Firefinch	L. caeruleus	10 approx.	Black-rumped Waxbill	Estrilda troglodytes	frequent

Yellow Wagtail races : thought to be flavus and flavus/thunbergi hybrids. See also Ward, P. (1964) : The fat reserves of Yellow Wagtails Motacilla flava wintering in Southwest Nigeria. Ibis 106 ; 370-375.

SEASONAL MOVEMENTS OF BIRDS IN NORTHERN NIGERIA

R.E. Sharland

I quite agree with Macgregor (Seasonal movements of some birds in Northern Nigeria : Nig. Orn. Soc. Bull. 3 : 2-5) that a very substantial proportion of the avifauna is locally migratory. These movements can be roughly divided into the following three categories :

- A. A Northward movement during the rains, either before or after breeding. Most of the birds fall within this category.
- B. A dispersion and in some cases a Southward movement during the rains; this group consists of ducks.
- C. Long range movements within Africa, possibly from as far as South Africa.

In the list below I have tried to show the movements I have noticed in the Kano area (with a few notes from other localities). As the climatic changes in Kano are more marked than in Zaria or Kaduna the seasonal movements are more definite. After each species I have indicated the category into which its migration falls. Palearctic (European) migrants have been excluded.

Rosy Pelican Pelecanus onocrotalus A. A large Northward passage of about 1,200 Rosy Pelicans near Kano was watched by my wife and myself on 12th June 1957. Several parties landed and could be approached fairly close. This species is reported to breed on Waso Rock (9° N., 10° E.)

Abdim's Stork Sphenorhynchus abdimii C. A regular wet season visitor from Southern Africa. Breeds from June onwards. Large flocks may be seen in April and October/November.

White-faced Whistling Duck Dendrocygna viduata B. Very widespread in the rains. I have found a nest on a borrow-pit in the middle of Kano City. There is probably a Southward movement as this bird is quite common round Kano during the rains.

Hottentot Teal Anas punctata C. There are records from October to April. I have seen or shot them in December, February and March.

Swallow-tailed Kite Chelictinia riocourii . I have only seen this bird round Kano in March. In Sokoto it is more numerous and in December 1953 I watched an impressive passage of over 1,000 in just under an hour. Similar movements were reported by Neville Crane when he was in Kano in 1962.

S.R.A.

Shikra Accipiter badius A. Numbers considerably increase during the rains when it breeds in Kano.

Harlequin Quail Coturnix delegorguei A. A regular but scarce visitor to Kano in June and July.

African Crake Crecopsis egregia A. A regular wet season visitor. A nest was found near Kano on 7th July 1955.

Black-bellied Bustard Lissotis melanogaster A. In May there seems to be a Northward movement and at that time several birds have been seen on Kano racecourses.

Senegal Thick-knee Oedichnemus senegalensis A. Regular visitor to the Challawa River in June to October. Usually single birds, but one flock of 15 seen.

Bronze-winged Courser Rhinoptilos chalcopterus A. I have seen this bird in the middle of Kano twice in June and once in October which suggests that it migrates northwards in the rains.

Egyptian Plover Pluvianus aegyptiacus A. Regular May to October.

White-headed Plover Xiphidiopterus albiceps A. Regular May to October.

Long-tailed Dove Oena capensis B. Common in the dry season.

Black-billed Wood-Dove Turtur abyssinica A. I have one record in December. Common May/October.

Scops Owl Otus senegalensis. As this bird is so rarely seen it is difficult to classify. I have heard its call from June to December.

Black Cuckoo Cuculus clamosus. Probably C. A regular visitor from May onwards. Latest date 12th October 1963.

Great Spotted Cuckoo Clamator glandarius A. Common May to July. I have several records in November and December which are probably European migrants.

Pied Cuckoo Clamator jacobinus A, possibly also C. Earliest date 8th March 1956. Regular but uncommon May to July.

Levaillant's Cuckoo Clamator levaillantii A, possibly also C. Much more common than the last-named from May to July. One record in November.

Emerald Cuckoo Chrysococcyx cupreus A. Heard twice in kurmis (forest outliers or thickets on streams) near Kano in July 1956. Probably a regular but scarce visitor.

Didric Cuckoo Lampromorpha caprius A. Regular May to September.

Klaas' Cuckoo Lampromorpha klaasi A. Regular May to September but not as common as C. caprius.

Rufous-cheeked Nightjar Caprimulgus rufigena A. Only one record; in August 1964.

Plain Nightjar Caprimulgus inornatus A. Recorded only in May.

Standard-wing Nightjar Macrodipteryx longipennis A/C. Seen twice in Kano in June and a dead female was picked up in October 1964.

Long-tailed Nightjar Scotornis climacurus A/C ? My only records are May and June. Nightjars seen in the dry season have not been identified.

Broad-billed Roller Eurystomus afer A. Regular May to September; breeding suspected.

Grey-headed Kingfisher Halcyon leucocephala A. Regular May to September.

Senegal Kingfisher Halcyon senegalensis A. Regular May to September.

White-throated Bee-eater *Merops albicollis* A. Regular on passage in May and in October to November. I have seen them entering holes near Nguru.

Grey Hornbill Lophoceros nasutus. I have not recorded the actual dates when I have seen Grey Hornbill "route marches". So far as I can recollect they take place at the end of the dry season and early in the rains. On several occasions I have counted over 50 birds in a party.

Rufous-rumped Bush-Lark Pinarocorys erythropygia. My only Kano record was on 17th April 1956.

Paradise Flycatcher Tchitrea viridis A. A fairly common bird in thickets round Kano in June to August.

Red-breasted Wheatear Oenanthe heuglini A. Regular on passage in May to October.

Snowy-crowned Robin-Chat Cossypha niveicapilla A. Regular in the rains. I ring migrants in a certain patch of bush near Kano every October. Three robin-chats were ringed in 1963 and two of these were recaptured the following year. A young bird ringed in October 1964 suggests that they nest near Kano.

African Golden Oriole Oriolus auratus A. Golden Orioles arrive in Kano at the end of June and are common until December.

Amethyst Starling Cinnycinclus leucogaster. Only seen twice near Kano, in September.

Yellow-bellied Sunbird Cinnnyris venustus A. My only records are in May and June.

Violet-backed Sunbird Anthreptes longuemarei A. Seen once in Kano in May.

Black-faced Dioch Quelea quelea. Small parties of diochs may be seen round Kano in the rains. Several thousand diochs were ringed near Lake Chad in 1959 and 1960 and one of these was recovered later near Fika, 170 miles West of the ringing point.

PRELIMINARY NOTES ON THE BIRDS OF MALAMFATORI ,

LAKE CHAD .

A. J. Hopson

Introduction

Malamfatori lies in the extreme North-East corner of Nigeria, two miles South of the mouth of the River Yobe, on the shores of Lake Chad. It is in the driest part of the country with an annual rainfall of between approximately 6 and 16 inches, chiefly restricted to isolated storms in late July and August. The present observations were made in a roughly triangular area within fifteen miles of Malamfatori, including Abadam and Yo on the River Yobe to the West, and Arege near the lake shore to the South.