



**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.

NOTES

Occurrence of African Little Tern away from Water

On 20 th July 1967 whilst motoring along the Iseyin-Kishi road an African Little Tern Sterna albifrons was disturbed from a wayside tree . It flew round briefly and realighted in the tree . On an approach being made the tern flew off in an easterly direction towards the upper reaches of the Ogun River , about ten miles away . At that date there was very little water in that part of the river .

F. Walsh

Unusual Eye Colour in Senegal Coucal

On 24 th November 1965 I was watching the behaviour of a pair of Senegal Coucal Centropus senegalensis from a parked landrover . Both birds came within a few feet of the car . One bird was seen to have bright yellow eyes , its mate having the normal red eye colour of the species . I have borne this odd variation in mind since that time but have never encountered another case .

F. Walsh

Inland Records of the Mouse-brown Sunbird

The Mouse-brown Sunbird Anthreptes gabonica is generally considered to be a coastal species . Bannerman , 1953 , does , however , give one record from the interior of Sierra Leone , and Elgood in his checklist 1964 (Bull. Niger. Orn. Soc. I (I):13-25) queries its coastal distribution .

On the 16 th December 1966 I observed this species on a small wooded island in the River Niger at Bajibo Rapids , 9°54'N 4°36'E, over 210 miles inland . This bird , like the others seen , was searching the foliage of a tree overhanging the water , the height of the search generally being within three or four feet of the water . Its movements were very quick and acrobatic . The species was subsequently seen in a patch of Swamp Forest on the Maingyara River , a major perennial tributary of the Kontagora River , 9° 54'N 4° 45'E, in March 1967. D.Wells also saw it in this area in May 1967 (pers. comm.). He further recorded it from the Borgu area (probably Shagunu) in February and June . I have since seen it on the Oshun River by the Asejire bridge East of Ibadan, in July . These records strongly suggest that this species is much more widely distributed than hitherto reported , and that it is probably resident on other perennial rivers well into the Northern Guinea Savannah Zone .

Its appearance of neatness is very striking and the characteristic white stripes that almost encircle the eye , together with its large , black , only slightly decurved bill make it readily identifiable . I have not myself observed the white wing and tail markings mentioned by Bannerman.

It should be well worthwhile keeping an eye open for this interesting little bird on any major riverine system.

F. Walsh