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Société d'Ornithologie de l'Ouest
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HOTTENTOT TEAL BREEDING IN NIGERIA.

Until 1966 all records of Hottentot Teal Anas punctata in the Kano/Nguru area had been in the months of March and April.

In October, November and December 1966 several pairs of these birds were found near Kano and two were ringed. There was not sufficient rain in the summer of 1967 to fill the small tabkis near Kano but a pair of Hottentot teal was seen at Kazaure on 1st January, 1968.

I visited the Kazaure lakes again on 17th February, 1968. I saw one party of eight Hottentot Teal consisting of two adults escorting six ducklings and two more adults escorting five ducklings. The ducklings were about a week old.

Hottentot Teal are remarkably tame and frequently feed very near the edge of the water. As they breed at a time which is regarded as the peak of the shooting season, they should be fully protected.

A. J. Hopson tells me (pers comm.) that Hottentot Teal are resident all the year round on Lake Chad.

This appears to be the first breeding record of this delightful little duck in Nigeria.

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R. E. Sharland.
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HIRUNDINE RECORDS FROM
UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN CAMPUS

17th November, 1967 (with R. H. Parker). Large numbers of swallows, mainly Ethiopian Hirundo aethiopica and European Hirundo rustica with a few Rufous-chested Hirundo semirufa drinking in relays from the farm fish-pond. A single Sand Martin Riparia species was seen briefly. It clearly showed a light-brown back and brown breast-band on white. The possible white eye-brow was not looked for. Flight and behaviour did not strike as different from European Sand Martin Riparia riparia, but as future records show it was probably Banded Martin Riparia cincta.

15th January, 1968. At 9 am. About 100 Ethiopian and European Swallows were sunning themselves on telegraph wires above damp grass in the university farm. 2 Mosque Swallows Hirundo senegalensis were also present, as were 3 Martins. From field notes: Mouse-brown upper parts, but cap slightly redder. Underparts from throat, dirty light grey, paler on belly and under tail. Tail Sand Martin shape. Very like a dirty Sand Martin without breast-band, and greyer brown. White spots on tail not seen but could have been missed. White bases to nape feathers visible while preening. N.B. Tarsi appear feathered to toes. Size slightly smaller than Ethiopian Swallow.

Apart from the peculiar observation of tarsal feathers, this description seems to tally well with the Sudan Sand Martin Riparia paludicola. This must be regarded as a probable identification.

18th January, 1968. Same place and time as 15th January.
European Swallow 25; Ethiopian Swallow 15; Mosque Swallow 1; Banded Martin 1.
The Banded Martin was hawking for insects with the others, but strayed further from the central perch, often disappearing for several minutes. White eye-brow seen, but with difficulty. Flight powerful with fast wing-beats. Size approximately equal to Ethiopian Swallow. Tail almost square, but slightly forked.

4th February, 1968. Locality and time as above.
European Swallow 70; Ethiopian Swallow 30; Rufous-chested Swallow 7; Also 1 Striped Swallow Hirundo abyssinica.

These records of Sudan Sand Martin (?) and Banded Martin constitute additions to Elgood and Sibley's local list (Ibis 106 (2) 1964; 221-248.)

R. W. Ashford.