



**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.

A NOTE ON THE PREUSS'S CLIFF-SWALLOWS *Lecythoplastes preussi*
AT OYO NEW RESERVOIR.

Some observations were made on these birds during a visit to the reservoir between 26th February and 2nd March, 1969. The flock size was about that noted before (Ashford, R.W. (1968) Bull. Niger. Orn. Soc. 5 (18) : 42-44), some 150-200 birds. The swallows were busy building nests in the flushing-pipe tunnel and, at least near the tunnel end, the nests were about two-thirds complete. Mud for the nests seemed to come only from about a square yard of the reservoir shore about 100 yards from the dam. Here the shore was depressed and consisted of very fine, wet mud. Even in this small area the birds were taking mud only from certain patches, so forming pits of 2-3 inches diameter and up to an inch deep.

One day during the visit the Cliff-Swallows were not seen at all until evening, presumably having temporarily left the dam area.

J. Broadbent.

.....

AVOCET *Recurvirostra avosotta* AT ZARIA.

Good views were obtained at a range of about 30 yds. of an Avocet *Recurvirostra avosotta* on the shore of a small lake at the N.T.C. Demonstration Farm at Samaru, Zaria at 7.30 a.m. on the 28th February, 1969. The bird, in company with a Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*, was 'sweeping' the water in characteristic fashion. The Avocet is a winter visitor in large numbers to the Sudan and East Africa but is seldom encountered in West Africa, and the only previous records for Nigeria appear to be those of Sharland (reported by Elgood, Sharland & Ward, Ibis (1966) 108 : 84) of single birds at Ringim Lake near Kano on 20th February, 1955, and 11th February, 1956.

N. J. Skinner.

.....

WHITE-FRONTED BEE-EATER *Melittophagus bullockoides*
AT LIBREVILLE, GABON.

On 7th September, 1968, I noticed what appeared to be four White-fronted Bee-eaters *Melittophagus bullockoides* feeding in a residential area near the southern edge of Libreville, Gabon. A search for the birds was made the following day. They were located nearby on the edge of an open, grassy area (of relatively high elevation) bordered on one side by a river and otherwise surrounded by the wooded edges of mangrove swamps. Excellent views were secured and the identification confirmed.

The birds were seen almost daily during the remainder of September, as well as during subsequent visits to Libreville in October, November and December. Only four were seen and they were usually together. They seldom left