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Société d'Ornithologie de l'Ouest  
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ADDITIONS TO THE AVIFAUNAS OF  
WAZA (CAMEROUN) AND LAKE NATU (SOKOTO)

By

J. A. Broadbent

A. WAZA NATIONAL PARK

Of 82 species recorded at Waza between 24-28th March, 1969, the following were not listed by Fry (1970a):

\* Rosy Pelican Pelecanus onocrotalus

Grey Pelican P. rufescens: It is interesting that these birds were not present during Fry's visit in late November although the former especially was widely distributed on the Logone river, some 15 miles East of Waza, at that time (Fry, 1970b).

Long-tailed Shag Phalacrocorax africanus

Night Heron Nycticorax nycticorax: About fifty individuals of this delightful birds were seen together beside one of the pools.

Little Egret Egretta garzetta

Grey Heron Ardea cinerea

Wood Ibis Ibis ibis

\* African Spoonbill Platalea alba

\* Egyptian Goose Alopochen aegyptiaca

\* Pintail Anas acuta: Three seen.

Palm-nut Vulture Gypohierax angolensis: To judge from Bannerman (1953), Waza must be near the northern limit of this species.

Swallow-tailed Kite Elanus riocourii: Widespread.

\* Lesser Lily Trotter Microparra capensis

\* Black-tailed Godwit Limosa limosa

Marsh Sandpiper Tringa stagnatilis

\* Common Snipe Gallinago gallinago

\* West African Pratincole Glareola pratincola: Common.

Long-tailed Parakeet Psittacula krameri

Pied Kingfisher Ceryle rudis

Striped Kingfisher Halcyon chelicuti

\* These species were not listed by either Reis (1945) or Good (1952, 1953) and appear to be new to Cameroun.

The dry season was sufficiently advanced at the time of our visit for the pools in the open areas of the reserve to be teeming with bird life. Large flocks of pelicans, with smaller numbers of ducks and geese, were swimming on the open waters while the marshy edges of the pools abounded with waders, herons and ibises. European Turtle-doves Streptopelis turtur were migrating across the open plains in a seemingly endless procession of small flocks. White Storks Ciconia ciconia were not seen, although two individuals each of the Ostrich Struthio camelus and the Grey-backed Fiscal Shrike Lanius excubitorius were recorded. Large numbers of graminivorous species were seen around the pools in the more wooded westerly part of the reserve.

#### B. LAKE NATU, BAKURA (Near Sokoto)

Of 100 species seen during a visit between 10-12th April 1971, the following 27 species were not (or only tentatively) listed by Fry (1965) and Walker (1965):

African Openbill Anastomus leucelligerus: One bird.

Glossy Ibis Plegadis falcinellus: Eight birds feeding on a marshy area beside the lake.

Knob-billed Goose Sarkidiornis melanota: Two birds.

Little Ringed Plover Charadrius dubius: One flock of eight birds.

Wood Sandpiper Tringa glareola: This species, tentatively listed by Fry (1965), was seen frequently.

Black-winged Stilt Himantopus himantopus: Two birds.

White-winged Black Tern Sterna leucoptera: One bird. Walker (1965) saw five terns at Natu but did not identify the species.

Four-banded Sand-grouse Pterocles quadricinctus: Two birds netted on 11th April confirmed that this species, tentatively listed by Fry (1965), occurs at Natu. Large numbers were heard calling as they flew to the lake each evening.

Gold Coast Spine-tailed Swift Chaetura ussheri: Seen occasionally over the lake. Fry (pers. Comm.) informs me that there is a colony of this swift at Natu.

Giant Kingfisher Ceryle maxima: One bird.

Red-throated Bee-eater Merops bulocki: Two were netted in scrub behind the shoreline. Fry (pers. com.) suggests that Natu must be near the northern limit of this species in Nigeria.

Hoopoe Upupa epops: One bird, thought to be of the subspecies senegalensis.

Wryneck Jynx torquilla: One bird netted on 11th April.

Sand Martin Riparia riparia: Occasional.

Swallow Hirundo rustica: Frequent.

Glossy-backed Drongo Dicurus adsimilis: One bird.

Whinchat Saxicola rubetra: One bird

Blackcap Babbler Turdoides reinwardii: One bird. Two individuals of the Sudan Brown Babbler (T. plebejus) were seen.

Gold Coast Fantail-Warbler Cisticola juncidis: The identity of this bird, which occurred occasionally, was confirmed by netting.

Grey-backed Camaroptera Camaroptera brachyura: Frequent.

Senegal Puffback Flycatcher Batis senegalensis: One seen.

Rock-bunting Emberiza tahapisi: One seen.

Pin-tailed Whydah Vidua macroura: Occasional, one netted.

Melba Finch Ortyospiza atricollis: Heard only.

Warbling Silverbill Lonchura malabarica: Occasional.

Bronze Mannikin L. cucullata: Five seen

Other notable observations were:

Night Heron Nycticorax nycticorax: A party of 12 birds, mostly juvenile, were present throughout the visit.

Black Heron Egretta ardesiaca: One bird was seen on a marshy area beside the lake.

Swamp Flycatcher Muscicapa aquatica: One netted.

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THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE RED-EYED TURTLE DOVE

STREPTOPELIA SEMITORQUATA

This note raises a query regarding the habitat of the Red-eyed Turtle Dove which can be answered by members of the Society. The query arose when I was writing up notes on the birds seen on a short visit to Mount Cameroun in December 1970. (see this issue)

In my experience in Ghana it is not found in the lowland forest areas and only occurs in the more open and drier areas to the north of the forest belt and on certain areas of the Accra Plain. This distribution agrees with Bannerman (1953) who writes that it is "a bird of the open country and not of the forest, preferring plantations and second growth". In Cameroun, however, I found the bird to my surprise in the montane forest and Serle (1965) writes that the bird is found "in the forest from sea level up to 6000 ft. and in the orchard bush and gallery woods of the savanna." This distribution in Cameroun agrees with Machworth-praed and Grant (1971) who write that it is "found throughout the area (West Africa) in wooded country or forest, but quite often seen also in open country ..." Presumably in Nigeria there is a transition zone and it would be of interest if members would write in to the Bulletin describing the habitat in which they have found the Red-eyed Turtle Dove.

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