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A report has recently been received of a Chiffchaff Phylloscopus collybita BR42449 that was ringed at Bathurst, Gambia, by J.O. Andrew on 10th. December. 1970, and controlled on the Calf of Man, U.K., on 11th. April 1971.

The first British-ringed Chiffchaff to be recovered south of the Sahara was recovered in The Gambia having been ringed on the Calf of Man!

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A NEW SUBSPECIES OF FRECKLED NIGHTJAR  
IN NIGERIA.

by

Roy H. Parkor.

Caprimulgus tristigma pallidogriseus Parker and Benson (1971) has recently been described from five specimens collected in Nigeria. The following note is included here in the hopes that more information concerning the Freckled Nightjar in Nigeria can be gleaned from members of the Society who are not aware of this recent discovery.

White (1965) recognises three races of tristigma (tristigma, lentiginosus, sharpei) whilst Parker and Benson (op.cit.) consider that Clancey's (1965) description of a fourth race, granosus, is fully justified.

The detailed study of 92 specimens of C. tristigma collected from all parts of Africa within its range led to the following conclusions.

- (1) Caprimulgus tristigma tristigma Ruppell, 1840.  
Wing: 168-187mm. mean: 178.5mm (37 specimens)  
Range: Tanzania N. of 5°S., Ruanda, N.E. Congo (Upper Uele), Uganda, Kenya, Ethiopia and S. Sudan.
- (11) Caprimulgus tristigma lentiginosus Smith, 1845  
Greyer than tristigma and averages larger.  
Wing: 178-196mm. mean: 188.6mm (9 specimens).  
Range: South West Africa.
- (111) Caprimulgus tristigma granosus Clancey, 1965.  
Darker and greyer above than lentiginosus and lacking the buffy or vinaceous tones, and decidedly less buffy below.  
Wing: 182-196 mm. mean 187.6 mm. (41 specimens).

Range: Rhodesia, Malawi, Congo and Tanzania, South of 8° S., intergrading with lentiginosus in Eastern Transvaal.

(IV) Caprimulgus tristigma sharpei Alexander, 1901.

The darkest and smallest race. Wing: 165-182 mm. mean 173.3 mm (11 specimens).

Range: Central African Republic, Cameroun, Togo, Ghana, Mali and Guinea.

(V) Caprimulgus tristigma pallidogriseus Parker & Benson, 1971

Paler grey than any of the foregoing forms in especially strong contrast to sharpei. Wing: 178-184 mm. mean: 182.2 mm. (5 specimens).

The details of the five Nigerian specimens from which pallidogriseus is described are as follows:

1. (The Type.) Female, 22nd. May 1961, Upper Ogun Estate, 15 miles N. of Iseyin, W. State, Nigeria. (8°10'N., 3°35'E.). Coll. F.C. Sibley. Wing: 183 mm.
2. Male, 6th. September 1962, Sha, Nigeria, 4,100 ft. (9°10'N. 8°50'E.). Coll. R.G. Newell. Wing: 184 mm.
3. Male, 28th. October 1951, Jos, Nigeria, 4,000 ft. (9°55'N., 8°53'E.). Coll. R.E. Sharland. Wing: 182 mm.
4. (Single wing) 7th. November 1960, Kari, Nigeria (10°45'N 9°00'E.). Coll. P. Blasdale. Wing: 178 mm.
5. (Colour Photograph) (Male) 24th. December 1969, Oyo, New Reservoir, W. State, Nigeria (7°50'N., 3°55'E.). Coll. J. Broadbent. Wing: 184 mm.

On present knowledge pallidogriseus is interposed geographically between sharpei, to the west, from Togo to Guinea, and to the east, in Cameroun and the Central African Republic.

The Freckled Nightjar has been recorded for Nigeria in every month of the year except February and March. Mackworth-Praed & Grant (1970) record C. tristigma in breeding conditions in Nigeria in February but we do not know the source of this information, and Brown (1948) whilst describing two breeding records and the collection of a male with "much enlarged testes" concluded that the species bred in Nigeria (Kaba Province, Mid-West State) at the beginning of the rains (April) June). However, it must be pointed out that there is no evidence that any of the five specimens of pallidogriseus listed above were in breeding condition, but it is unlikely that pallidogriseus will be found to be a migrant, as all the evidence points to the fact that the

species, and therefore, all the other races are virtually sedentary although local movement has been observed in Zambia and is thought to occur in Rhodesia. It would appear, if this latter theory is correct, that pallidogriseus is restricted in range to the Jos Plateau in Central Nigeria and the inselbergs that surround it in lowland savanna.

I would be most grateful for any information regarding this species in Nigeria especially breeding information, observations (February-March) and specimens.

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Mackworth-Praed, C.W. & Grant, C.H.B. 1970 African handbook of birds, Ser. III, Vol. 1. Longmans.

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NOTES.

VULTURES by P.J. Mundy & A.W. Cook.

(a) Common Vulture, Neophron monachus.

In our experience, after examining nearly 100 nests this small vulture has a clutch of one. We know of only one recorded instance where two eggs were laid, also in Nigeria (R. Shuel in Boughton-Leigh, 1932, Ibis, p. 458).

So far we have added one egg each to the clutches of two pairs of vultures. In one, both eggs were similar in size and colour, and the adult had already been incubating its own egg for at least three weeks. It accepted the new egg and has successfully hatched both, three or four days apart. We examined the nest during the actual hatching of the second chick and one of us had to lift the adult off