

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

FOUR NEW VENEZUELAN BIRDS

BY WILLIAM H. PHELPS AND WILLIAM H. PHELPS, JR.

The junior author wishes to thank Mr. J. D. MacDonald, Curator of Birds in the British Museum, for the facilities given him for the examination of the type of *Phylloscartes* (*Leptopogon*) *nigrifrons* (Salvin and Godman).

Study of specimens recently acquired by the Phelps Collection and of comparative material in the American Museum of Natural History, the U. S. National Museum and the Carnegie Museum shows the following new subspecies. We thank the Curators of these museums for permitting us to have access to their collections. Specimens listed are in the Phelps Collection, unless otherwise specified.

Names of colors are capitalized when direct comparison has been made with "Ridgway's Color Standards and Color Nomenclature," 1912.

***Glaucidium brasilianum margaritae*, new subspecies**

Type: From Boca de Río, Isla de Margarita, Nueve Esparta, Venezuela; at sea level. No. 48439, Phelps Collection, Caracas, Venezuela. Adult male (brown phase) collected May 18, 1949, by Ramón Urbano. (Type on deposit at the American Museum of Natural History.)

Diagnosis: Differs from large topotypic series of the brown phase of *G. b. phalaenoides* (Daudin) from Trinidad by more numerous and more extensive white markings on back and wings; above more grayish, less brownish; the crown more spotted, less lined; below whiter with narrower striping. The upper parts differ from *G. b. medianum* Todd of Santa Marta, Colombia, in a similar way.

Range: Known only from Margarita Island.

Description of Type: Back and rump Prout's Brown; crown and nape paler; upper tail-coverts more rufous; crown and nape thickly spotted with white and with only a few short white lines on the crown; back and uropygium uniformly spotted with white, the scapulars with large quadrangular white markings; ear-coverts mixed brown and white; gular region white. Chin brown, continuous with color of neck; a whitish area on throat and anterior breast; rest of under parts white streaked with Prout's brown, more heavily on the sides and flanks; axillaries white. Wings darker than Natal Brown; remiges prominently barred with white or buffy; upper wing-coverts prominently barred or spotted with white; under wing-coverts white mixed with dark brown. Tail Prout's Brown, under surface paler with six white bands and tipped narrowly with buffy.

Bill (in life) "greenish yellow"; feet "greenish yellow"; iris "yellow." Wing, 101 mm.; tail 70; exposed culmen, 13; culmen from base 16; tarsus, 22.

Remarks: Sexes alike. Size similar to *phalaenoides*. Range of measurements: three adult males—wing, 88-101 (92.7) mm.; tail 58-70 (62.3);

culmen from base, 16-16 (16); one adult female—wing, 100; tail, 68; culmen from base, 17, two adults of undetermined sex—wing 95, 98 (96.5); tail, 65, 65 (65); culmen from base, 16, 17 (16.5). Measurements of topotypical *phaloenoides* from Trinidad¹: five adult males—wing, 91-98 (94.2); tail 55-62 (58); culmen from base, 15-17 (16); four adult females—wing, 92-96 (93.5); tail (3), 53-59 (56); culmen from base, 15-16 (15.5). Measurements of five topotypical adult males of *G. b. medianum* from Santa Marta¹—wing, 91-95 (93.2).

It is not surprising that there is a paler race in Margarita inasmuch as it is mostly a desert cactus country with little rain, while Trinidad is forested and with heavy rainfall. The Venezuelan mainland population is intermediate and many specimens cannot be separated from those from Margarita but they average closer to *phaloenoides* especially on the under parts.

The Margarita specimens were collected from May 19 to 25 and one on Sept. 5; the Trinidad specimens are dated December, February, March, April, May and June; consequently the dates are partly comparable but the Trinidad series is in fresher plumage. All of the specimens in the Margarita series in the brown phase and the fourteen from Trinidad, also in the brown phase, are comparable in that respect.

Examination of our large series of the species from Venezuela (84) and the specimens of the species in the American Museum of Natural History from Venezuela (22) and Trinidad (29) shows that the subspecies *G. b. duidae* Chapman and *G. b. olivaceum* Chapman from south of the Orinoco River can be separated from *phaloenoides* from Trinidad and northern Venezuela only by their immaculate backs, lacking the more or less spotted backs of the latter. Differences in coloration as noted in the original descriptions of *duidae* and *olivaceum* do not hold.

The differences in color between *olivaceum* and *duidae*, as noted in the original descriptions, are not constant enough to be of diagnostic value; the only difference we can find is that *olivaceum* averages slightly smaller; as stated in the original description the wing averages 3 percent shorter and the tail 5 percent shorter in the two topotypical series. All of the specimens from south of the Orinoco River, except the five from Duida, correspond to the measurements of *olivaceum*. The only specimen from Mt. Huachamacare has a wing of 95 mm. which is within the overlap of the two subspecies, but because of the proximity of this mountain to Mt. Duida we here refer it to *duidae*. As the difference in size averages so little it is possible that a larger series from Mt. Duida might invalidate *olivaceum*. *Olivaceum* is not confined to the Subtropical Zone as ten specimens in our collection are from 500 m. at the base of Mt. Uaipán-tepui and two from 60 m. at El Dorado.

As suggested by Chapman², and by Peters and Griswold³, we consider *G. jardini* (Bonaparte) a subspecies of *G. brasilianum* (Gmelin) because of their great similarity and because, as far as we know, no subspecies of *brasilianum* and *jardini* have been found together. The only difference we can find is the more intense, richer, coloration of the latter, a character which we do not consider of specific significance.

¹Specimens in the American Museum of Natural History.

²Descriptions of New Birds from Mt. Duida, Venezuela. Am. Mus. Nov., No. 350, p. 8, Oct. 21, 1929.

³Birds of the Harvard Peruvian Expedition. Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., 42, No. 4, p. 290, April, 1943.

Specimens Examined

*G. b. cactorem*¹.—MEXICO: Sinaloa, 1♂, 1♀.

*G. b. ridgwayi*¹.—TEXAS: 19. MEXICO: 50. GUATEMALA: 21. HONDURAS: 1. NICARAGUA: 2. COSTA RICA: 13.

G. b. medianum.—COLOMBIA: Santa Marta, 4♂¹, 1♀¹, 2(?)¹, 14 in brown phase⁴; Barranquilla, 1♂¹; N. Antioquia, 2(?)¹.

G. b. margaritae.—VENEZUELA: Margarita Island, brown phase, 3♂ (incl. type), 2♀, 1(?)¹; red phase, 2♂, 1♀.

G. b. phalaenoides.—TRINIDAD¹: brown phase, 15♂, 4♀; red phase, 10♂. VENEZUELA¹: Cristóbal Colón, 1♂, 2♀; Los Dos Ríos, 1♂; Rincón de San Antonio, 2♂; Sal si Puedes, 1♂; Cumanacoa, 1♀; Plain of Cumaná, 1♂; Montaña del Guácharo, 1♂; San Esteban, 1♀; El Limón, Dto. Federal, 2♀; El Cuji, 2♀; Lagunillas, 2(?)¹. VENEZUELA: Quebrada Bonita, 1♂; Cerro Negro, Monagas, 1♀; Caripe, 1♂; Bergantín, 1♂; Barcelona, 1♂, 1♀; Santa María de Ipire, 2♂, 1♀, 1(?)¹; Pariaguán, 1♂; El Socorro, 1♂; El Amparo, 1♂; Cerro Negro, Miranda, 1♂; Ocumarito, 1♀; Vallecito, 1♀; Los Teques, 1♂; Altigracia de Orituco, 2♂, 3♀; Las Quiguas, 1(?)¹; Chirgua, 1(?)¹; Quebrada Arriba, 1♀; Carora, 5♂, 1♀; Quiragua, 1♂; Casigua, 2♀; Mene Grande, 2(?)¹; Santa Cruz de Mara, 1♂; Villa del Rosario, 1♂; Río Socuy, 1♂.

G. b. duidae.—VENEZUELA: Cerro Duida¹, 1♂, 4♂ (incl. type); Cerro Huachamacare, 1♂.

G. b. olivaceum.—VENEZUELA: Cerros Roraima, 1♂, 1♀, 3♂¹; Auyan-tepui, 1♂, 5♂ (incl. type)¹; Uaipán-tepui, 8♂, 1♀, 1(?)¹; Aprada-tepui, 1♂; Ptari-tepui, 3♂, 1♀; Guaiquinima, 1♀; Paraque, 2♂; Yaví, 2♂; El Negro, 1♂; also, El Dorado, 1♂, 1♀; Kabanayén, 1♂; Hto. Santa Teresa, 1♂; La Faisca, 2♂, 1♀; La Candelaria, 1♂; Caicara, 1♂; Puerto Ayacucho, 1♂¹; Perico, 1♂¹; Caño Cataniapo, 1♀.

G. b. jardinii.—ECUADOR and PERU: 13, var. locs¹. VENEZUELA: Montañas [Páramo de La] Culata 1♂ (3000 m.), 1♀ (2800 m.)¹, 1♀ (4000 m.)¹; Páramo Escorial (3000 m.), 1♂¹; Sierra Nevada, 1♂ (2000 m.)⁵, 1♂ (3000 m.)¹.

*G. b. ucayalae*¹.—ECUADOR: Pto. Indiana, 1♀; Boca Río Curaray, 1♂. PERU: Sarayacu, 1♀.

*G. b. brasilianum*¹.—ECUADOR: 31. PERU: 6. BRAZIL: 29.

*G. b. tucumanum*¹.—ARGENTINA: Salta, 1♂, 2♀.

*G. b. nanum*¹.—CHILE: 21.

Chamaeza campanisona huachamacarii, new subspecies

Type: From Cerro Huachamacare, Territorio Amazonas, Venezuela; 650 meters, No. 51604, Phelps Collection, Caracas, Venezuela. Adult male collected December 3, 1950, by Ramón Urbano. (Type on deposit at the American Museum of Natural History.)

Diagnosis: Differs from the four known Venezuelan forms of *C. campanisona* (Lichtenstein) by more prominent and blacker stripes on underparts, which are also wider and more extensive over the abdomen; pectoral band more prominent, darker and wider, more dusky olivaceous, less

¹Specimens in the Carnegie Museum.

⁵Specimen in the U. S. National Museum.