

Aragua: 1 ♂, Tiara, Hda. Santa Rosalía (Oct. 31); 1 (♀), Lago de Valencia (Nov. 5), Estación Biológica de Rancho Grande Collection.

These two specimens extend the winter range of this migrant to Venezuela. It may be a winter resident or a transient on the way further south. Colombian records⁷ are of November and April.

Otus albo-gularis obscurus, new subspecies

Type: From Cerro Pojochaina (summit), Alto Río Negro, Sierra de Perijá, Zulia, Venezuela; 2300 meters. No. 54502, Phelps Collection, Caracas. Adult male collected February 13, 1952, by Ramón Urbano (Type on deposit at the American Museum of Natural History.)

Diagnosis: Nearest to *O. a. meridensis* (Chapman) from which it differs in shorter wing; sides of head blackish instead of brownish; and darker than either known subspecies, especially the upper parts.

Range: Known from the Perijá mountains in Cerro Pejochaina and the Fila Macoita-Apón, in the Subtropical Zone at altitudes of 2300 and 2175 meters.

Description of type: Crown and nape grayish brown finely speckled with dusky, many feathers broadly blackish brown in center and irregularly spotted with white; forehead prominently barred with whitish; supra and preorbital region largely whitish; back darker brown with dusky markings and spotted with white or buffy; rump and upper tail-coverts paler brown with buffy and dusky barring and speckling; sides of head brownish black mixed with buffy or grayish. Center of chin and throat whitish barred with pale brown; large white area each side of upper throat and a brownish black area with buffy barring on each side of lower throat; breast and sides brownish black barred with whitish and mixed with buffy; abdomen and flanks Light Ochraceous Buff, the feathers with prominent blackish brown heavy shaft streaks and barring and with large white areas; center line of abdomen, shanks and under tail-coverts with fewer markings. Wings Fuscous, paler on under surface; outer vanes of primaries and secondaries heavily barred with buffy; tertials more lightly mottled and barred with buff; wing-coverts lightly barred, mottled, speckled and spotted with buff and whitish; a large visible patch on wing caused by white areas on outer vanes of three adjoining lesser coverts; under wing-coverts and axillaries buffy with dusky markings. Tail Fuscous with buffy bars and speckling; under surface paler.

Bill (in life) "grayish yellow"; feet "sulphur flesh color"; iris "yellow." Wing, 180 mm.; tail, 117; culmen from base, 24; tarsus, 36.

Remarks: Sexes alike. Wing shorter than in *meridensis*. Range of measurements: two adult males—wing, 180-185 (182.5) mm.; tail, 117-118 (117.5); culmen from base, 22-24 (23); one adult female—wing, 180; tail, 112; culmen from base, 23. Measurements of *meridensis*: seven adult males—wing, 190-200 (194.3); tail (2), 109-115 (112); culmen from base (2), 23-23 (23); seven adult females—wing, 193-210 (197.7); tail (4), 113-115 (114.5); culmen from base, 23-24 (23.3).

The new form has the wing 7.3 percent shorter than *meridensis* with no overlap. These are the wing measurements:

⁷ de Schauensee, Bds. Col., p. 490, 1949.

<i>meridensis</i>	<i>obscurus</i>
7 males	2 males
190	180
190	185
193	
193	
197	
197	
200	
Average 194.3	Average 182.5
7 females	1 female
193	180
193	
196	
196	
199	
207	
210	
Average 197.7	

Specimens Examined

*O. a. albo-gularis*⁸.—COLOMBIA: Coachi, 3 (♂); Páramo Coachi, 1 (♀); Santa Elena, 1 ♀; Medellín, 1 (♀); "Bogotá," 1 (♀). ECUADOR: Antonguicha, 1 ♂, 1 (♀); Piganta, 1 ♂; Baños, Ambato, 3 (♀); Sumaco Arriba, 2 ♂; "Ecuador," 3 (♀).

O. a. meridensis.—VENEZUELA: San Cristóbal, 1 ♀; Queniquea, 2 ♀; Boca de Monte, 1 ♀; Páramo de La Culata, 1 ♂, 2 ♂⁸, 2 ♀⁸, 1 (♀); Páramo del Loro, 1 ♂; Valle, 1 ♂⁸; Páramo El Escorial¹, 2 ♂, 2 ♀.

O. a. obscurus.—VENEZUELA: Cerro Pejochaina, 1 ♂; Fila Macoita-Apón (Camp "Avispa"), 1 ♂, 1 ♀.

Otus aequatorialis (Chapman)

Ciccaba aequatorialis Chapman, Am. Mus. Nov., No. 31, p. 4, 1922. (Ambato, Ecuador.)

Zulia, Sierra de Perijá: 1 ♂ Cerro Tetarí (1800 meters. Pons Collection); 1 ♂ Cerro Jeretaca (Pons Collection).

The two in the American Museum from Ecuador (Ambato and Río Sardinas), and the two in the Pons Collection, are the only specimens known by us to exist. The Pons skins are in the rufous phase while the Ecuador ones are in the dark brown phase.

Peters⁹ suggests that *aequatorialis* may be a subspecies of *O. albo-gularis*. We do not think so as the two species are found very close to each other in Ecuador and also in the Sierra de Perijá: at Los Baños and Ambato in Ecuador, and cerros Tetarí and Jeretaca in Perijá which adjoin each other on the Colombian frontier. Besides, *aequatorialis* differs from *albo-gularis* in these five characters: lacks the white throat; has a white nuchal collar; lacks entirely the white speckling; has the white abdominal markings larger and rather like bars than spots; and lacks the round breast spots.

⁸ Specimens in the American Museum of Natural History.

⁹ Bds. World, 4, p. 108, 1940.