

**A New Subspecies of Coppery Metaltail (*Metallura theresiae*)  
from Northern Peru**

GARY R. GRAVES<sup>1</sup>

*Museum of Zoology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70893 USA*

Until recently the Coppery Metaltail (*Metallura theresiae*), an endemic Peruvian hummingbird, was known from only a handful of old museum specimens. A series of expeditions to remote, temperate-zone, cloud-forest localities along the eastern slope of the Peruvian Andes has revealed that *Metallura theresiae* and other members of the *Metallura aeneocauda* superspecies are common inhabitants of pajonal and timberline shrubbery (see Graves 1980, Wilson Bull. 92: 1). Specimens collected by the Louisiana State University Museum of Zoology (LSUMZ) 1978 expedition from Cordillera Colán, Department of Amazonas, Peru represent a distinct subspecies I propose to call:

***Metallura theresiae parkeri* subsp. nov.**

*Type*.—LSUMZ No. 87535; adult male, collected by Thomas S. Schulenberg at Cordillera Colán (5°34'S, 78°19'W), Department of Amazonas, Peru, elevation 9,100 ft (ca. 2,775 m), on 23 August 1978.

*Diagnosis*.—Males and females of *parkeri* have, respectively, dull bronze and dull green crowns, auriculars, and sides of throat and differ from nominate *theresiae* in lacking intense coppery red reflections on these parts (see Bond 1954, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia 106: 165, for description of male *theresiae*).

*Measurement of type (mm)*.—Wing (chord), 62.4; tail, 41.4; culmen from anterior feathers, 11.6 (see Table 1).

*Range*.—So far as known restricted to timberline forest on Cordillera Colán, Department of Amazonas, Peru.

*Specimens examined (all LSUMZ)*.—*M. t. theresiae*: km 404 Balsas-Leymebamba road, Dpt. Amazonas, 1 ♂, 1 ♀; Caldera-Mashua, E Tayabamba, Dpt. Libertad, 44 ♂♂, 9 ♀♀; Cordillera Carpish, Dpt. Huánuco, 3 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀. *M. t. parkeri*: Cordillera Colán, 8 ♂♂, 5 ♀♀.

*Etymology*.—I take pleasure in naming this new form for Theodore A. Parker, III in recognition of his extensive contributions to our knowledge of neotropical birds.

*Remarks*.—*M. t. parkeri* may be geographically restricted to the isolated northern end (Cordillera Colán) of the eastern cordillera northwest of Florida, Department of Amazonas. The form *theresiae* occurs from central Department of Amazonas and the Department of San Martín south along the eastern slope to the Cordillera Carpish in the Department of Huánuco.

TABLE 1. Ranges and means (in parentheses) of measurements (mm) of *Metallura t. theresiae* and *M. t. parkeri*.

Subspecies	n	Wing (chord)	Tail	Culmen from feathers
<i>parkeri</i> (Cordillera Colán, 5°34'S)	7 ♂♂	62.4–64.4 (63.3)	41.2–42.7 (42.1)	11.6–12.6 (12.0)
	4 ♀♀	55.8–59.5 (57.6)	37.8–42.2 (39.5)	12.1–12.4 (12.3)
<i>theresiae</i> (Caldera-Mashua, 8°10'S)	5 ♂♂	62.9–64.6 (63.5)	41.4–43.6 (42.3)	11.5–12.2 (11.7)
	5 ♀♀	58.7–60.1 (59.6)	37.5–42.1 (40.1)	11.3–12.5 (12.1)
<i>theresiae</i> (Cordillera Carpish, 9°40'S)	3 ♂♂	60.5–65.1 (62.9)	42.1–43.4 (42.8)	12.5 (12.5)
	2 ♀♀	59.0–60.4 (59.7)	40.9–41.1 (41.0)	12.7–13.3 (13.0)

I thank members of the 1978 and 1979 LSUMZ expeditions for collecting essential specimens and the Dirección General Forestal y de Fauna of Ministerio de Agricultura of Peru for issuing the necessary permits. Fieldwork was supported by LSUMZ, John S. McIlhenny, Babette M. Odom, and AeroPeru. I thank J. P. O'Neill, J. V. Remsen, and T. S. Schulenberg for shipping specimens and helpful comments.

Received 19 May 1980, accepted 20 November 1980.

<sup>1</sup> Present address: Department of Biological Science, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida 32306 USA.