

NEW DATA ON RARELY RECORDED SEABIRDS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

Macaroni Penguin *Eudyptes chrysolophus*

There are six records of the Macaroni Penguin ashore in South Africa (Cooper 1987, *Cormorant* 14:53). A seventh individual was collected alive on 26 February 1987 near Olifantsbos (34 16S, 18 23E) Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve (O.M. von Kaschke *in litt.*). The bird was a moulting adult (crest of old feathers present), had a deep gash on the top of its head and was blind in one eye. The bird died two days later and was presented to the South African Museum, (SAM Z057933), where it was sexed as a female (culmen 51 mm, bill depth at the gonys 20,5 mm). All previous six records of Macaroni Penguins ashore in South Africa are of moulting individuals, mainly juveniles, in the months of February to April (Enticott 1986, *Cormorant* 13:118-142, Cooper 1987).

Rockhopper Penguin *Eudyptes chrysocome*

There are 41 acceptable records of the Rockhopper Penguin ashore in South Africa (Cooper 1987, *Cormorant* 14:53). A 42nd record is of a moulting individual collected alive near Olifantsbos (34 16S, 18 23E) Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve on 1 February 1987. The bird completed its moult in captivity and was released after seven days in the

reserve from where it returned to the sea (O.M. von Kaschke *in litt.*). Based on photographs of the underside of the flipper taken by O.M. von Kaschke, the individual was of the northern race *moseleyi*. Because head moult was nearly completed and no old head plumes were present, it is not possible to ascertain whether it was a juvenile or an adult when it commenced moult.

A juvenile (no crest feathers present) nonmoulting Rockhopper Penguin of the northern race was collected alive from the Cape Town Harbour (33 55S, 18 27E) on 15 June 1988 and taken to the SANCCOB Rescue Station at Rietvlei where it died on 30 June. The individual weighed 1 600 g on collection and was oiled with diesel. Although the corpse showed no signs of prolonged captivity (e.g. heavy wear of feathers) it is possible that it was ship-assisted, because of the locality of collection and the fact that nearly all records of Rockhopper Penguins ashore in South Africa are of moulting individuals in austral summer months (Cooper 1987, *Cormorant* 14:53 and references therein).

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