ADDITIONAL RECORDS OF BIRDS FROM BRITISH HONDURAS (BELIZE)

JON C. BARLOW,

JAMES A. DICK

Department of Ornithology Royal Ontario Museum, and

Department of Zoology University of Toronto Toronto, Ontario, Canada

AND

ESTHER PENDERGAST

Office of the Chief Archaeologist Royal Ontario Muscum Toronto, Ontario, Canada

In a recent paper on our collecting activities in British Honduras (Belize) in 1966 the status of 17 species of birds, including some data on the White-winged Dove, Zenaida asiatica, was reported (Barlow et al., Ibis 3:399, 1969). The present note clarifies the status of Zenaida asiatica and gives distributional or breeding information for the Red-billed Pigeon, Columba flavirostris, the Black-billed Cuckoo, Coccyzus erythropthalmus, and the Collared Araçari, Pteroglossus torquatus. Between 20 April and 20 May 1969, James A. Dick collected birds in British Honduras (Belize) on behalf of the Royal Ontario Muscum. Dick used the Museum's permanent archaeological camp at Rockstone Pond, Belize District, as his main base of operations. The camp is situated in an area of second growth forest, scrub, and slash and burn agricultural practice. The following records are noteworthy.

Red-billed Pigeon. Columba flavirostris. Esther Pendergast obtained a subadult male (ROM 104086) at Rockstone Pond on 8 February 1969. Between that date and 25 June, she regularly saw two or three of these birds in the vicinity of her camp. She then obtained an adult male (ROM 104341) on 13 May 1969 at Rockstone Pond. It had a left testis measuring 14×6 mm. Dick obtained an adult male (ROM 104087) on 12 May 1969, also at Rockstone Pond. This individual weighed 300 g, had heavy fat and a left testis measuring 15×6 mm. Russell (Ornithol. Monogr. no. 1:70, 1964) reports only one specimen and a sight record for the country, from Corozal, Corozal District, which is about 45 mi. N of Rockstone Pond.

White-winged Dove. Zenaida asiatica. This species was first observed in British Honduras by Esther Pendergast in March 1967, and the first two specimens of this dove were taken by her at Rockstone Pond in March 1968 (Barlow et al., op. cit. p. 401). Since only one of these was preserved as a study skin, determination of subspecies was not possible. Dick obtained the following white-wings in 1969 at Rockstone Pond: a male (ROM 104053), testis 14×8 mm, 25 April, wing (chord) = 151.7 mm, tail = 104.5 mm, exposed culmen = 19.3 mm, weight = 162 g; a male (ROM 104054), testis = 15×5 mm, 24 April, wing (chord) = 154.8 mm, tail = 106.3 mm, exposed culmen = 19.7 mm, weight = 155 g; a fcmale (ROM 104055), ovary = 11×6 mm—largest ovum = $15 \times$ $15 \text{ mm}, 11 \times 11 \text{ mm}, 25 \text{ April, wing} (chord) = 152.2$ mm, tail = 106.4 mm, exposed culmen = 18.8 mm, weight = 156 g; and a female (ROM 104056), 26 April, 5 mi. W Rockstone Pond, ovary $= 17 \times 6$ mm largest ovum = 3×3 mm, wing (chord) = 150.2 mm, tail = 105.7 mm, exposed culmen = 18.9 mm, weight = 14.6 g. These measurements correspond to those of Z a. peninsulae, a race recently described by Saunders (N. Amer. Fauna no. 65, 1968), which is known to breed in Quintana Roo, México. We assign our specimens to that race. The gonadal condition of our specimens indicates breeding.

Black-billed Cuckoo. Coccyzus erythropthalmus. Dick obtained a Black-billed Cuckoo (ROM 104057) at Rockstone Pond on 4 May 1969. The bird demonstrated heavy fat and weighed 46 g. The left testis measured 6×4 mm. Russell (Ornithol. Monogr. no. 1, 1964) placed this species on a hypothetical list for British Honduras (Belize) because the only previous record was of a bird seen by Morton E. Peck at Tolcdo Settlement on 15 November 1906.

Collared Araçari. Pteroglossus torquatus. Russell (op. cit., p. 96) indicated that nesting of this common species had not been verified in British Honduras. Esther Pendergast had several nests under observation near Rockstone Pond in the late spring of 1969. On 4 June 1969 her husband, Dr. David Pendergast, exposed a nest in a cavity 13 ft up in a coconut palm (*Cocos nucifera*); the nest contained three partially fcathered nestlings. A female (ROM 97230) collected on 18 April 1966 by D. H. Baldwin at Rockstone Pond had an enlarged ovary 20 mm in diameter with the largest ovum measuring 4 mm. Dick obtained a female (ROM 104125) at Rockstone Pond on 25 April 1969 weighing 168 g and with an ovary measuring 14×7 mm and the largest ovum 2 mm. The oviduct was enlarged.

The authors are most grateful to D. Pendergast, Director of the R.O.M.'s archaeological camp at Rockstone Pond, for innumerable kindnesses and courtesies throughout the course of the field work. We wish to thank the officials of the Forestry Department, British Honduras (Belize), for granting scientific collecting permits to Dick and Pendergast.

Accepted for publication 30 October 1969.