

**The Yellow-headed Turkey Vulture in Surinam.**—In my "List of the birds of Surinam" (Haverschmidt, 1955) I followed Wetmore (1950) in calling the Yellow-headed Turkey Vulture of Surinam *Cathartes burrovianus* Cassin. Prof. Armando Dugand of Barranquilla (Colombia) was kind enough to draw my attention to his two papers (Dugand, 1951, 1952) in which he concluded that two races can be recognized, a smaller (*Cathartes b. burrovianus*) in the northern part and a larger (*Cathartes b. urubutinga*) in the southern part of its range. The measurements of *C. b. burrovianus* are: wing 450–485 mm., tail 194–221 mm., tarsus 50–61 mm.; of *C. b. urubutinga*, wing 487–540 mm., tail 223–280 mm., tarsus 61–68 mm.

More material, however, is needed and opinions still differ in regard to the taxonomic status of these birds, as de Schauensee (1952) prefers to consider *C. burrovianus* and *C. urubutinga* as two different species until more is known about them. In this connection, the measurements (in millimeters) of a small series of the Yellow-headed Turkey Vulture collected in Surinam may be of interest.

Locality and Date	Sex	Wing	Tail	Tarsus	Collection
Groningen, Sept. 25, 1911	♀	501	265	69	Leiden Museum
Paramaribo, Jan. 15, 1911	?	503	270	75	Leiden Museum
Paramaribo, Jan. 15, 1911	?	505	280	72	Leiden Museum
Republiek, April 11, 1948	?	499	265	66	Leiden Museum
Zanderij, May 8, 1949	♀	502	258	65	Stockholm Museum

From these measurements it is apparent that it is the larger form (or species) which occurs in Surinam and that it must be called either *Cathartes burrovianus urubutinga* or *Cathartes urubutinga*. More material is needed, however, and special attention must be paid to the color of the head in the different parts of its range.

The Yellow-headed Turkey Vulture is not uncommon in Surinam, but is primarily a bird of the forest and the forest-fringed rivers; it is but seldom seen in cultivated open country where *Cathartes aura* is common. I have only one record from the neighborhood of Paramaribo (November 15, 1948); and it was only in the Nickerie District, near the mouth of the Corantijn River in the western part of the country, that I found it more regularly in cultivated open terrain (e.g., March 27, 1946, May 8, 1947, July 10, 1956). On the other hand, I have seen it along all our forest-fringed rivers.

In the field it is easily recognized, since in flight as well as when perched in trees, the head appears distinctly yellowish orange in contrast to the red head of *Cathartes aura*.

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