

Gray-headed Manakin (*Piprites griseiceps*). Five miles southwest of Isabal, Alta Vera Paz, elevation 1,100 feet. A male taken by Hugh C. Land in dense rain forest on 2 January 1959 is the first record north of Nicaragua. This individual was part of a flock of small forest birds, mostly *Microrhopias quixensis*.

Belted Flycatcher (*Xenotriccus callizonus*). Five miles northwest of Purulhá, Baja Vera Paz, elevation 5,100 feet. Larry L. Wolf took a female of this rare species in heavy brush 11 January 1959. The specimen has a darker crown than the type (which is possibly a subadult) in the American Museum of Natural History.

Brown-capped Vireo (*Vireo leucophrys*). Seven miles northwest of Usumatlán, Department of Zacapa, elevation 6,300 feet, this location is on the south slope of the Sierra de las Minas. Larry L. Wolf collected a female on 18 December 1958 from a mixed flock of warblers moving through open woods. The specimen closely resembles the type of the Chiapas subspecies, *V. l. strenuus* Nelson, to which we are assigning it.

Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*). Five miles southwest of Panzós, Alta Vera Paz, elevation 200 feet. Two specimens of this migrant species were taken together by Hugh C. Land in a swampy woodland on 17 October 1958.—HUGH C. LAND, *Biology Department, Concord College, Athens, West Virginia*, and LARRY L. WOLF, *Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan*.

**A Subspecies of *Torreornis inexpectata* from Cuba.**—During the summer of 1959, the junior author accompanied Dr. Albert Schwartz and Mr. Ronald Klinikowski on a collecting trip in Cuba. Dr. Schwartz is making a study of the herpetology of Cuba and the Isle of Pines, with the aid of a National Science Foundation grant.

In addition to Dr. Schwartz's herpetological specimens, a series of Cuban birds was collected for the Reading Public Museum and Art Gallery. While the group was collecting along the south coast of Oriente Province, on 20 August 1959, Mr. Klinikowski collected two specimens of a bird that has proved to be a new and well-marked subspecies of *Torreornis inexpectata* Barbour and Peters, the Zapata Finch (called Zapata Sparrow by Bond in his forthcoming *Birds of the West Indies*). This bird may be known as:

***Torreornis inexpectata sigmani*** new subspecies.

*Diagnosis.* Similar in general characters to *Torreornis i. inexpectata*, but slightly smaller especially the bill length, rufous on crown less intense, very little grayish olive on chest and flanks, breast and belly paler lemon yellow, and dorsal streaking indistinct. All known specimens of *sigmani* are considerably paler than any examined adult plumages of *inexpectata*.

*Description.* Crown with two broad stripes of pale Dresden Brown (capitalized color terms *ex* Ridgway's nomenclature of colors)—bright Cinnamon Brown in the nominate race—each feather with a dusky shaft streak of Fuscous, and the stripes broadening over most of the crown and occiput; the median and lateral portions of the crown and occiput Smoke Gray (Neutral Gray in *inexpectata*), the median area and the two lateral ones becoming narrow and whitish on the forehead; auriculars, cheeks, and sides of neck and throat Smoke Gray (as opposed to Neutral Gray in the typical form); back, upper wing coverts, rump, and upper tail coverts Grayish Olive (Buffy Olive in the Zapata race) and with the dusky shaft streaks much reduced and paler, less noticeable; remiges and rectrices Buffy Brown (dark Olive Brown in nominate *inexpectata*); chin and throat white with a blackish stripe on

either side of throat as in the typical form; abdomen, thighs, and under tail coverts Primrose Yellow (Citron Yellow in the Zapata bird); sides and flanks very pale and grayish Light Yellowish Olive (dusky Yellowish Olive in the nominate race).

*Measurements.* Adult male (one specimen): wing 64 mm., tail 73, culmen 15, tarsus 21, testes 7 x 6; adult female (one specimen): wing 62, tail 74, culmen 14, tarsus 20.4.

Barbour and Peters (1927, Proc. N. Engl. Zool. Club, 9: 97) give measurements of the nominate race (type series in Museum of Comparative Zoology) as follows: male—wing 66, 67 mm., tail 73, 75, culmen 17, 17.5, tarsus 22, 22.5; female—wing 64, tail 70, culmen 17.5, tarsus 22.5.

Measurements, made by the authors, of *Torreornis i. inexpectata* skins in the United States National Museum (2) and the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia (3) are as follows: male—wing 65, 67 mm., tail 71.5, 73, culmen 15, 16, tarsus 21, 22; female—wing 65, 66, tail 68, 70.5, culmen 15, 17, tarsus 20, 22; sex unknown (male ?)—wing 67, tail 75, culmen 16, tarsus 23.

*Type.* Adult male (slightly worn but not faded), No. 20394, Reading Public Museum and Art Gallery; 2.3 miles west of Baitiquiri, Oriente, Cuba; 20 August 1959; collected by Ronald Klinikowski, original No. 92.

*Type locality.* Two and three-tenths miles west of the village of Baitiquiri, on the road that extends from the city of Guantanamo to the north coast city of Baracoa. This road follows the Caribbean coast of Cuba eastward, and the type locality is approximately 25 miles east of Guantanamo at a point where the road turns inland to pass through Baitiquiri.

Both specimens of *sigmani* were collected in the middle of the afternoon from the same dead tree. Mr. Klinikowski estimates that the birds were between 5 and 6 meters from the ground. The tree is situated at the base of a cliff approximately 150 meters from the ocean. The terrain between the cliff and the sea is typical of the southern Oriente coast, consisting of sand and limestone, and characterized by xerophytic plant life.

*Distribution.* Known only from the type locality.

*Subspecific name.* This new subspecies honors the late Arthur Tucker Sigman of Elverson, Pennsylvania; this kindly gentleman was an inspirational teacher, conservationist, and amateur ornithologist.

*Remarks.* The genus *Torreornis* remained undiscovered until 1927, when Fermin Z. Cervera collected the first specimen from Santo Tomás, Peninsula de Zapata, Cuba (Barbour and Peters, *op. cit.*, 95-97). *Torreornis i. inexpectata* is restricted to the Zapata Swamp (Bond, 1956, *Check-list of Birds of the West Indies*, p. 185), approximately 450 miles west of the type locality of *sigmani*.

This new desert race apparently consists of a relatively small population, since it remained undiscovered until 1959. Dr. Friedmann (in review of manuscript) makes the following comment: "It is more surprising that this race remained undiscovered until 1959 than that the Zapata form was not found until 1927, as the swampy habitat of the latter is difficult of access. When one recalls the surprise occasioned by the discovery of this and two other birds in the Zapata Swamp in 1927, the present discovery seems all the more unexpected, particularly since the region is fairly close to where (Charles T.) Ramsden did much of his collecting over many years."

This subspecies was previously noted by Spence ("Miscellaneous Notes of the Baird Ornithological Club," 2 November 1959); however, since the paper is mimeographed, it does not constitute a valid description.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We are grateful to Dr. Herbert Friedmann for his valuable suggestions concerning this paper, especially for his contribution to the section on description. We also wish to thank Mr. James Bond and Dr. Herbert Deignan for allowing us to examine all the specimens of *Torreornis inexpectata* in the collections of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, and the United States National Museum. In addition, we thank Mr. Samuel C. Gundy for his encouragement in the preparation of this paper.

*Specimens of Torreornis i. inexpectata examined.* USNM 307991, 26 April 1927, Santo Tomás, adult male; ANSP 108217, 18 May 1933, Santo Tomás, adult male; ANSP 85819, 20 February 1927, Santo Tomás, adult female; ANSP 111907, 5 January 1931, Santo Tomás, adult female; USNM 454883, no date, Santo Tomás, sex (?).

*Specimens of Torreornis inexpectata sigmani examined.* RPM 20394, 20 August 1959, Baitiquiri, adult male; Klinikowski private coll., on deposit in USNM, 20 August 1959, Baitiquiri, adult female.—MATTHEW J. SPENCE and BARTON L. SMITH, *Reading Public Museum and Art Gallery, Reading, Pennsylvania.*

**Unusual Feeding Habit of Boat-tailed Grackle.**—Much has been recorded about the feeding of the Boat-tailed Grackle (*Cassidix mexicanus*) on fresh-water snails and fresh-water mussels.

Howell's *Florida Bird Life* describes these birds as "sometimes completely immersing their heads in their search for food."

On 27 December 1959 in the Vero marsh, I noticed a male grackle in the top of a small cypress tree feeding on a snail. I stopped to watch, and in a few minutes a second male boat-tail flew nearly up to the boat, hovered for a few seconds about two meters above the water, then dived head first, like a kingfisher, into the clear water, which was about 40 cm. deep. It remained under water for a brief moment, with only the very tip of its tail showing. Then it came to the surface, shook itself to dry, and flew to a nearby tuft of cane and began to eat the meaty contents of a snail.—CHARLES E. CARTER, 1339 30th Street, Orlando, Florida.

**First Blue Grosbeak Collected in Ontario.**—On Monday, 23 May 1960 at Long Point, Norfolk County, Ontario (42° 34', 80° 15') a Blue Grosbeak (*Guiraca caerulea*) was captured in a Heligoland trap. The bird was an immature male and is now No. 90869 in the collection of the Royal Ontario Museum. It is the first specimen taken in Ontario.

Since 1918, when a male was seen in August in Toronto by L. L. Snyder, there have been a number of reports of this species from southern Ontario and one report from western Ontario. A number of these have been published, either in the *Canadian Field-Naturalist*, or *Audubon Field Notes*. Some are probably valid records. The recent *A.O.U. Check-list of North America birds* (fifth edition, 1957) describes the Blue Grosbeak as casual in Southern Ontario but Snyder (1950, *A Classification of Ontario Birds*, Misc. Pub. No. 3, R.O.M.Z.) makes no mention of this species even hypothetically.—JAMES WOODFORD and D. H. BALDWIN, *Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto 5, Ontario.*

**Duetting by Paired Brown-headed Cowbirds.**—In 1957 I became aware that duetting was being done by apparent pairs among the color-banded Brown-headed Cowbirds (*Molothrus ater*) coming to my window feeding shelf, and in each year