

There also seems to be no real difference in size between the sexes. The males measured average somewhat larger, but the largest individuals are females. Table 1 compares the males and females of the nominate form with the types of *N. g. guatemalensis*. Table 2 shows the lack of any progressive size decrease from Central America into the southern part of the species range.

TABLE 2
WING AND TAIL LENGTH IN FEMALE *NYCTIBIUS GRANDIS* BY
GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS

Country and number of specimens	Wing length (mm)	Tail length (mm)
Guatemala (1)	402	282
Panamá (1)	358	255
Colombia (2)	359, 382	250, 258
Venezuela (2)	347, 350	237, 238
British Guiana (1)	360	242
Surinam (1)	356	231
Brazil (9)	350-399 (367.1)	235-273 (248.8)
Peru (3)	364-367 (366.0)	254-263 (258.5)
Bolivia (4)	376-384 (380.2)	247-260 (252.3)

Acknowledgments.—Comparative material was borrowed from The American Museum of Natural History (7 specimens), Museum of Comparative Zoology (5 specimens), Chicago Natural History Museum (5 specimens), United States National Museum (5 specimens), and the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley (1 specimen). We wish to thank the personnel of these museums for the loan of this material. In addition, Kenneth C. Parkes and J. D. Martin supplied the measurements of 7 and 12 additional specimens respectively.—HUGH C. LAND, *Department of Biological Sciences, Northwestern State College, Natchitoches, Louisiana*, and WILLIAM L. SCHULTZ, *Milwaukee Public Museum, 818 W. Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee 3, Wisconsin*.

Birds associating with elephants and hippopotamuses.—The well-known association of Cattle Egrets (*Ardeola ibis*), Red-billed Oxpeckers (*Buphagus erythrorhynchos*), and Yellow-billed Oxpeckers (*B. africanus*) with the larger hoofed mammals is conspicuous throughout the plains and savannas of East Africa. However, on occasion other species of birds also exploit the ecological niche afforded by large mammals. On a recent trip to Kenya, Uganda, and Tanganyika, I observed three other species of birds feeding in close association with large ungulates:

Fork-tailed Drongo, *Dicrurus adsimilis*.—The country around "Bushwhackers," Hugh R. Stanton's camp on the Athi River 25 km north of Kibwezi, Kenya, is typical *nyika*, or tropical lowland bush. Drongos are a common and conspicuous member of the avifauna. Bush elephants (*Loxodonta africana africana*) are seasonally abundant; during my stay at the end of the long dry season, a few herds could usually be found feeding every morning and evening within hearing distance of the camp clearing. In the *nyika*, stalking is easy; I often sat quietly and watched feeding elephants for an hour or more, from as close as 30 m, with 7 × 35 binoculars. On two occasions, drongos accompanied the elephant herds.

On 2 October 1960, five drongos accompanied a herd of nine elephants which I watched from 1620 to 1730 hours. The birds perched on branches about one to two meters directly above the elephants. Whenever an elephant tore a branch from a tree, the drongos repeatedly darted, flycatcher-fashion, to snap up the insects which were dislodged from the branches, and returned to a perch above the elephants. During the 70 minutes I watched them, the elephants slowly moved about 0.25 km; the drongos remained with them the entire period.

On 16 October 1960, between 1650 and 1820, I watched two feeding elephants. Four drongos accompanied them, perching beside them in the low scrub about a meter from the ground. They frequently darted towards the elephants, and appeared to be catching tsetse flies (*Glossina* sp.) which were attracted to the elephants, rather than insects which the elephants disturbed.

Drongos have not previously been reported accompanying large mammals, but according to J. P. Chapin (*Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist.*, 75: 352, 1939), *Dicrurus paradiseus* follows troops of macaques (*Macaca* sp.) in Borneo, and *Dicrurus leucops* accompanies crested macaques (*Cynopithecus niger*) in Celebes. A Philippine drongo has earned the name "sentinel of the monkeys" because of this habit (A. L. Rand. *Fieldiana: Zoology*, 36: 23, 1954).

Piapiac, *Ptilostomus afer*.—The savannas bordering the Victoria Nile, in the Acholi and Bunyoro districts of Uganda, support a large population of forest elephants (*Loxodonta africana cyclotis*). Piapiacs, black magpie-like corvids, are fairly common, and frequently perch on the backs of elephants. For example, at 0845 on 20 October 1960, I saw more than 20 piapiacs with a herd of 17 elephants; at least one bird was on the back of each elephant. On the morning of 23 October 1960, I saw one red-billed immature and eight black-billed adult piapiacs on the back of a bull elephant. The birds are very adept at crawling over elephants, and can cling to the nearly vertical sides of their heads and bodies. They picked something—perhaps ticks, lice, or tsetses—from the skin of the elephant; they did not seem to be taking insects disturbed by the elephants. I never saw oxpeckers on elephants, nor piapiacs on other game.

Piapiacs have not previously been reported associating with elephants, but D. A. Bannerman (*The birds of tropical west Africa*. Vol. 6. London, Crown Agents for the Colonies, 1948. P. 38) says they follow herds of cattle, sheep, goats, donkeys, and wild game, for the insects disturbed by the animals. C. W. Mackworth-Praed and C. H. B. Grant (*Birds of eastern and northeastern Africa*. Vol. 2. London, Longmans, 1955. P. 679) state that in Sudan piapiacs are closely associated with domestic animals.

Common Sandpiper, *Tringa hypoleucos*.—I found this winter visitant from Eurasia moderately common along the Victoria Nile, one to eight km below Murchison Falls, 20 to 24 October 1960; and also in Lake Edward and along the Kazinga Channel, Toro and Ankole districts, Uganda, 25 to 28 October 1960. Hippopotamuses (*Hippopotamus amphibius*) were abundant; during the day they rested in small groups at the surface of the water. Common Sandpipers habitually alighted on the broad backs of the hippos, and patrolled the "shoreline." Apparently they were not seeking ectoparasites, but aquatic organisms that drifted past. The bare backs of the hippos apparently offered a less obstructed base of operations than did the heavily vegetated shoreline. R. Verheyen (*Monographie éthologique de l'hippopotame*. Bruxelles: Institut des Parcs Nationaux du Congo Belge, 1954. P. 54) has observed this association in the Semliki River, Congo.—DALE W. RICE, *U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Sand Point Naval Air Station, Bldg. 192, Seattle 15, Washington*.