

Field observations suggested that the bell call types were not uniquely associated with particular individual jays. For 15 call types at least 1 observation was made of 2 or more jays simultaneously uttering the same type of bell calls. For 20 call types, individual jays were observed switching from one call type to another while under continuous observation. No individual, however, was ever heard to utter more than two bell call types in a single sequence of calling.

The results suggest that Blue Jay bell calls are a dialect vocalization in the sense defined by Nottebohm (1969, *Condor* 71: 299–315). Bell calls are dialect-like in that they can be organized into discrete categories that are distributed over a limited part of the Blue Jay's range. The variety of seasonal and social circumstances in which bell calls occur in Blue Jays suggests that bell calls may have a broader function than that of dialect vocalizations in classical territory-defending species. We suspect that bell calls may provide identification information by which individuals decide whether or not to cooperate with one another in the various circumstances in which the calls are employed. Received 29 November 1977, accepted 9 January 1979.

The Paint-billed Crake in Guyana

DAVID R. OSBORNE AND STEVEN R. BEISSINGER¹

Department of Zoology, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio 45056 USA

On 8 August 1977, we collected an adult female Paint-billed Crake, *Neocrex erythrops olivascens*, on the grounds of the Rice Research Station at Burma of the Mahaicony and Abary Rice Development Scheme (MARDS), Guyana (6°28'N, 57°45'W). It was found among bamboo grass (*Hymenachne amplexicaulis*). The specimen weighed 43 g, had an enlarged ovary, wing of 100 mm, tarsus of 28 mm, and culmen of 16 mm. It is No. 1188, Miami University Museum of Zoology.

The Paint-billed Crake is uncommon but widespread east of the Andes. Because it has been recorded in Colombia, Venezuela, Surinam, eastern Brazil, Paraguay, eastern Bolivia, and northwestern Argentina (Blake 1977, *Manual of neo-tropical birds*, v. 1, Chicago, Illinois, Chicago Univ. Press, p. 510), its presence in Guyana would be expected. Blake (1977) does not include Guyana in the range of this form, nor does Snyder (*The birds of Guyana*, 1966, Salem, Massachusetts, Peabody Mus.) mention it in her hypothetical list, where she rejects doubtful records and includes species from surrounding countries that should occur in Guyana.

The references that include *Neocrex erythrops* as occurring in Guyana require elaboration. The basis for these records is a single mounted specimen taken by Schlegel (1865, *Mus. d'Historie Naturelle des Pays-Bas*, 5, Ralli, p. 37), which is presently housed in Leiden, Netherlands. The locality "Guyane" was apparently added later (G. F. Mees pers. comm.). In those years Guyane (Guiane) included the entire coastal plateau between the Orinoco and Amazon rivers, subsequently British, Dutch, French, and Portuguese Guiana (Malte-Brun 1827, *Dictionnaire Geographique portatif, contenant la description generale et particuliere des cinq parties du monde connu*, Paris, part I, p. 316). Thus, the exact collection locality of Schlegel's mounted specimen is not known. Apparently Schlegel also listed many specimens of birds from Surinam without giving exact localities (Haverschmidt 1968, *Birds of Surinam*, Wynnewood, Pennsylvania, Livingston Publ. Co., p. 429). Penard and Penard [1908, *De Vogels van Guyana* (Suriname, Cayanne en Demerara) Geleverd Door N.J. Boon te Amsterdam, v. 1, p. 213] cited Schlegel's specimen but gave the form as occurring in "Guiana," the area apparently encompassing Surinam, French Guiana, and the Demerara Coast along present Guyana. Hellmayr and Conover (1942, *Catalogue of birds of the Americas*, Field Mus. Nat. Hist. Zool. 13: 391) misquoted Schlegel's locality of Guyane as "Guyana." They were the source for inclusion by Ripley (1977, *Rails of the world*, Boston, Massachusetts, David R. Godine, p. 229) of the Paint-billed Crake into the Guyana avifauna. Ripley spelled it "Guayana," however. To our knowledge, our specimen is the first verifiable evidence of the species in Guyana.

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¹ Present address: 1 Johns Road, Cheltenham, Pennsylvania 19012 USA.