

THIRTY-SIXTH SUPPLEMENT TO THE
AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION
CHECK-LIST OF NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS

The 36th supplement to the A.O.U. Check-list of North American Birds (the second supplement after the 6th edition, 1983) consists of changes adopted by the Committee on Classification and Nomenclature as of 1 March 1987. The changes fall into ten categories: (1) ten species (*Sula variegata*, *Glareola maldivarum*, *Numenius minutus*, *Sterna albifrons*, *Larosterna inca*, *Calliphlox mitchellii*, *Dendrocopos major*, *Muscicapa dauurica*, *Luscinia cyane*, *Chlorophonia flavirostris*) are added to the main list because of new distributional information; (2) one species (*Vireo flavoviridis*) is added to the main list because of a taxonomic decision; (3) the names of two species (*Lathrotriccus euleri*, *Oryzoborus nuttingi*) are changed (but without the addition of a species) because of taxonomic decisions; (4) one species (*Creagrus furcatus*) is transferred from Appendix A to Appendix B; (5) one species (*Saxicola torquata*) is transferred from Appendix B to the main list because of new distributional information; (6) one species (*Ficedula mugimaki*) is added to Appendix A; (7) two species (*Daption capense*, *Acestrura heliodor*) are transferred from the main list to Appendix B; (8) three species in the main list (*Vireo magister*, *Parula superciliosa*, *Piranga bidentata*) require assignment of A.O.U. numbers because of a validated occurrence of each in the United States; (9) nomenclatural changes affecting scientific names are made; and (10) typographical errors that affect scientific names, citations, or English names are corrected. No other changes are made, nor is new distributional information included for species already in the list, except as noted above. Criteria for documentation remain as published in the 35th supplement (1985, Auk 102: 680-686). The Committee's actions with respect to the main list bring the total number of species recognized in North America to 1935.

The following are the results of Committee actions and changes to be made in the 6th edition (page numbers pertain thereto):

p. 15. Delete account of *Daption capense* (transferred to Appendix B, see account under "p. 777" below) and replace with the following:

[**Daption capense** (Linnaeus). CAPE PETREL.] See Appendix B.

p. 34. After *Sula nebouxii*, insert:

Sula variegata (Tschudi). PERUVIAN BOOBY.

Dasyporus variegatus Tschudi, 1843, Arch. Naturgesch., 9, p. 390. (coasts and islands of Pacific Ocean = islands off coast of Peru.)

Habitat & Distribution.—Breeds on islands off coasts of Ecuador, Peru and Chile, and ranges at sea off western South America.

Accidental off the Pacific coast of Panama (Bay of Panama), where present in summer 1983 (maximum about 3500 individuals on 17 June) in apparent association with a major "El Niño Southern Oscillation"; photographic confirmation (N. G. Smith, unpublished photo deposited in VIREO).

p. 90. Under *Melanitta nigra*, to recognize two taxonomic groups that may possibly be species (Cramp and Simmons, 1977, Birds W. Palearctic, 1, p. 642), change account as follows:

Distribution.—Breeds [*americana* group] in North America . . . [account as in 6th edition] . . . and in eastern Siberia from the Lena River east to Anadyrland, Sakhalin and Kamchatka; and [*nigra* group] in Eurasia from Iceland, the British Isles, Spitsbergen and Scandinavia east across northern Russia and Siberia to the Lena River. Summers widely and possibly breeds [*americana* group] from southern Yukon and southern Mackenzie east to Labrador and Newfoundland.

Winters [*americana* group] in North America . . . [account as in 6th edition] . . . and Florida, and in eastern Asia to eastern China and Japan; and [*nigra* group] in Eurasia . . . [account as in 6th edition] . . . and Korea.

Casual [*americana* group] throughout . . . [account as in 6th edition].

Notes.—Also known as COMMON SCOTER. The two groups are sometimes regarded as separate species, *M. americana* (Swainson, 1831) [AMERICAN SCOTER, 163.1] and *M. nigra* [BLACK SCOTER].

p. 175. After *Recurvirostra americana*, insert:

Family **GLAREOLIDAE**. Coursers and Pratincoles
Genus **GLAREOLA** Brisson

Glareola Brisson, 1760, Ornithologie, 1, p. 48; 5, p. 141. Type, by tautonymy, *Glareola* Brisson = *Hirundo pratincola* Linnaeus.

Glareola maldivarum Forster. ORIENTAL PRATINCOLE. [224.1.]

Glareola (Pratincola) Maldivarum J. R. Forster, 1795,

Faunula Indica, ed. 2, p. 11. (Open sea in the latitude of the Maldive Islands.)

Habitat & Distribution.—Breeds in grassy steppe in eastern Asia from southern Siberia south to India, Ceylon, the Andaman Islands and eastern China, and winters from southern Asia and the Philippines south to Australia.

Accidental in the Aleutian Islands (Attu, 19–20 May 1985, specimen; Am. Birds 39: 339, 1985).

p. 184. Before *Numenius borealis*, insert:

Numenius minutus Gould. LITTLE CURLEW. [266.1.]

Numenius minutus Gould, 1841, Proc. Zool. Soc. London (1840), p. 176. (New South Wales, Australia.)

Habitat & Distribution.—Breeds in grassy clearings and meadows in stunted subalpine forest in central Siberia and winters from Indonesia and the Philippines south to Australia and New Zealand.

Accidental in California (Santa Maria Valley, Santa Barbara County, 16 September–14 October 1984, photo; Lehman and Dunn, 1985, Am. Birds 39: 247–250).

Notes.—Also known as LITTLE WHIMBREL. See comments under *N. borealis*.

p. 225. In *Creagrus furcatus* entry, change “See Appendix A” to “See Appendix B”; see also corrections under “p. 774” and “p. 782” below.

p. 232. Before *Sterna antillarum*, insert:

Sterna albifrons Pallas. LITTLE TERN. [74.1.]

Sterna albifrons Pallas, 1764, in Vroeg, Cat. An- umbr., p. 6. (Maasland, Netherlands.)

Habitat & Distribution.—Breeds along coasts, rivers and lakes in the Palearctic from the British Isles and southern Scandinavia east to Japan, and south to northern Africa, southern Asia, Indonesia and Australia, and winters from southern Eurasia south to southern Africa and Australia.

Accidental in the Hawaiian Islands (Tern Island, French Frigate Shoals, 2 June 1985, specimen; Am. Birds 40: 163, 1986).

Notes.—See comments under *S. antillarum*.

p. 232. Original citation for *Sterna antillarum* should read: “*Sternula antillarum* Lesson, 1847, . . .”

p. 236. After *Chlidonias niger*, insert:

Genus **LAROSTERNA** Blyth

Larosterna Blyth, 1852, Cat. Birds Mus. Asiat. Soc. (1849), p. 293. Type, by monotypy, *Sterna inca* Lesson.

Larosterna inca (Lesson). INCA TERN.

Sterna Inca Lesson, 1827, Voy. Coquille, Zool., Atlas, livr. 3, pl. 47. (Lima, Peru.)

Habitat & Distribution.—Breeds on islands off the coast of Peru and Chile, and ranges along the Pacific coast of South America.

Accidental off the Pacific coast of Panama (Bay of Panama) where present in moderate numbers during early June 1983 (maximum of 65 individuals) in apparent association with a major “El Niño Southern Oscillation”; photographic confirmation (N. G. Smith, unpublished photo deposited in VIREO).

p. 333. Change spelling of “*Orthorhynchus*” to “*Orthorhyncus*” in all four places name appears on this page.

p. 354. After *Calliphlox bryantae*, insert:

Calliphlox mitchellii (Bourcier). PURPLE-THROATED WOODSTAR.

Trochilus Mitchellii Bourcier, 1847, Proc. Zool. Soc. London, p. 47. (Zimapan [Colombia].)

Habitat & Distribution.—Resident in forest and forest edge in western Colombia and western Ecuador.

Presumably resident in eastern Panama (Cana region, Cerro Pirre, eastern Darién), where known from two female specimens: 13 April 1938 (Wetmore, 1968, Smithson. Misc. Collect. 150(2): 373, reported as *Acestrura heliodor*) and 11 August 1982 (Robbins, Parker and Allen, 1985, A.O.U. Ornithol. Monogr., no. 36, p. 203).

Notes.—For a full discussion of these two specimens, see Robbins, Parker and Allen (*loc. cit.*).

p. 359. Transfer *Acestrura heliodor* to Appendix B (see preceding species and account under “p. 784” below). After citation for the genus *Acestrura*, substitute for the species account:

[***Acestrura heliodor*** (Bourcier). GORGETED WOODSTAR.] See Appendix B.

p. 389. After *Xiphidiopicus percussus*, add:

Genus **DENDROCOPOS** Koch

Dendrocopos, . . . [original citation as on p. 389].

Notes.—Frequently merged in *Picoides*, but treatment of most Old World forms in *Dendrocopos* seems warranted upon the recommendation of Ouellet (1977, Ardea 65: 165–183) and karyotypic data from Shields (1982, Condor 84: 45–58).

Dendrocopos major (Linnaeus). GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER. [401.1.]

Picus major Linnaeus, 1758, Syst. Nat., ed. 10, 1, p. 114. (in Europa = Sweden.)

Habitat & Distribution.—Resident in forests and woodland in Eurasia from the British Isles and Scandinavia east to eastern Siberia, and south to northwestern Africa, the Mediterranean region and southern Asia.

Accidental in the Aleutian Islands (Attu, 27 April 1986, specimen, Univ. of Alaska Museum).

p. 389. Delete the original citation of *Dendrocopos* from the synonymy of *Picoides*. At the end of the synonymy of *Picoides*, add:

Notes.—See comments under *Dendrocopos*.

p. 445. Before *Aphanotriccus*, insert:

Genus **LATHROTRICCUS** Lanyon

Lathrotriccus Lanyon and Lanyon, 1986, Auk, 103, p. 347. Type, by original designation, *Empidochanes euleri* Cabanis.

Notes.—For evidence that the species *euleri* should not be placed in the genus *Empidonax*, see Zink and Johnson (1984, Syst. Zool. 33: 205–216). For recognition of *Lathrotriccus* for *euleri*, see Lanyon and Lanyon (1986, Auk 103: 341–350) and Lanyon (1986, Am. Mus. Novit., no. 2846, pp. 30–37).

Lathrotriccus euleri (Cabanis). EULER'S FLYCATCHER.

Empidochanes Euleri Cabanis, . . . [original citation and account as for *Empidonax euleri*, p. 452, except in "Notes" change "E. lawrencei Allen" to "L. lawrencei (Allen)".]

p. 452. Transfer "*Empidonax euleri*" account to p. 445, with changes as indicated above.

p. 545. Before *Ficedula parva*, insert:

[**Ficedula mugimaki** (Temminck). MUGIMAKI FLYCATCHER.] See Appendix A.

p. 546. After *Muscicapa griseisticta*, insert:

Muscicapa dauurica Pallas. GRAY-BREASTED FLYCATCHER. [773.1.]

Muscicapa Grisola var. *Dauurica* Pallas, 1811, Zoogr. Rosso-Asiat., 1, p. 461. (Onon River, Dauria, Siberia.)

Muscicapa latirostris Raffles, 1822, Trans. Linn. Soc. London, 13(2), p. 312. (Sumatra.)

Habitat & Distribution.—Breeds in forest, woodland and bamboo in eastern Asia from southern Siberia south to northern India, northern China and Japan, and winters in southern Asia, Indonesia and the Philippines.

Accidental in the Aleutian Islands (Attu, 25 May 1985, specimen; Am. Birds 39: 339, 1985).

Notes.—Also known as BROWN FLYCATCHER or ASIAN BROWN FLYCATCHER. For use of *M. dauurica* instead of *M. latirostris*, see Watson, Traylor and Mayr (1986, in Peters, Birds World, 11, p. 318).

p. 547. After *Luscinia svecica* (and before *Tarsiger cyanurus*, 35th supplement), add:

Luscinia cyane (Pallas). SIBERIAN BLUE ROBIN. [764.3.]

Motacilla Cyane Pallas, 1776, Reise Versch. Prov. Russ. Reichs, 3, p. 697. (Dauria, between the Onon and the Argun [southeastern Transbaikalia].)

Habitat & Distribution.—Breeds in dense forest undergrowth in eastern Asia from southern Siberia south to northeastern China and Japan, and winters in southeastern Asia, Indonesia and the Philippines.

Accidental in the Aleutian Islands (Attu, 21 May 1986, specimen; Am. Birds 39: 339–340, 1985).

p. 548. *Saxicola torquata* is transferred from Appendix B to the main list with the following entry:

Saxicola torquata (Linnaeus). STONECHAT. [765.1.]

Motacilla torquata Linnaeus, 1766, Syst. Nat., ed. 12, 1, p. 328. (Cape of Good Hope.)

Habitat & Distribution.—Breeds in open country with scattered bushes throughout the Palaearctic and Africa; eastern populations are migratory to southern Asia and northeastern Africa, the remaining populations generally sedentary.

Accidental in New Brunswick (Grand Manan Island, 1 October 1983, photo; Wilson, 1986, Am. Birds 40: 16–17) and Alaska (Gambell, St. Lawrence Island, 5 June 1985, photo, Am. Birds 39: 340, 1985; and Galena, 19 April 1986, specimen, Univ. of Alaska Museum).

pp. 597–598. Split *Vireo olivaceus* into following:

Vireo olivaceus (Linnaeus). RED-EYED VIREO. [624.]

[Original citation unchanged.]

Habitat.—[unchanged.]

Distribution.—[Remove "flavoviridis" group; retain "olivaceus group" and "chivi" group under *V. olivaceus*.] Remove "Fernando de Noronha (off Brazil)" from range.

Notes.—The two groups are sometimes regarded as separate species because of a wide hiatus in distribution, but recent biochemical studies (Johnson and Zink, 1985, Wilson Bull. 97: 421–435) indicate that *chivi* and *olivaceus* are closely related and presumably conspecific, whereas *V. flavoviridis* is distinct at the

species level; the close approach (and possibly sympatry) without any intergradation of the breeding ranges of *olivaceus* and *flavoviridis* in southern Texas and of the *chivi* group and *flavoviridis* in eastern Panama and northwestern Colombia also supports recognition of *flavoviridis* at the species level.

Vireo flavoviridis (Cassin). YELLOW-GREEN VIREO. [625.]

Vireosylva flavoviridis Cassin, 1851, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia, 5, p. 152, pl. 11. (Panama and San Juan de Nicaragua = San Juan del Sur, Nicaragua.)

Habitat.—Open forest, woodland, second growth, scrub and mangroves.

Distribution.—[as for “*flavoviridis* group”].

Notes.—See *V. olivaceus*.

p. 598. Assign *Vireo magister* A.O.U. number 623.1 (accidental, near Crystal Beach, Bolivar Peninsula, Galveston County, Texas, photo; Am. Birds 38: 934, 1984).

p. 607. Assign *Parula superciliosa* A.O.U. number 649.2 (casual, southern Arizona, photo; Heathcote and Kaufman, 1985, Am. Birds 39: 9–11).

p. 647. Before *Chlorophonia occipitalis*, insert:

Chlorophonia flavirostris Sclater. YELLOW-COLLARED CHLOROPHONIA.

Chlorophonia flavirostris P. L. Sclater, 1861, Proc. Zool. Soc. London, p. 129. (Ecuador.)

Habitat & Distribution.—*Resident* in humid cloud forest in southwestern Colombia (Nariño) and western Ecuador.

Recorded from eastern Panama (Cerro Pirre, eastern Darién, photo; Capparella, 1986, Am. Birds 40: 194–195), where possibly only a vagrant.

p. 660. Assign *Piranga bidentata* A.O.U. number 607.1 (accidental, southern Arizona, photo; Am. Birds 39: 335, 1985).

p. 669. The English name of *Rhodothraupis celaeno* should be CRIMSON-COLLARED GROSBIRD.

pp. 688–689. Change *Oryzoborus maximiliani* to:

Oryzoborus nuttingi Ridgway. NICARAGUAN SEED-FINCH.

Oryzoborus nuttingi Ridgway, 1884, Proc. U.S. Natl. Mus., 6, p. 401. (Los Sábalos, [Río San Juan, Nicaragua.]

Habitat.—[unchanged].

Distribution.—[as for “*nuttingi* group”; remove “*maximiliani* group” and “*atrirostris* group” from range].

Notes.—Sometimes regarded as a subspecies of *O. maximiliani* Cabanis, 1851 (GREAT-BILLED SEED-FINCH) but better considered a different species (see Stiles, 1984, Condor 86: 118–122).

pp. 756–758. The original citation of the genus “*Telespyza*” (p. 756) should read:

Genus TELESPIZA Wilson

Telespyza [= error for *Telespiza*] S. B. Wilson, 1890, Ibis, p. 341. Type, by monotypy, *Telespyza* [sic] *cantans* Wilson.

Notes.—The correct spelling of this genus is *Telespiza*, as indicated on the plate accompanying the description; the spelling in text as *Telespyza* is considered a *lapsus calami* (see Olson and James, 1986, Bull. Br. Ornithol. Club 106: 84–86). Some authors merge the genera from *Telespiza* through *Chloridops* as a single genus *Psittirostra*; others maintain *Psittirostra* as distinct, combining the rest in *Loxioides*.

Change spelling of genus in the scientific names of Laysan and Nihoa finches (pp. 756–757), and in the “**Notes**” sections under the genera *Telespiza*, *Psittirostra*, *Loxioides*, *Rhodacanthis* and *Chloridops* (pp. 756–758). In original citation of “*Telespyza cantans*” (p. 756), add “[sic]” after genus; remove “[sic]” in original citation of *Telespiza ultima* (p. 757).

APPENDIX A

p. 774. Delete account of *Creagrus furcatus* (transferred to Appendix B); see under “p. 782” below.

p. 775. After *Machetornis rixosus*, add:

Ficedula mugimaki (Temminck). MUGIMAKI FLYCATCHER. [771.1.]

Muscicapa Mugimaki Temminck, 1835, Planches Color., livr. 97, pl. 577, fig. 2. (Japan.)

Habitat & Distribution.—*Breeds* in coniferous forest in southeastern Siberia and northeastern China, and *winters* in southeastern Asia and Indonesia.

Sight record.—Aleutian Islands (Shemya, 24 May 1985; Am. Birds 39: 339, 1985); photos not definitive.

APPENDIX B

p. 777. After *Phoebetria palpebrata*, insert:

Daption capensis (Linnaeus). CAPE PETREL.

Procellaria capensis Linnaeus, 1758, Syst. Nat., ed.

10, 1, p. 132. Based primarily on "The white and black Spotted Peteril" Edwards, Nat. Hist. Birds, 2, p. 90, pl. 90, right fig. (ad Cap. b. Spei = Cape of Good Hope.)

All Northern Hemisphere records of this southern ocean species, including those from Maine and off the Pacific coast of North America, are regarded as questionable (Bourne, 1967, Ibis 109: 141-167; Binford, 1986, W. Birds 17: 2).

p. 782. After *Catharacta chilensis*, insert account of *Creagrus furcatus* from Appendix A (p. 777), with following change:

Remove "Sight record" statement, and change end of preceding paragraph to read: "... as an error, and a sight record from Panama (northwest of Piñas Bay, Darién, 18 July 1957; Robins, 1958, Condor 60: 302) is regarded as unsatisfactory."

p. 784. After *Amazilia tobaci*, insert:

Acestrura heliodor (Bourcier). GORGETED WOODSTAR.

Ornismya heliodor Bourcier, 1840, Rev. Zool. [Paris], 3, p. 275. (Santa-Fé de Bogota [Colombia].)

A resident of humid mountain forest in northwestern South America, this species was erroneously recorded from eastern Panama (see Robbins, Parker and Allen, 1985, A.O.U. Ornithol. Monogr., no. 36, p. 203, and the account of *Calliphlox mitchellii*).

p. 786. Delete account of *Saxicola torquata* (transferred to main list).

pp. 798-809, the following A.O.U. number corrections/entries should be made:

- *74.1 *S. albifrons*
- 102. [Daption capense]
- 163. *Melanitta nigra* [nigra^{fl}]
- *163.1 = 163 [americana^{fl}]
- *224.1 *Glareola maldivarum*
- *266.1 *N. minutus*
- *401.1 *Dendrocopos major*
- *607.1 *P. bidentata*
- *623.1 *Vireo magister*
- 624. *V. olivaceus*
- 625. *V. flavoviridis*
- *649.2 *Parula superciliosa*
- *764.3 *Luscinia cyane*
- *765.1 *Saxicola torquata*
- *773.1 *M. dauurica*
- 774. *Telespiza cantans*

There have been, and doubtless will continue to be, increasing numbers of reports of species

new to the check-list area (or new to the United States and Canada) based on photographs and notes on characteristics, including vocalizations. In some cases, specific identity of the bird is beyond doubt but in others is highly probable although not absolutely certain. Photographs do not always rule out the possibility that the bird in question may be a hybrid, an aberrantly plumaged individual, or a species similar to the presumptive one but from a geographically remote range and thus less likely to occur within the area. Descriptions of vocalizations are not subject to precise analysis as are recordings and sound spectrograms made from them. The Committee feels that acceptance of non-specimen records based on high probability but not subject to complete verification should be avoided and that it should adhere vigorously to its criteria. To do less would lead inevitably to an erosion of standards of acceptability. As a result of application of this policy, the Committee has made the following decisions: *Ficedula mugimaki* is assigned to Appendix A, and the proposals for assignment of A.O.U. numbers (based on reports from the United States or Canada) to *Myiopagis viridicata* and *Elaenia martinica* are rejected; the United States record of *Ptilogonys cinereus* is also rejected because of uncertainty of origin of the individual in question.

Still under study by the Committee are the following proposals: revised heron relationships and taxonomy; taxonomy and status of exotic populations of *Streptopelia* doves in North America; recognition of genus *Philohydor* for *Pitangus lictor*; split of *Parus bicolor* and *P. atricristatus*; split of *Poliophtila melanura* and *P. californica*; split of *Anthus rubescens* and *A. spinoletta*; and possible assignment of A.O.U. numbers for *Cairina moschata*, *Aratinga holochlora*, *Ciccaba virgata* and *Molothrus bonariensis*. The Committee also reviewed a large amount of data on the *Carduelis hornemanni-exilipes-flammea* problem (Williamson, 1961, Br. Birds 54: 238-241; Troy, 1980, M.S. thesis, Univ. of Alaska; Troy and Brush, 1983, Condor 85: 443-446; Troy, 1984, Can. J. Zool., 62, pp. 2302-2306; Troy, 1985, Auk 102: 82-96; Molau, 1985, Vår Fågerväld 44: 5-20; Marten and Johnson, 1986, Condor 88: 409-420) and concluded that further study (especially of breeding biology, pairing, vocalizations and ecology) will be required before the systematics can be determined.

BURT L. MONROE, JR., Chairman

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