# NOTEWORTHY BIRD RECORDS FROM KOREA

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Several specimens recently added to the bird collection of the Institute of Ornithology, Kyung Hee University, and some live birds obtained from bird shops in Seoul constitute new and noteworthy records.

White-winged Crossbill. *Loxia leucoptera bifasciata.* The first record of this species for Korea is a pair caught from a large flock of Red Crossbills by Lee, Chung-Woo, in a pine forest at Yangsan, Kyongsangnamdo, on 15 February 1969. They are still captive in Seoul. Measurements: bill, 17.9 (♂) and 17.9 (♀) mm; wing, 90 and 85 mm; tarsus, 15.9 and 15.5 mm; tail, 59 (♂) mm.

Rufous-bellied Pied Woodpecker. *Dendrocopos hyperythrus subrufinus.* A mounted male specimen, reported to have been collected at Kwang-nung, Kyonggi-do, during 1968–1969, was purchased in a bird shop in Seoul on 20 August 1969. Previously Yamashina (1941:539) reported two males and one female collected at Yong'an'po, Pyongan-pukdo, between 12 May and 3 June 1929. Austin (1948:165) listed the one known Kyonggi-do specimen taken on 18 October 1918. Apparently this is the second specimen of this rare species for South Korea. Measurements: bill, 24.4 mm; wing, 128 mm.

Arctic Rosy Finch. *Leucosticte arctoa brunneonucha.* One netted at Tae'gaewon, Yangju-gun, Kyonggi-do, on 15 November 1968 was kept in a bird shop in Seoul until 30 August 1969. Previously this species was known from North Korea only on the basis of two pairs collected at Man'po, Hamgyong-pukdo, on 15 November 1929, and three males and one female collected at Changjin, Hamgyong-namdo in March 1957; in addition, several sightings were reported in the same area during the winter of 1956 and 1957 (Won 1965:370).

Red-billed Thrush. *Turdus chrysolaus chrysolaus.* A single bird in captivity is now in a live bird shop in Seoul. This species is a rare passage migrant through Korea, known previously from four old records.

Japanese Grosbeak. *Eophona personata magnirostris.* Two birds now in a live bird shop in Seoul were captured at Kal'mae Yangju-gun, Kyonggi-do, on 21 April 1968 and in early May 1968, respectively. Measurements: bill, 26.1 and 25.9 mm; wing, 121 and 121 mm; tarsus, 24.6 and 26.9 mm. Though Austin (1948:252) regarded it as a straggler, this species is an uncommon summer resident in northeastern Korea and a rare transient in South Korea. When I was at Tok'chun, North Korea, in August 1945, I saw several dozen birds kept in captivity by local farmers and fed on hemp seed. Several other specimens have been collected recently in Kyonggi-do and near Tong'nae, Pusan (Won 1969:144).

Bluethroat. *Erithacus svecica weigoldi.* A male taken at Po'chun, Kyonggi-do, on 15 May 1969 is apparently the third specimen collected in Korea, although there are several sightings. The first record is of a pair from Suh'sang, Kyonggi-do, on 18 October 1919 (Mori 1920).

Recently Fennell and King (1964:243) reported collecting an immature male and a female near Seoul on 24 October 1962 and 10 November 1962, respectively. Between 24 October and 10 November 1962 they also observed a total of six birds on different occasions. Apparently the species is a rare passage migrant through Korea rather than the straggler Austin (1948:212) regarded it.

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# A NEW SPECIES OF *TELMABATES* (PHOENICOPTERIFORMES) FROM THE LOWER EOCENE OF PATAGONIA

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In 1931 the Scarritt Expeditions of the American Museum of Natural History, led by George Gaylord Simpson, discovered numerous fossil bird bones in the Casamayor Formation of Patagonia. Twenty-four years later Howard (Amer. Mus. Novitates, no. 1710, 1955) described many of these fossils under the name *Telmabates antiquus.* The new genus was placed in its own family, the Telmabatidae, and was assigned to the order Phoenicopteriformes. While undertaking a comparative study of the Early Tertiary flamingos, I re-examined all of the material of *Telmabates* and in so doing I discovered the distal end of a right tibiotarsus that is referable to *Telmabates.* Howard (op. cit., p. 2) mentioned this specimen but decided against naming it. The tibiotarsus is very similar to *T. antiquus* in its morphological characters but is markedly smaller. It is necessary, therefore, to recognize a new species, which can be called

**Telmabates howardae,** new species
Figure 1

*Type*: Distal end of right tibiotarsus, A.M.N.H. No. 3189; from lower Eocene deposits; Casamayor Formation; Cañadón Hondo, south of Río Chico del Chubut, Chubut Province, Argentina.

*Diagnosis*: Decidedly smaller than the tibiotarsus of *Telmabates antiquus* Howard (see table 1); shaft narrower and much less robust; distal end of bone slightly more compressed lateromedially; groove for peroneus profundus located relatively more proximally;

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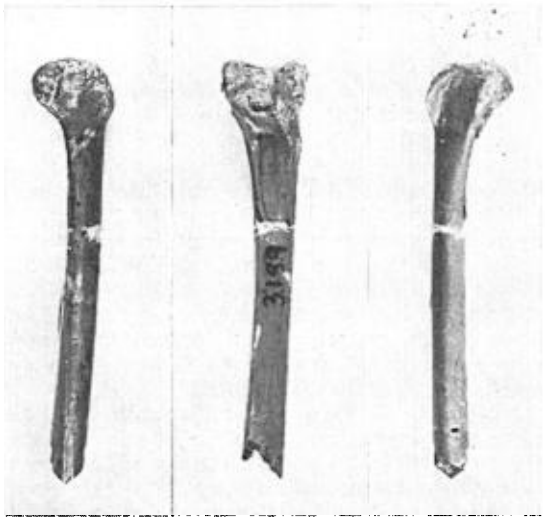

FIGURE 1. *Telmabates howardae*, A.M.N.H. No. 3189, distal end of right tibiotarsus, type specimen. Left, external condyle; center, anterior view; right, internal condyle. All about × 1.1.

TABLE 1. Measurements (mm) of tibiotarsi of the species of *Telmabates*.

| | *T. antiquus* | | *T. howardae* | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | A.M.N H. 3170 | A.M.N.H. 3181 | A.M.N H. 3180 | A.M.N.H. 3189 |
| Depth of internal condyle | 11.0 | | 11.5 | 9.9 |
| Depth of external condyle | 9.8 | 10.0 | 10.2 | 8.5 |
| Breadth across posterior end of condyles | 7.5 | | 7.9 | 6.4 |
| Breadth across anterior end of condyles | 11.3 | | 11.8 | 9.0 |
| Breadth of shaft 30mm from end of external condyle | | | 5.9 | 4.4 |
| Depth of shaft 30mm from end of external condyle | | | 4.6 | 3.9 |

tubercle at distoexternal corner of supratendinal bridge slightly more developed; and small foramen present (absent in *T. antiquus*) at base of external condyle and external to ridge forming anterior border of peroneus profundus groove.

*Measurements*: See table 1.

## DISCUSSION

*Telmabates howardae* was apparently a lighter and much more slender bird than was *T. antiquus*, but from the proportions of the tibiotarsus it is also possible that *T. howardae* was taller than *T. antiquus*. The tibiotarsi of the two species are very close morphologically, and it seems advisable to emphasize the similarities, rather than the differences, and place both species in the same genus. To my mind the most important difference is the more lateromedially compressed distal end in *T. howardae*, but this character may be a reflection of the clearly apparent difference in weight of the two birds. The other differences, except for the more slender nature of *T. howardae*, could possibly be individual variations rather than interspecific differences. Unfortunately, only one of the specimens of *T. antiquus* (A.M.N.H. No. 3180) is sufficiently well preserved to enable detailed comparisons with *T. howardae*.

The Telmabatidae are the oldest flamingo-like birds found in the New World. The relationships of *Telmabates* to the other Early Tertiary flamingos will be discussed in more detail at a later date.

It is a pleasure to name this fossil in honor of Dr. Hildegarde Howard in recognition of her many contributions to avian paleontology and to the study of fossil flamingos in particular.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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# FIRST RECORD OF THE FIELDFARE ON AMERICAN CONTINENT

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On 15 June 1968, when working on sandpipers at Point Barrow, Alaska, I found a dead Fieldfare (*Turdus pilaris*) near a dumping ground 1 mi. SW of the Naval Arctic Research Laboratory. The specimen, prepared by Frank A. Pitelka, is now deposited in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California.

The specimen was a male (testes 12 mm) and weighed 83.0 g (light fat). Desiccation was strongly evident in shrinkage of the eyes and abdominal organs, but early decomposition was serious only in the skin of the upper chest, with heavy loss of feathers from this area during preparation of the specimen. At that time, Pitelka thought that the bird had been dead more than a week when found, but probably not more than two weeks.

The nearest to the North American continent that the Fieldfare has been found is Jens Munk Island off Baffin Island in the Canadian Archipelago (W. E. Godfrey, Birds of Canada, Natl. Mus. Can., Bull. 203:296, 1966). It breeds in southern Greenland, and in tundra, boreal, and temperate climatic zones of the palaearctic.

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