

30 November 1965. At 12:10 one flew past the ship in a southeasterly direction. At 15:50 calls were again heard but no bird was seen. Weather conditions were: scattered broken clouds, 10 mile visibility, wind 5–12 knots from NE to E.

Single birds were seen on Sand Island, Johnston Atoll, from 11 to 14 October 1964 (collected) and on 15 December 1965. Single birds were seen on Johnston Island on 30 November 1965, 29 March 1965, and 31 January 1966. The 30 November bird was a very weakened individual collected following four days of NE winds; all other birds were in good condition.

White-eyes were introduced to Oahu from Japan by the Hawaii Board of Agriculture in 1929 with subsequent importations by the Hui Manu (a private organization devoted to the importation of exotic birds) and by private individuals (Caum, Occ. Papers Bernice P. Bishop Mus. 10:44, 1933). By 1933 they were established on Oahu and perhaps on Kauai, and they now occur on all of the main Hawaiian islands in most wooded habitats. The extent of the movements and dispersal of the Hawaiian populations is not known, but they are capable of, and probably do undertake, flights between islands. The presence of several flocks more than 200 miles from land suggests that the individuals observed on Johnston Atoll were natural arrivals. It is also perhaps significant that all of the sightings have been down-wind from the main Hawaiians and that the POBSP recorded

no white-eyes on the northwestern Hawaiian Islands (Clapp and Woodward, Proc. U.S. Natl. Mus. 124, No. 3640, 1968) during approximately the same period. Significantly, although coverage of most of the Northwestern Hawaiians was less complete for the late fall and winter period, no birds were reported from either Kure Atoll or French Frigate Shoals, both of which have had extensive biological coverage.

An investigation of movements of the main Hawaiian white-eye populations would be rewarding and might document regular post-breeding movements with a down-wind dispersal of storm blown birds. White-eyes of several species are widespread on southwest Pacific and Indian Ocean islands, suggesting a relative ease of dispersal. It is conceivable that some of the Hawaiian birds may eventually reach and colonize well vegetated islands in the Line Islands or Marshall Islands.

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## IMPERFECT ALBINISM IN A RED-TAILED TROPICBIRD

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In a recent survey of albinism in North American birds, A. O. Gross (Bird-Banding 36:67, 1965) found no records of albinism in the Phaethontidae, nor have we been able to find any previous records of albinism in this family from other parts of the world. The following specimen of a Red-tailed Tropicbird (*Phaethon rubricauda*) from the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands is thus of interest.

An albinistic, nearly full-grown nestling was collected by Huber on 26 July 1965, Eastern Island, Midway Atoll. According to Gross' terminology, this bird is an imperfect albino, i.e., one in which pigment is reduced or diluted in the plumage and/or eyes and/or soft parts (also termed "leucism" by Harrison in A. L. Thomson [ed.] A new dictionary of birds. McGraw-Hill, New York. 1964. p. 643.)

The specimen (USNM 495860) exhibits the usual dark barring found in the young of this species but the intensity of pigment is far less than normal (see fig. 1). In life, the bill was flesh-colored instead of the usual black or grayish-black, the distal portion of

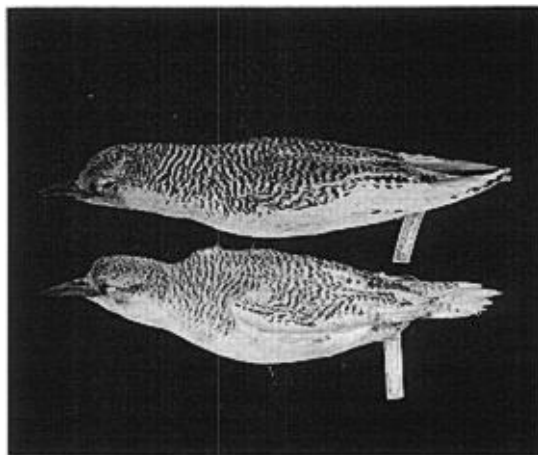


FIGURE 1. An albinistic nestling (lower). A normally plumaged (upper) tropicbird of about the same age from Johnston Atoll.

the foot was light whitish-gray rather than dark gray, and the legs were white rather than gray. Claws were dark horn-colored rather than black, but the eye color, evidently normal, was dark brown.

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