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**Range extension of Cayenne Terns on the Puerto Rico Bank.**—The range of the Cayenne Tern (*Sterna sandvicensis eurygnatha*) is described as Aruba, Netherlands Antilles, to Trinidad in the southeastern Caribbean and the Atlantic coast of South America to Argentina (French 1976, Voous 1983). Buckley and Buckley (1984) and Halewyn (1985) have recently discussed the taxonomic problems of its association with Sandwich Terns (*S. s. aculflavida*) in the Caribbean region and elsewhere.

Kepler and Kepler (1978) surveyed Culebra and its adjacent islands, 37 km east of Puerto Rico, for nesting sea birds in 1971. Having discovered colonies, they closely observed > 100 of the 735 pairs of Sandwich Terns at cayos Lobito and Matojo for morphological features that would indicate introgression of the Cayenne Tern. They saw no birds having any amount of mottled black and yellow or all yellow bills typical of *eurygnatha*. Norton (1984) reported nesting groups of *S. s. aculflavida* in the northern Virgin Islands, 40 km east of Culebra, with the first mixed pairs of *aculflavida*, the northern form, and *eurygnatha*, the southern form, in the West Indies in 1982. Schaffner and Taylor have conducted seabird studies at Culebra since 1983 and have found no evidence of Cayenne Terns.

On 12 June 1984, Schaffner and Taylor visited Cayo Matojo and counted at least 123 active nests of Sandwich Terns, 103 nests of Royal Terns (*S. maxima*), and 88 nest scrapes perhaps half of which were also *sandvicensis*. Schaffner observed several *sandvicensis* at this colony that exhibited varying amounts of yellow on their otherwise black bills. He also

noticed one incubating individual of pure *eurygnatha* bill color. It appeared that at least 5% of the Cayo Matojo colony had intermediate bills characteristic of birds observed in the American and British Virgin Islands (Norton 1984). Norton and Taylor returned to the colony on 21 June to examine further the *S. sandvicensis* population for evidence of introgression and assortative mating, and to quantify the extent of each as suggested by Buckley and Buckley (1984); but they discovered that the colony had been egged. In any case, the observations suggest that a range expansion occurred within the last few years.

On 30 May 1983, Buckley and Buckley (1984) saw a Cayenne Tern in courtship color at Cape Hatteras Point, North Carolina, within 30 km of two large *S. s. acufilavida* colonies. As suggested by Norton (1984), *S. s. eurygnatha* individuals in the Virgin Islands may have been influenced to return north with overwintering *acufilavida*. Buckley and Buckley (1984) suggest a similar scenario for the occurrence of the first continental North American individual.

The apparent range expansion, notwithstanding greater observer awareness, of the southern form of Sandwich Tern (=Cayenne Tern) to the West Indies in the early 1980s appears to be occurring throughout the local area. We suggest it will continue northward in the Greater Antilles, the Bahamas, and southern North America, where large colonies of *S. s. acufilavida* are found.

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