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from early April to September, when it is very vocal, with a further record of three birds at Tanougou (10°48'N, 1°29'E) on 24 Jun 1997. It was not recorded in this area by Green & Sayer (1977). Identification was initially by call (cf. Gibbon 1991), and several birds were seen. Voice counts suggest that it is fairly common in this area at this season, giving it a status similar to that in Togo and Nigeria.

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Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*, new to Benin

On the evening of 23 March 1997, while investigating the gallery scrub and the pools of the almost dry bed of the Ouémé River at Bétérou in N Benin, I came across a small flock of some 10–12 birds in a thicket, all apparently of the same species. They were active and difficult to see in the heavy vegetation. However, I got several good views of one individual, which stayed perched for several minutes.

The most striking feature was the black cap going down to the forehead. The shape of the birds was plump and rounded. The upperparts were of a grey-brown colour, the underparts greyish white. My conclusion was that it was a Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*. The other distant possibility would be Orpheaan Warbler *S. hortensis*, which has been sparingly recorded in both Niger (Giraudoux *et al.* 1988) and N Nigeria (Elgood *et al.* 1994). In this case the black in the head did not correspond with that of *S. hortensis*. Neither is there any reason to believe it was Sardinian

Warbler *S. melanocephala*, which has been recorded on a few occasions in Niger (Giraudoux *et al.* 1988) but not further south, as there was no trace of a red orbital ring.

The shape, plumage, behaviour, habitat and date (well-documented spring and autumn passage in W Africa, including Nigeria) were consistent with *S. atricapilla* (see Elgood *et al.* 1994). It has also been recorded in Ghana (Dowsett & Forbes-Watson 1993) and occasionally in Niger (Giraudoux *et al.* 1988), but not previously in Benin, nor in Togo (Cheke & Walsh 1996).

My thanks to J.F. Walsh for comments on a draft of this note.

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Corrigenda

Partage d'une cavité par deux espèces de calao (Diop, M.S. & Tréca, B. 1997 *Malimbus* 19: 1-6)

Dans notre article sur le partage d'une cavité par deux espèces de calao, une erreur involontaire s'est glissée. En fait l'Ecureuil fouisseur *Xerus erythropus*, souvent appelé à tort Rat palmiste, grimpe très rarement aux arbres, contrairement à l'Ecureuil de Gambie *Heliosciurus gambianus* qui lui est arboricole et peut éventuellement entrer en compétition avec les calaos pour la possession d'une cavité. Nous nous excusons pour cette confusion relevée par M. Babacar Ndao.

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