



**West African Ornithological Society
Société d'Ornithologie de l'Ouest
Africain**



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Malimbus

Vol. 1 1979 No. 2, October

(A continuation of the *Bulletin of the Nigerian Ornithologists'*
Society from Vol. 14, 1978)

EDITORIAL

The bilingual Malimbus

At first mention of the West African O.S. (in the Nigerian O.S. *Bulletin* for October 1977) notice was given that the new journal would be accepting contributions in French as well as in English. The response by French-speaking ornithologists has been most gratifying, and about the same quantity of submissions to *Malimbus* are now being made in each language, which is a proper reflection of ornithological interest and field work in our region. But maintaining a linguistic balance in a given number of the journal is no easy matter, and non-French-speaking members of the Society picking up this particular issue may feel hard done by. We hope that they do not; but if they do, that they seek to redress the balance by themselves submitting suitable material in English!

Details about the Society and *Malimbus* inside the front and back covers will be in French and English in alternate issues. No further attempt will be made to present any particular content of *Malimbus* bilingually - it will appear simply in the language in which it is submitted. Authors of papers should, however, give a bilingual summary/résumé.

Newsletter of the West African Ornithological Society/ Bulletin de la Société d'Ornithologie de l'Ouest Africain

To provide an outlet for "chatty" and anecdotal ornithology an informal newsletter named as above is to be issued from time to time. This proposal stems from the desire to involve more members in the Society's furtherance of West African ornithology. We want to encourage as many people as we can to use the newsletter for those gems of information that they might have thought insufficiently important for the Nigerian O.S. *Bulletin* or for *Malimbus*, and for their news and views.

Use the Newsletter to share with other bird-watchers advice upon and problems with the identification of difficult species; your "back-yard" behavioural observations; your knowledge of particularly good places for birds; and to place your requests for information. However insignificant you may feel your contributions to be, they will be most welcome. Please send them to the Newsletter Editor, Dr Michael Dyer, Department of Biological Sciences, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Kaduna State, Nigeria.