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THE BIRDS OF IVORY COAST

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The Birds of Ivory Coast: Status and Distribution

by Jean-Marc Thiollay

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Since the first check-list of the birds of Ivory Coast (Brunel & Thiollay 1969-70), a considerable amount of new data have been obtained through field work by the author in 1967-1984 and by numerous other ornithologists (see Acknowledgements), many resident in the country for two or more years. A more accurate statement has become possible and is much needed by the increasing number of birdwatchers attracted to this country, which is now one of the easiest, safest and most rewarding for tourism in West Africa. The maintenance of the best preserved and the largest areas of natural guinea woodland, dense rain forest, and coastal lagoons west of Cameroon makes Ivory Coast unique for study of the primitive avifauna of humid western Africa.

With its record of 683 species Ivory Coast is one of the richest countries of its size in Africa. If a few new species remain to be discovered (perhaps 20-30, mostly vagrants), much more remains to be learnt about distribution, seasonal movements, ecological requirements, and breeding of the majority of species. The need is urgent, in view of the rapidly dwindling populations of many species.

TOPOGRAPHY

Ivory Coast is 320,763 km² in extent, with about 8 million inhabitants. Altitude increases gently from the coastal zone to the northern half of the country, where it does not exceed 300-400 m except for some granite inselbergs reaching 600-700 m. But the northwestern mountain range, from Mt Peko to the Mali-Guinea border, has a mean altitude around 500 m, with numerous summits between 800 and 1,300 m and with Mt Nimba on the Liberia-Guinea border culminating at 1,752 m. Only the peak of Nimba lies above the critical 1,500 m level, considered by Moreau (1966) to be the lower limit of montane habitat.

The three large, north-south river systems are the Comoé, Bandama and Sassandra. They do not offer any obstacle or guide line to birds distribution.

Climate

The annual climatic fluctuations depend on the north-south movement of the Intertropical Front alternately giving cool moist winds from the southern equatorial maritime air mass (rainy season) and hot dry harmattan from the northern tropical continental air mass. Fig. 1 shows that annual rainfall > 2,000 mm occurs only in the extreme southeast, southwest and west of the country. Rainfall decreases to a minimum of 900 mm near the Upper Volta border in the northeast. In the south, the usual pattern is a long rainy season (April-mid July) followed by a short drier season (July-September),

then a short rainy season (mid September-November) and a long dry season (December-March). This bimodal distribution of the rains gradually changes into a unimodal pattern in the north with a single rainy season from June to September. There is much variation from year to year. The Sahel drought of the early 1970s did not affect very much of Ivory Coast, but it marked the beginning of a steady, long-term decline of rainfall which, since 1982, has had increasingly severe effects.

The Mean monthly temperature remains all year around 25°C in the forest zone, but in the extreme north it shows a minimum in December-January (23-25°C), a maximum in March-April (30-32°C), and a decrease during the rains. The mean amplitude of temperatures, relative humidity and also cloud cover decrease from south to north. The annual maximum difference in day length increases from about 35 to 60 minutes.

Main habitats and vegetation zones

The coastal zone has the densest human settlement but also the widest variety of habitats. Behind the low sandy sea coast, a dry sand belt is covered with coconut palm plantations, locally replaced by dense bushes which are the home of several northern savanna species (*Laniarius*, *Crinifer*, *Nectarinia*). They reach the coast because of its relatively dry soils. Behind this narrow belt, very large lagoons are found with extensive mangroves (*Rhizophora*, *Avicennia*), open swamps with floating vegetation and locally dense *Raphia* palm swamp forest. Formerly, natural savannas with dense *Brachiaria-Loudetia-Hyperperrhenia* grass cover and *Ficus-Bridelia-Borassus* woodland grew along some of the lagoons (e.g. Ebrié), the lowest ones being seasonally flooded (Azagny, Grand Lahou). They are now covered by huge plantations of Oil-palm, *Hevea*, etc., which are ornithological deserts. Very few forests remain in these coastal plains where farmlands, ricefields and secondary growth have taken the place of the primitive habitats.

The forest zone which extends over the southern half of Ivory Coast may be divided into a moister evergreen southern rainforest (> 1,600 mm annual rainfall, with trees such as *Lophira alata*, *Tarrieta utilis*, *Cynometra*, *Turraeanthus*, *Entandophragma*, *Mimusops* and *Piptadenia*), and a drier northern semideciduous forest, with between 1,350 and 1,600 mm rainfall (*Triplochyton scleroxylon*, *Mansonia altissima*, *Chlorophora excelsa*, *Antiaris africana* and *Sterculia tragacantha* are characteristic trees). The south-western, most humid part of the forest (Sassandra to Tai and across the Cavally river) is known as the Sassandra Pleistocene forest refuge and has the richest avifauna.

Along the northern edge of the forest block lies the forest-savanna mosaic of the southern guinea zone. It is a narrow belt on the two sides of the country around 8°N (see Fig. 2), but in the centre it extends much further south, to 6°N at Lamto, into the forest zone (the area is called the V Baoulé). In the savanna high dense grass cover (*Loudetia*, *Hyperperrhenia*, *Imperata*) is dominated by a well developed woodland (*Piliostigma*, *Cussonia*, *Crossopteryx*) whose most characteristic feature is the palm *Borassus aethiopum*. Numerous dense gallery forests divide this savanna; *Ceiba pentandra* and *Cola cordifolia* are typical trees. This area is more and more degraded by the dense human population.

North of 8°N and the 1,200 m isohyet, the northern guinea zone is

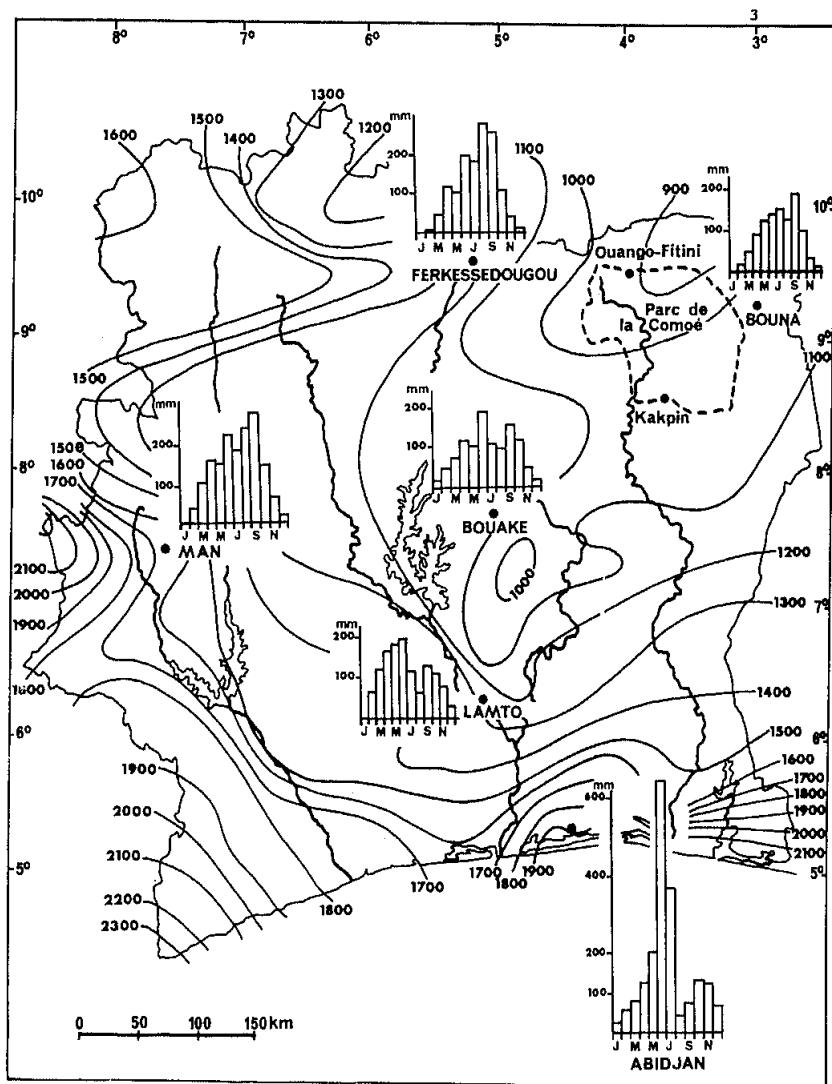


Fig. 1. Isohyets and monthly rainfall (mm) (in Devineau 1984).

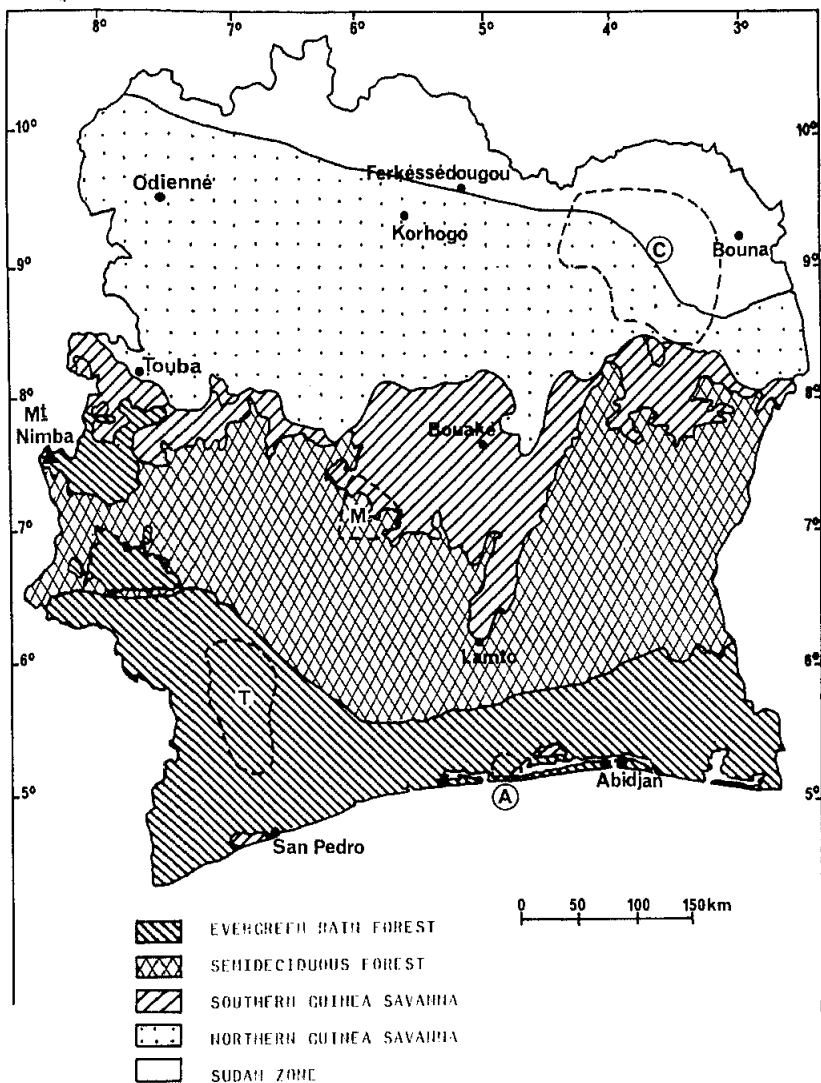


Fig. 2. Main vegetation zones and localities cited. A = Azaïny N.P., C = Comoé N.P., M = Maroué N.P., T = Taï N.P.

covered by an often nearly continuous, rather dense, savanna woodland (including many *Daniella*, *Isoberlinia*, *Lophira*, *Diospyros* and *Vapaca*), interrupted by infrequent gallery forests bordering the few permanent watercourses. Other dense patches of forest remain on rocky slopes, protected from fires or spared by farmers near villages of the Korhogo area for religious reasons. Both these relict sacred woods and large gallery forests allow many forest species to enter far into the savanna zone. Bare granitic inselbergs and flat lateritic plateaux (concretionary ironstone deposits), covered only by a thin grass layer of *Sporobolus* during the rains, are typical features of this large northern guinea zone. Contrary to what happens from Ghana to Nigeria, the human population here is sparse and confined to only a small part.

The far northern border of the country is the dry Sudan (or better subsudan) zone. *Butyrospermum*, *Parkia* and *Adansonia* are numerous in cultivated areas, and the woodlands are composed of a *Monotes-Burkea-Erythrophleum-Berlinia-Parinari* association.

Other habitats are:

- Large inland lakes, dams, and hydroelectric reservoirs in the southwest (Buyo), southeast (Ayamé), centre (Taabo, Kossou) and north (Ferkessédougou). Their fluctuating level does not allow the development of reed beds or other aquatic vegetation.
- During the dry season, many rocky or sand banks appear on the rivers and are the typical habitat of several species (*Glareola*, *Oedichnus*, *Vanellus*) as well as good fishing sites for herons, egrets, storks and kingfishers.
- True montane forest is restricted between 1,300 m and 1,600 m on Mt Nimba. It is dense and very humid, rich in tree-ferns and epiphytes.
- Montane grassland, on the ridge of Mt Nimba, harbours a few endemics (*Saxicola*, *Anthus*, *Cisticola*).

MIGRATIONS

One of the main consequences of climatic fluctuations are savanna bush fires. Almost the entire guinea and sudan zones are burnt every dry season (mainly December to February). The destruction of the grass cover and the defoliation of trees are followed immediately in the south, later in the north, by green regrowth. The habitat is then suitable for many migratory species, which disappear when the rains reduce food accessibility through the growth of high dense vegetation.

Of the 683 species, 102 are Palearctic migrants, 38 are intra-African migrants breeding outside Ivory Coast and 25 are intra-African migrants breeding within the country, in the dry season. Many more species perform local seasonal movements or have fluctuating numbers, without ever leaving the country completely. Most, if not all, of the migratory movements are northward at the onset of the rainy season and southward in the early dry season. So general is the migratory tendency among the avifauna that I wonder if there is a single savanna or open wetland species which is fully sedentary over all its range.

By contrast, many forest species appear to be sedentary although several frugivores (*Bycanistes*, *Psittacus*, *Treron*, *Lamprolornis*) show locally important seasonal variations of abundance.

POPULATION CHANGES AND CONSERVATION

Outside some large agricultural schemes (Ferkessédougou area), most of the northern savannas are yet undisturbed, except for the destruction of their large mammal fauna. The central and southern savannas have been more affected by the growth of human population and living standards than southern ones, and plantations are rapidly destroying the last natural areas. The forest zone has changed dramatically during the last 30 years. The remaining primary forest, estimated at 11.8 million hectares in 1956, was reduced to 4 M ha in 1976 and to 0.4 M ha in 1984. Intensive logging and road network construction have been followed by waves of immigrants in search of agricultural lands and by huge commercial plantations. Hunting pressure in the remaining patches of secondary forest quickly eliminates the large mammals and birds, which are already severely affected by habitat destruction.

Fortunately sizeable representative areas of virgin habitat have been preserved in national parks or equivalent reserves within each main vegetation zone: Banco forest near Abidjan (2,900 ha), Azagny (marshes and swamp forest, 30,000 ha), Taï (dense rain forest, 330,000 ha), Mt Nimba (montane forest, 5,000 ha), Mt Peko and Mt Sangbé (63,000 ha) as well as Lanto (2,700 ha) and Maraoué (100,000 ha) in the forest-savanna mosaic zone, and Comoé (1.1 M ha) in the northern guinea zone. Together their cover 5% of the country. Although intensive poaching greatly reduces the mammal fauna, it does not seem directly to affect birds within the parks.

Large areas of open farmlands and derived savanna created in the forest zone are colonized by numerous savanna species, which now have a continuous distribution from the guinea zone to the coast (where most of them had a relict population). Large new reservoirs have also favoured range extensions of many wetlands birds previously lacking inland suitable habitat. The development of ricefields (not all cultivated every year) also favours many marsh and granivorous birds.

Many of the early data of Pouet & Millet Horsin (1916-17) give a different picture of the avifauna at that time. Although limited to only a few localities, they show two striking phenomena:

1 Many large birds (Darter, geese, storks, eagles, bustards, Great Turaco and Hornbills) were much more abundant and widespread than today. Hunting pressure and habitat destruction have eliminated many local populations and confined the healthy ones to national parks.

2 Although at that time, most of the forest zone was yet undisturbed and probably unbroken over huge areas, a surprisingly high number of species, now restricted to the guinea or even sudan belts, was cited from the coastal area (Grand Bassam, Abidjan).

More generally, many species' distributions had much more southern limits than today (or at least than in the 1960-1970s). The first 15 or so years of the century are well known to have been a dry period, similar to or even

worse than the present years, including not only spectacular droughts but also a general reduction of mean annual rainfall over most of West Africa. The intervening 40 or so years are considered a humid period which has probably shaped the distributional features of birds today.

The present driness is undoubtedly responsible for the increasing number of species (see text) newly occurring in northern Ivory Coast, either as dry season vagrants or by increasing their ranges southward. For instance, in the well known Lanto reserve, after 15 years of intensive studies, 12 new species have been recorded since 1982. They are both sedentary and migratory, breeding and non-breeding species. Several other species, all of more northern origin, have increased in density or frequency.

PRESENTATION OF DATA

The sequence of families and species, as well as scientific and English names, follow Serle & Morel (1977) with a few modifications taken from Hall & Moreau (1970), Snow (1978) and White (1960-65) when it seemed more appropriate. Alternative names of Bannerman (1953), used in a preliminary check-list (Brunel & Thiollay 1969-70) are in parenthesis. Except in a few cases, names of subspecies are not given because most are insufficiently studied; determination can be made from the literature.

All the data given without references are personal observations (birds seen or collected) or from Brunel & Thiollay (*loc. cit.*) and associated bibliography. Additional information provided by other people is included, but names of observers or references to published data are given only when there are no other records for the area. Years are not cited since they depend more on observers' than birds' presences. All are from 1967 to 1984.

The country has been surveyed unevenly, the centre, southwest and northeast being much better known than the northwest or southeast. So the localities cited reflect frequency of visits more than the real distribution of the birds, and lack of records from an area does not mean that the species is absent unless that is explicitly stated. Only the principal extreme range localities are given; the numerous intervening places are ignored. As the distributional limits of most species are latitudinal, typical well-surveyed localities are cited along the central south-north axis (Abidjan to Lanto, Rouaké and Ferkessédougou), to characterize the northern or southern limits of the species which run roughly at the same latitude, within the same vegetation zone, from east to west of the country. Any geographical name means a rather large area all around, to avoid an excessive multiplication of obscure place names which do not have special significance. Even the large National Parks (Taï, Maraoué, Comoé) have been taken as a whole, even when they cross different vegetation zones or habitats.

Status is summarized by the following abbreviations:

R = resident, i.e. at least a large part of the population remains within the country all year even if there is much seasonal fluctuations between areas;

M = migrant, i.e. most of the population leaves the country, usually during the rainy season. However, some individuals (immature birds) may remain in small numbers all year (some intra-African migrants in northern Ivory Coast and many Palearctic migrants throughout);

A = intra-African, mostly originating from Sudan or Sahel zones;

P = Palearctic, of Eurasian or North Africa origin;

V = vagrant, i.e. irregular or rare;

R = breeds in Ivory Coast. Nests have been found or breeding proofs obtained for most species. Some residents, for which data are lacking, are assumed to breed when their year-round presence has been actually established and no movements have been cited elsewhere in their range.

Terms like 'widespread' or 'common' always mean "in the remaining suitable habitats" since many species' distributions are now increasingly patchy because of forest fragmentation and other habitat destruction or heavy hunting pressure.

BMH = Bouet & Millet-Morsin (1916-1917); FW = Forbes-Watson (1971).

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SYSTEMATIC LIST

PODICIPEDIDAE

Poiceps (Polioccephalus) ruficollis Dabchick R B ? Regular on lakes and ponds of the interior from Taabo to Korhogo and Comoé, sometimes up to 25 together (Ramoussoukro). At least local movements.

PROCELLARIIDAE

Calonectris (Procellaria) dimedeia Cory's Shearwater P M ? Several specimens collected at sea near Abidjan (INTES).

Pterodroma (Bulweria) mollis Soft-plumaged Petrel V ? One sight record offshore near Jacqueville (Feb, Ledant).

Oceanites oceanicus Wilson's Petrel M (from Antarctic). Seen several times at sea near Abidjan (Nov-Mar).

PHALACROCORACIDAE

Anhinga rufa African Darter R B ? Small numbers on inland and coastal waters in every month. Local movements. Formerly much more abundant (BNH).

Phalacrocorax carbo White-breasted Cormorant V. One specimen, well seen and described on a lake near Ferkessedougou (Apr, Mali-verney).

Phalacrocorax africanus Reed Cormorant R B ? Quite common on most inland lakes and coastal lagoons all year. Some movements.

ARDEIDAE

Ixobrychus minutus Little Bittern R B (+ P M ?). Isolated birds recorded in most swamps and reed beds from Azagny to Korhogo and Comoé. Only the African race *payesii* has been so far identified, but Palearctic migrants may occur.

Ixobrychus sturmi African Dwarf Bittern A M ? B ? 16 isolated records from Abidjan, San Pedro and Grabo to Lamto, Toumodi, Bouaké and Comoé, mostly in the dry season, on dense or wooded marshes or ponds.

Tigriornis leucolopha African Tiger Heron R B . Widespread throughout the forest zone, along forest streams (even small watercourses in dense undergrowth) from coastal mangroves to Comoé.

Nycticorax leuconotus White-backed Night Heron R B . Much less abundant and widespread and even more secretive and nocturnal than *Tigriornis*, but known from several localities, along forested rivers from Tai to Lamto and Bouaké.

Nycticorax nycticorax Black-crowned Night Heron R R + P M ? Very local on some lagoons (Grand Bassan to Azagny) and inland lakes (from Ayamé to Korhogo and Comoé) mainly Oct to Apr (Palearctic migrants ?). A small resident population is breeding in mangroves (young brought to Abidjan Zoo, Laucinie).

Bubulcus (Ardeola) ibis Cattle Egret A M . Abundant dry season visitor, throughout open habitats from Oct to May. Some birds are occasionally seen from mid-June to early Sep.

Ardeola ralloides Squacco Heron Status unclear. Rather common and widespread (but solitary), mainly from Oct to June, on lagoons (Abidjan, Azagny, San Pedro) and inland lakes and ricefields (Lamto, Bouaké, Korhogo, Comoé). May (no proof) include a resident breeding population, African birds breeding in Mali and European migrants (indistinguishable).

Butorides striatus Little Green Heron R B . Common along wooded banks of lagoons, rivers and lakes throughout the forest zone, up to Korhogo and Comoé.

Egretta ardesiaca Black Egret R B ? Locally abundant on some coastal marshes (Grand Bassan, Azagny, San Pedro). Also occurs on inland lakes (Buyo to Bouaké). Recorded every month.

Egretta garzetta Little Egret Status ? Common on all coastal or inland waters. Decreases in July-Aug. Both residents and African or even Palearctic migrants may be involved.

Egretta gularis Reef Heron R B ? Widespread on coastal lagoons (at least Oct-July) but rarer on inland lakes (Taabo, Kossou, Bouaké).

Egretta intermedia Yellow-billed Egret R B ? Not uncommon (mostly solitary birds) from the coast (Abidjan to San Pedro) to Kossou and Comoé. Often unnoticed among the numerous other egrets. So far only recorded from Nov to June.

Egretta alba Great White Egret R B A M ? Common in all wetlands (a little less numerous than *E. garzetta*). More abundant during the dry season.

Ardea cinerea Grey Heron R B A (?) and P M . Widespread throughout in moderate numbers with a peak from Oct to Mar. A small breeding colony near Korhogo. One recovery (Soubre) of a bird ringed in Poland.

Ardea melanocephala Black-headed Heron R B . Less numerous than *A. cinerea*. Isolated individuals on many types of wetlands and sometimes drier grasslands, from the coast (Abidjan, Azagny, San Pedro) to Lanto, Bouaké, Kossou, Comoé, etc. Breeds with *A. cinerea* near Korhogo.

Ardea purpurea Purple Heron P M R B ? Seems too common throughout Ivory Coast in every swamp, reed bed and abandoned ricefield, even from May to Sep, to include only Palearctic migrants. 4 recoveries from France. Either a resident breeding population or migrants from a breeding population in Mali are suspected.

Ardea goliath Goliath Heron R B . Rare. Solitary individuals regularly seen only on some coastal swamps (Azagny) or along northern rivers (Comoé). Few vagrants elsewhere (Fresco, Kossou).

SCOPIDAE

Scopus umbretta Hammerkop R B . The small coastal race (*minor*) is rare and very local (Azagny). The northern race (*umbretta*) is only found in a few scattered localities along rivers north of the forest (breeding in Comoé).

CICONIIDAE

Ciconia ciconia White Stork P M . Uncommon. Small groups, mainly near bush fires, from Dec to Apr, throughout the savannas, down to Lanto (every year) and exceptionally to the coast (one killed at Grand Bereby). 6 recoveries from Germany, Holland, France, Spain and Morocco.

Ciconia (Sphenorhynchus) abdimii Abdim's Stork A M B . Occasional records, mainly during the prebreeding migration (Mar-June) north of Bouaké. Formerly breeding (Bouna and Ferkessedougou up to 1968) south even to Bouaké (RWH) but no nest has been found during the last 15 years.

Ciconia (Dissoura) episcopus Woolly-necked Stork A M B . By far the most widespread stork throughout the savanna zone, large forest clearings, coastal swamps and grasslands. Commoner from Dec to Mar, but also seen during the wet season on southern (Azagny, San Pedro) as well as northern (Comoé) wetlands. Usually in pairs.

Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis Saddlebill Stork R B ? Isolated pairs in Comoé only.

Anastomus lamelligerus Openbill Stork A M . Vagrants, Nov to May, along the coast and in the north (Comoé, Ouangolodougou and Odienné). Also Lamto (Aug, Prendergast).

Leptoptilos crumeniferus Marabou Stork A M . Uncommon. Mainly Comoé (max. 3 together) Dec to Apr. 2 old coastal records (BMH) and a recent one in Lamto (Jan, Vuattoux).

Ibis (Mycteria) ibis Yellow-billed Stork A M . Some vagrants (3 to 12) to Comoé (Mar-Apr, Maliverney, Ullmann).

THRESKIORNITHIDAE

Threskiornis aethiopica Sacred Ibis V . One sight record (Comoé, Feb).

Bostrychia (Hagedashia) hagedash Hadada Ibis F B . Common throughout undisturbed guinean savanna (gallery forest, wooded river banks). Locally in the forest zone (lakes, swamps, inundated forest) and along the coast (mangrove).

Bostrychia (Lampribus) rara Spotted-breasted Ibis R B . Only known from primary humid rain forest (Tai). Cited from Nimba (FW).

Bostrychia (Lampribus) olivacea Olive Ibis R B . More widespread than *B. rara*. Restricted to primary (Tai, Nimba), swamp (Azagny) and even large gallery forest (Lamto). Pairs fly over the forest at dusk with loud calls.

Plegadis falcinellus Glossy Ibis V . 16 near Dabou (Feb, Ledant).

Platalea alba African Spoonbill V . One sighted (Mar, Taabo).

ANATIDAE

Dendrocygna bicolor Fulvous Whistling Duck V . 2 birds seen (Korhogo, Feb).

Dendrocygna viduata White-faced Whistling Duck R B . Throughout the year but marked movements. Small numbers scattered in the south (Grand Bassam, Azagny, Buyo) where it is more numerous during the dry season. More abundant (Apr-Dec) in the northern marshes (especially around Korhogo) where it breeds (June-Aug).

Alopochen aegyptiacus Egyptian Goose V . 2 sight records (Comoé, Feb-Mar).

Plectropterus gambensis Spur-winged Goose A M . Regular dry season visitor in small numbers on northern swamps, lakes and sand banks of large rivers, south to Bouaké. Recently some more southern records (Lamto, Buyo).

Pteronetta hartlaubii Hartlaub's Duck R B . Uncommon, but formerly widespread along watercourses throughout the forest zone from coastal lagoons (Abidjan, Azagny, San Pedro) to Maraoué and Comoé, including man made lakes (Ayamé). Range and numbers now much reduced by hunting and forest destruction.

Sarkidiornis melanotos Comb Duck V . 3 recent dry season records north of 9°30. A pair cited near Odienné (BMH).

Nettapus auritus African Pygmy Goose R B . Small and varying numbers in nearly every month on several swamps with floating vegetation from the coast (Dabou, Azagny, San Pedro) to the north (Korhogo, Ferkessedougou, Comoé). Breeding pairs in June-Aug.

Anas querquedula Garganey P M . Increasing occurrence in recent years on northern (Ferkessedougou, Korhogo) and central (Bouaké) wetlands in Jan-Mar. Said to be killed by hunters near Abidjan (not confirmed). Usually 3 to 20 birds at a time.

Anas clypeata Shoveler P V . One sight record (Ferkessedougou, Feb).

ACCIPITRIDAE

Aegyptius (Torgos) tracheliotus Lappet-faced Vulture V . Several recent records (solitary birds) from Comoé (Jan to Apr, north of 9°N). Also Boundiali (Nov, Ledant).

Trigonoceps occipitalis White-headed Vulture R B . Uncommon in the natural savannas north of 8°N. Isolated pairs only.

Gyps rueppellii Ruppell's Griffon Vulture V . Increasing number of records (up to 3 individuals on a dead antelope) during the dry season, north of 9°N, of this mainly sahelian vulture.

Gyps africanus White-backed Vulture R B . The commonest vulture of the northern savannas (nearly all north of 8°N, and mostly concentrated in Comoé). Occasional sightings south to Lamto. Frequently more than 100 around a carcass. Marked decrease in the wet season.

Necrosyrtes monachus Hooded Vulture R B . Formerly common in all the towns of the guinean zone, from Toumodi northwards. Has now been much reduced, mainly in the Baoulé country, more because it is hunted for food than because of an improved sanitation.

Gypohierax angolensis Palm-nut Vulture R B . Common throughout the forest zone. Reaches 10°N along gallery forests in savanna woodland. Not favoured by extensive industrial oil-palm plantations where it rarely feeds.

Circus macrourus Pallid Harrier P M . By far the rarest harrier (no more than 20 records, all north of 8°N, Dec to Mar). Prefers the driest and most open savannas.

Circus pygargus Montagu's Harrier P M . Quite common (daily sightings), dry season visitor all over the guinean savannas, south to Lamto (Nov to Apr).

Circus aeruginosus Marsh Harrier P M . Common and widespread during the dry season over marshes, ricefields and humid grasslands throughout the country (even on montane grassland of Mt Nimba, Brosset). Many immature birds remain during the wet season.

Polyboroides typus Harrier Hawk R B . One of the commonest raptor throughout the forest zone (up to Odienné and Ferkessedougou along gallery forest). Reaches its highest density in the Borassus Palm, southern guinean, savanna.

Terathopius ecaudatus Bateleur R B . Now uncommon over most of the northern savannas, except the hills near Boundiali and mainly the Comœ where it is rather abundant. Reaches its southern limit in the Maraoué. A marked decrease (30% ?) in July-Sep) may indicate a northward movement.

Circaetus (gallicus) beaudouini Beaudouin's Snake Eagle P M B . A dry season visitor, uncommon but widespread over all the savannas (from Lamto northwards) but apparently breeding only north of 8°N and absent from June to Sep. May also breed in montane grassland of Mt Nimba (guinean side, Brosset). An unusual observation near Sassandra (Feb, Maliverney). The European Short-toed Eagle, *Circaetus g. gallicus*, has never been definitely identified in Ivory Coast.

Circaetus cinereus Brown Snake Eagle R and A M B . Widespread over the northern savannas, down to Maraoué and Lamto. Much rarer from June to Oct and only found north of 9°N.

Circaetus cinerascens Smaller Banded Snake Eagle R R . Uncommon in well wooded, mainly northern guinean savanna and gallery forests along water courses between 8 and 10°N (breeding zone, dry season). Expanding range during the rainy season where it is more frequent from Rouaké to Lamto (June-Sep) than at the other months.

Dryotriorchis spectabilis Congo Serpent Eagle R B . A primary forest raptor, rarely entering secondary growth and not so far recorded outside the most humid southwestern part of the forest zone (Abidjan, Sassandra, Tai and Nimba to Man, Gagnoa and Daloa). One of the most threatened species by the intense forest exploitation.

Accipiter melanoleucus Black Sparrowhawk R B . The rarest forest *Accipiter*, known from Grand Lahou and San Pedro to Nimba, Lamto and Maraoué. Recently discovered (nest with young, Dec, Ledant) in the Comœ. Prefers high dense forest, but also seen in large trees dominating secondary growth or plantations.

Accipiter tachiro macroscelides African Goshawk R B . Common throughout the forest zone including submontane forest (Nimba), high mangrove (Azagny) and gallery forest (Comœ). Readily encountered in both primary and secondary forests and even in adjoining plantations or well wooded savannas. Its heavy rufous pigmentation of underparts, typical of a zone of allopatry with the Chestnut-flanked Goshawk, may lead to confusion with *Accipiter castanilius* which has never been definitely identified in Ivory Coast. Its characteristic call, when flying over the forest in early morning, differentiates it (may be up to the species level) from *A. toussenelii* of Gabon and Southern Cameroun where this call has never been heard, (Brosset, Chappuis and pers. obs.).

Accipiter erythropus (minullus) West African Little Sparrowhawk R B . Nearly as widespread as the above species (Coast to Comœ) and hardly less abundant in primary as well as secondary forests and galleries.

Accipiter badius Shikra A M B . Common dry season breeder all over the well wooded guinea savanna south to Lamto. Very few individuals remain between mid-June and early Sep, most of them in the north.

Accipiter ovampensis Ovampo Sparrowhawk A M . Uncommon wet season visitor, breeding south of the equator. Ten records in savanna, from 13 June to 5 Oct, from Lamto to Comœ and Boundiali.

Melierax metabates Chanting Goshawk R B . Widespread and sedentary in northern guinea and subsudan savanna. Reaches its southern limit in the Maraoué. Also collected near Abidjan 70 years ago (BMH).

Melierax (Micronisus) gabar Gabar Goshawk A M (R B ?) . Uncommon Nov-May north of 8°30' (25 records), rarely south to Bouake (2) and even Lamto (1, Feb). Many fewer in June-Sep (5, Comoé, Ferkessedougou). 9% are black phase.

Urotriorchis macrourus Long-tailed Hawk R B . Widespread all over the forest zone from Ayané, Abidjan, Tai and Nimba to Lamto and Maraoué. Mostly restricted to primary or high secondary forest.

Kaupifalco monogrammicus Lizard Buzzard R B . The commonest resident raptor over all the savannas, decreasing north of 8°N, and now entering large forest clearings down to Tai and Abidjan.

Buteo buteo Common or Steppe Buzzard P M . A local wintering migrant in small numbers from Nov to Apr in natural guinea savanna (Lamto, Maraoué and Comoé).

Buteo auguralis Red-tailed Buzzard A M B . A common dry season breeder in the large clearings of all the forest zone, and to a lesser extent in the well wooded northern guinea savanna, but surprisingly scarce in the intervening southern guinea savanna (such as from Lamto to Bouaké). Disappears from May (in the south) or mid-June (in the north) to Sep (except 1 July record in Comoé).

Butastur rufipennis Grasshopper Buzzard A M . Common non-breeding visitor from Nov to Apr (max. in Jan, departures from mid-Mar onwards) in all savannas north of the forest. Very partial to recently burnt areas. Formerly reached the coastal savannas.

Lophæetus occipitalis Long-crested Eagle R B . Widespread, but not numerous over all the savanna zone. Has extended its range in the large clearings of the forest zone where it formerly occurred mainly in the coastal savannas.

Stephanoetus coronatus Crowned Eagle R B . Up to the 1960s occurred throughout the forest zone, even in logged forests, from the coast to Comoé. Now much rarer after its main food has almost disappeared through a dramatic hunting pressure.

Polemaetus bellicosus Martial Eagle R B . Scattered pairs in undisturbed savannas north of 8°N (mainly Comoé, also Boundiali and one pair in Maraoué). Rare immature vagrants south to Toumodi and Lamto during the dry season.

Spizaetus (Cassinaetus) africanus Cassin's Hawk Eagle R B . Much more frequent than usually supposed in the literature. Probably throughout the forest zone. Known from San Pedro to Grand Lahou and Aboisso to Nimba, Divo, Lamto, Maraoué and Agnibilekrou). Readily survives in secondary forest and even plantations where a fair number of large trees have been left.

Hieraaetus dubius (ayresi) Ayres' Hawk Eagle R B . Very local in the northern semideciduous part of the forest (Man, Daloa, Abengourou, N'Douci). More partial to large gallery forest in well wooded savanna (Lamto, Maraoué, Comoé). Extreme localities: Boundiali and Dabou.

Hieraaetus (fasciatus) spilogaster African Hawk Eagle R B . A very small population in and around Comoé and from Katiola to Ferkessédougou and Boundiali.

Hieraaetus pennatus Booted Eagle P M . Much commoner in West Africa than was formerly thought, but its main distribution lies in the Sudan zone (Thiollay 1977). Isolated birds identified in most savanna areas (Lamto, Sipilou and Bouaké to Comoé, Korhogo and Odienné) from Dec to Apr and July record.

Aquila rapax Tawny Eagle A M and R B ? Small numbers throughout the savanna zone (from Lamto and Maroué northward) during the dry season. A few individuals remain between June and Oct in the north (Comoé to Boundiali). Seems to have much decreased since the late 1960s.

Aquila wahlbergi Wahlberg's Eagle A M . Commoner and more widely distributed than *A. rapax*, from Lamto to Comoé and Odienné. Usually daily sightings in any natural savanna during the dry season. No records from July to Sep.

Haliaeetus vocifer African Fish Eagle R B . More than 12 breeding pairs in Comoé. Now rare or absent elsewhere even along the large rivers and lakes with forested banks. Known to be abundant on the coastal lagoons at the beginning of the century, it is now almost extinct (solitary birds recently recorded from Ayamé, Azagny, Fresco and San Pedro). Hunting and overfishing may be involved in this decline.

Milvus migrans Black Kite A M B and P M . The commonest raptor during the dry season in every open habitat throughout the country. Everywhere more than 90% of Kites belong to the African race *parasiticus* which breeds from Jan to May, but European birds (*Milvus m. migrans*) have been identified in more than 20 localities, including 4 recoveries from Switzerland, France and Spain. They leave from Apr to June and re-invade Ivory Coast from Sep to Nov. Exceptional sightings in July-Aug.

Pernis ptilorhynchus Honey Buzzard P M . Common throughout the forest zone from the coast to Comoé (Sep to May). Often seen in June-Aug. 3 recoveries (from Germany and Sweden).

Aviceda cuculoides African Cuckoo Falcon R B . Rather common all over the forest zone, even in secondary forest. Rapidly decreases north of 8°N, but follows the main gallery forest up to 10°N, readily foraging in savanna woodland.

Elanus caeruleus Black-shouldered Kite R B . Common everywhere on cultivated lands, large clearings and similar degraded habitats, but rare in natural savanna.

Chelictinia (Elanus) riocourii Swallow-tailed Kite V . Seen only once: Comoé, Feb (Egu Kronberg). One doubtful mention near Abidjan in Snow's atlas. The normal southern limit of its dry season range is Banfora, just north of the Upper Volta border.

Macheirhamphus alcinus Rat Hawk R B . Secretive but widely distributed from the south (Abidjan, Tai, Nimba) to the north (Korhogo, Comoé). Forest clearings, savanna woodlands and towns or villages with big trees.

Pandion haliaetus Osprey P M . Common all over the coastal waters and inland lakes or large rivers. Many birds remain from June to Aug. 2 recoveries from Finland.

FALCONIDAE

Falco biarmicus Lanner Falcon R B . A breeding pair in nearly every town or large village with big trees throughout the northern savanna (from Bouaké and Beoumi northwards). Has recently increased southward and is now breeding in Toumodi, Lamto, N'Douci and maybe near Abidjan.

Falco peregrinus Peregrine Falcon R B and P M . A dozen pairs of the African *F. p. minor* are known (probably breeding) from the few cliffs available in northern (Niangbo, Korhogo, Boundiali) and western (Man, Nimba) Ivory Coast. The Palearctic *F. p. calidus* has been seen 11 times around coastal lagoons (Abidjan, Azagny, San Pedro) and inland lakes (Taabo, Kossou) from Nov to Apr.

Falco cuvieri African Hobby R B . Fairly common in the Borassus Palm savanna of Lamto (and formerly Dabou). Decreases north of 7°30' as palms disappear and savanna becomes drier to concentrate only around gallery forest (Comoé) and sacred woods (Korhogo).

Falco subbuteo European Hobby P M . The scanty records (22 from Sep to May) suggest a very small wintering population in the forest clearings and gallery forest-savanna mosaic (Abidjan to Lamto and Beoumi) with more northern records (Comoé, Korhogo) attributable to spring passage migrants.

Falco chicquera Red-necked Falcon R B ? Known only from 3 localities between Korhogo and Tingrela.

Falco ardosiaceus Grey Kestrel Isolated pairs found everywhere in open savannas, large clearings and farmlands.

Falco vespertinus Red-footed Falcon P M . Rare. Only on spring passage. 6 records of 2 to 10 birds from Lamto to Korhogo (Feb-Apr).

Falco naumanni Lesser Kestrel P M . Scattered dry season records of 1 to 9 birds from Abidjan (BNH and recently Demey) to Lamto-Toumodi (6 times) and Korhogo, except on the bare lateritic plains of Comoé where 20 to 60 birds often concentrate in Jan-Apr.

Falco tinnunculus Common Kestrel P M A M R B ? Quite common Palearctic migrants (*F. t. tinnunculus*) found throughout the country, greatly outnumber the African race (*F. t. rufescens*) only seen from Comoé to the Korhogo-Boundiali area where it might breed. Only 2 dates between June and Sep.

Falco alopex Fox Kestrel A M . A mere 21 dry season sightings north of 8°N (plus one at Lamto) and none from June to Oct. Some were seen around inselbergs (Korhogo, Niangbo) where they could breed.

SAGITTARIIDAE

Sagittarius serpentarius Secretary Bird A M . Only a dry season visitor to the open plains of Comoé (none from June to Oct). Probably no more than 10 individuals. No indication of breeding.

PHASIANIDAE

Fringilla ahandensis Ahanta Francolin R B . Mainly secondary growth of clearings throughout the forest zone, and forest edges on its northern border (Sipilou, Lanto, Bouaké, Comoé).

Fringilla bicalcaratus Double-spurred Francolin R B . Abundant throughout the savannas, even coastal farmlands.

Fringilla albogularis White-throated Francolin R B . Very local in dense savanna. 7 known localities from Lanto to Ferkessédougou.

Fringilla lathamii Latham's Francolin R B . The only forest francolin, common throughout the forest zone and northern galleries (to Sipilou and Comoé).

Coturnix coturnix Common Quail P M . Formerly rather common from Dabou to Korhogo (BMH). Now rare in Dec-Mar, from Lanto to Comoé.

Coturnix delegorguei Harlequin Quail A M . Rare dry season visitor, in more wooded savannas than other quails. 5 records from Lanto to Ferkessédougou.

Coturnix chinensis (Excalfactoria adansonii) Blue Quail R (?) B . The only common quail in every savanna, from Dabou to 10°N, mostly Nov to May. Few records during the rainy season. Favours humid grasslands in the north.

Ptilopachus petrosus Stone Partridge R B . Common in northern savannas, south to Dabakala, not only near rocks (granite or ironstones) but also in flat densely wooded savanna. Much more often heard than seen.

Agelastes meleagrides White-breasted Guinea fowl R B . One of the most endangered birds in West Africa. Never seen outside high dense primary forest. Only known from the southwestern part of the forest zone, north to Duékoué, Daloa, Oumé and east to Guitri-Grand Lahou. May be restricted now to Tai (hunting pressure and habitat destruction). A typical endemic of the so-called Sassandra refuge.

Guttera edouardii Crested Guinea fowl R B . Formerly common throughout the forest zone (mainly edges, secondary and gallery forest). Remains abundant (flocks of 6 to 30 birds) in all the national parks, including on islands within the palm-swamp of Azagny.

Numida meleagris Helmeted Guinea fowl R B . Much more sensitive to hunting pressure than the Francolins. Formerly common in all the savannas, including coastal. Now restricted to the northern ones and becoming rare outside protected areas (flocks of up to 100 birds in Comoé).

RALLIDAE

Himantornis haematopus Nkulengu Rail R B . Its characteristic pre-dawn call is frequently heard throughout the dense primary or old secondary forest from Abidjan and Tai to Nimba and Comoé.

Canirallus oculeus Grey-throated Rail R B . Rare (or overlooked ?). Azagny and Tai to Maroué. More swampy forest than *Himantornis*.

Crex crex Corn Crane P M . One definite record (Lamto, Sep).

Crex (Crecopsis) egregia African Crane A M - B . Common from Oct to May in central and southern guinea zones, entering second growth of forest clearings and coastal grasslands. North of 9°N, it is rare during the dry season but increases and remains through the wet months.

Porzana porzana Spotted Crane P M . One good sighting in a swamp near Abidjan (Apr, Champroux).

Porzana parva P M . One identified in humid secondary grassland near Abidjan (June, Vogel).

Porzana marginalis Striped Crane A ! ? B ? One certain and 2 possible records in swamps around Korhogo (Mar to Jul).

Limnecorax (Amaurornis) flavirostris Black Crane R B . Usually abundant in all swamps from the coast to the north.

Sarothrura pulchra White-spotted Flufftail P R . By far the most widely distributed small forest crane (or song best known ?) Often heard (and tape recorded by Chappuis) from Abidjan to Tai, Nimba and Comoé.

Sarothrura elegans Buff-spotted Flufftail R B ? Only identified in second growth near Tai.

Sarothrura rufa Red-chested Flufftail R B ? Probably marshes near Dabou, but awaits confirmation.

Gallinula angulata Lesser Moorhen P R ? Widespread in swamps from Abidjan and Azagny to Perkessédougou. Apparent seasonal movements but does not seem to disappear at anytime.

Gallinula chloropus Moorhen R B . As widespread as *G. angulata* but less abundant, more local and more sedentary.

GRUIDAE

Balearica pavonina Crowned Crane V ? B ? Only seen (Feb-Mar) in Comoé. Also cited from Odienné (Bouet). A captive bird at Korhogo said to have been taken unfledged in the area. Rare.

Porphyrio porphyrio Purple Gallinule R B . Abundant in the few reedbeds remaining along the coast (Grand Bassam to Azagny and San Pedro) and inland (Bouaké to Korhogo).

Porphyrio alleni Allen's Gallinule R B . Common in the northern swamps with floating vegetation (Bouaké to Korhogo) where it breeds during the wet season. Increases in the dry season on coastal marshes.

HELIORNITHIDAE

Podica senegalensis African Finfoot R B . Widespread along wooded banks of all rivers and lagoons (from the coast to Comoé).

OTIDIDAE

Eupodotis senegalensis White-bellied Bustard R B . Seems to be much rarer today in guinea savannas (from Toumodi to Comoé and Tingrela) than supposed from earlier accounts (Bouet, Bannerman). May be absent from large areas.

Eupodotis melanogaster Black-bellied Bustard R B . The only common bustard in Ivory Coast throughout the savanna zone north of the forest (from Lamto and Sipilou). Decreases north of 9°30'.

Neotis denhami Denham's Bustard A M B . Dry season migrant, today well represented only in Comoé, but formerly more widespread and entering southern guinea savanna (BTH). Spectacular nuptial display in Feb-Mar.

Otis arabs Sudan Bustard V . Identified a single time (Mar, Comoé). One old record from Beoumi (Lowe) of this sahelian bird, which has much decreased during the last 20 years in West Africa.

JACANIDAE

Actophilornis africana African Jacana R B . Abundant on all suitable swamps throughout the country. Huge concentrations of maybe more than 1,000 near Ferkessedougou in the dry season.

Microparra capensis Lesser Jacana R B ? Recognized several times (Mar to July) near Abidjan (Champroux) and Bouaké (Ledant).

BURHINIDAE

Burhinus (Oedicnemus) senegalensis Senegal Thick-Knee A M B . Abundant from Nov to May throughout the savannas (including along the coast). Very local at night. Few birds remain during the rainy season and only north of 8°N.

Burhinus (Oedicnemus) vermiculatus Water Thick-Knee R B . Restricted to rocky and sandbanks of all the large rivers from estuaries to about 9°30' N. North of the forest zone, it is increasingly replaced on rivers by *senegalensis* (as far as field distinction is reliable!). Local movements according to water level.

Burhinus (Oedicnemus) capensis Spotted Thick-Knee R B ? So far recorded from Nov to Mar north of 9°N (Comoé, Korhogo, Boundiali, Tingrela).

HAEMATOPODIDAE

Haematopus ostralegus Oystercatcher P M . 4 dry season records near Abidjan.

CHARADRIIDAE

Vanellus (Xiphiodipterus) albiceps Black-shouldered Wattled Plover R or A M B ? Common all along the major rivers on rocks and sand banks. Usually disappear with rising water levels between June and Oct.

Vanellus (Hoplopterus) spinosus Spur-winged Plover R B ? Not rare, but local on some coastal marshes (Azagny), lakes (Kossou), rivers (Comoé) and ricefields (Ferkessedougou).

Vanellus (Sarciophorus) tectus Black-headed Plover V . Rare dry season vagrant in the extreme north (Comoé, Ouango-lodougou).

Vanellus (Afribyx) senegalus Senegal Wattled Plover A M B . Widely distributed on recently burnt guinea savannas from Dec to Apr (breeds). Present all the year on some permanent marshes (Korhogo) and lakes (Kossou).

Vanellus (Stephanibyx) lugubris Senegal Plover P B . Very local in the forest zone (mainly south of 7°N) in secondary grasslands. Local movements. Nests found near Abidjan (Apr). Seen in most months (only during the early rains in Lamto).

Pluvialis squatarola Grey Plover P M . Regular along the coast (small groups, Nov to June). Rare inland (Kossou, Ledant).

Charadrius hiaticula Ringed Plover P M . Common along the coast (Sep to May). Occasionally inland (Taabo to Korhogo).

Charadrius dubius Little Ringed Plover P M . Less numerous than *hiaticula*, but more often on inland waters (Abidjan to Comoé).

Charadrius alexandrinus Kentish Plover P M . 5 records around Abidjan (Dec to Mar).

Charadrius marginatus White-fronted Sandplover R B ? 6 records on lakes (Bouaké, Kossou) and rivers (Lamto, Comoé) in the dry season, except one near Grand Lahou (June).

Charadrius pecuarius Kittlitz's Sandplover V . Dry season vagrant along northern rivers (Comoé) and drying ricefields (Korhogo).

Charadrius forbesi Forbes' Banded Plover R B . Breeds during the rains north of 8°N on lateritic plateaus and large inselbergs. Widely distributed in the dry season on shortgrass, open habitats from the coast (Abidjan) to Korhogo.

SCOLOPACIDAE

Numenius phaeopus Whimbrel P M . Common along the coast from Aug to June.

Numenius arquata Curlew P M . 3 records (Abidjan, San Pedro) Jan-Feb.

Limosa limosa Black-tailed Godwit P M . Vagrant: Kossou and Korhogo (Feb-Mar).

Limosa lapponica Bar-tailed Godwit P M . 4 records (Abidjan, Azagny) in Dec-Feb.

Tringa nebularia Greenshank P M . Common from the coast to northern marshes, lakes and rivers, Sep to June.

Tringa stagnatilis Marsh Sandpiper P M . Frequent on coastal (Abidjan to San Pedro) and inland (Lamto to Korhogo) marshes, Nov to May.

Tringa glareola Wood Sandpiper P M . Common along every still or running waters. Some remain in July-Aug as do other *Tringa*.

Tringa ochropus Green Sandpiper P M . Like *T. glareola*, but more often on forested river banks and very small pools.

Tringa hypoleucos Common Sandpiper P M . All along every river, in all months, often in pairs.

Tringa totanus Redshank P M . On coastal lagoons, inland lakes and northern ponds, Aug to Mar. Uncommon.

Tringa erythropus Spotted Redshank P M . 7 dry season records from Abidjan to Taabo, Korhogo and Comoé.

Tringa terek (*Xenus cinereus*) Terek Sandpiper P V . 1 sighting (Abidjan, Dec, Champroux).

Arenaria interpres Turnstone P M . More than 20 records along the coast, from Abidjan to San Pedro (Sept to Feb).

Gallinago (Capella) media Great Snipe P M . Common around Korhogo, rarer on coastal marshes.

Gallinago (Capella) gallinago Common Snipe P M . Commoner in coastal swamps than inland (Toumodi, Bouaké, Korhogo).

Gallinago (Lymnocyptes) minima Jack Snipe P M . 2 (Grand Bassam Feb, and Bouaké Mar).

Calidris canutus Knot P M . 5 records on the coast (Abidjan to San Pedro, Nov to Mar).

Calidris alpina Dunlin P M . 3 sightings (Abidjan, Dec-Feb).

Calidris ferruginea Curlew Sandpiper P M . Rather common along the coast (Abidjan to San Pedro, Sep to Mar).

Calidris minuta Little Stint P M . The commonest *Calidris*, both on coastal and inland waters (north to Korhogo); Sep to Apr.

Calidris temminckii Temminck's Stint P M . 5 records near Abidjan and inland (Kossou, Bouaké), Nov-Feb.

Calidris (Crocethia) alba Sanderling P M . Abundant on sandy beaches (Grand Bassam to San Pedro, Nov-Apr).

Philomachus pugnax Ruff P M . 2 records from Abidjan (Dec-Jan), 1 from Kossou (Mar) and one Swedish recovery from Tingrela (May).

Phalaropus fulicarius Grey Phalarope P M . Several at sea near Abidjan, following Killer Whales (Feb). 3 times on inland lake (Bouaké) and river (Comoé, up to 3 together). Jan to Mar.

RECURVIROSTRIDAE

Himantopus himantopus Black-winged Stilt P M (or A M ?). Often seen on both coastal lagoons (Grand Bassam to San Pedro) and inland lakes (Taabo to Ferkessédougou and Comoé). Flocks of 2 to 18 birds. Nov to May.

ROSTRATULIDAE

Rostratula benghalensis Painted Snipe R B ? Common and breeding in Korhogo marshes Mar-Aug. Decreases there in other months to appear on southern swamps (Comoé, Bouaké, Toumodi). One sighting near Abidjan (June, Champroux).

GLAREOLIDAE

Pluvianus aegyptius Egyptian Plover R B ? Upper course of the river Comoé, formerly down to the coast (BMH). Not seen June-Oct.

Cursorius temminckii Temminck's Courser A M . Dry season visitor north of 8°N, rarely south to Lamto. Partial to recently burnt savannas.

Cursorius (Rhinoptilus) chalcopterus Bronze-winged Courser A M B ? Much more frequent than *C. temminckii*, south to Bouake and rarely Toumodi. Nov to May only, often at night on the roads.

Glareola pratincola Common Pratincole A (or P ?) M . Regular around Bouake (Jan-Apr) but surprisingly not yet seen elsewhere except Abidjan (Jan, Vogel).

Glareola nuchalis Rock Pratincola P (?) B . Common on the large rivers of all the forest zone. Breeds on bare rocks (dry season) and almost disappears along with their specialized habitat submerged by rising waters from June to Oct.

LARIDAE

Stercorarius pomarinus Pomarine Skua P V . At sea, Nov to Mar. Not rare.

Stercorarius parasiticus Arctic Skua P V . Commoner than *S. pomarinus*.

Stercorarius skua Great Skua P V . One recovery (Assini, June) of a bird ringed in Scotland.

Larus ridibundus Black-headed Gull P V . 3 records near Abidjan (Dec-Feb). Several others, unconfirmed because of possible confusion with the next species.

Larus cirrocephalus Grey-headed Gull A V . 2 records near Abidjan (Nov-Feb).

Larus (Xema) sabini Sabine's Gull P M . Abundant offshore, at least in Feb-Mar. Also seen near the coast (Ledant).

Larus fuscus Lesser Black-backed Gull P M (and *L. dominicanus* ?) Seen 4 times on the coast (sea and lagoon, Abidjan to Azagny, Nov-Mar, all immatures) and once inland (Kossou).

Sterna (Gelochelidon) nilotica Gull-billed Tern P V . Grand Bassam, NOV; Kossou, Feb. Rare.

Sterna (Hydroprogne) caspia Caspian Tern P M . Common all along the coast. Some remain in summer. One recovery from Finland.

Sterna maxima Royal Tern A M . Very common along the coast, many remaining in June-Aug.

Sterna sandvicensis Sandwich Tern P M . Abundant on all coastal lagoons and beaches. Hundreds remain in summer months. Large numbers are killed for food or fun (with other terns) giving numerous recoveries from Great Britain (51), Ireland (9), Germany (10), France (6), Holland (3), Sweden (2), Denmark (2), Belgium (2), USSR (1).

Sterna hirundo Common Tern P M . Less abundant than the previous 2 species but equally widespread. 29 recoveries from Sweden, Norway, Finland, Denmark, Holland, Germany, Belgium, Great Britain, France, Spain and Italy.

Sterna dougalii Roseate Tern P M . Several identifications confirmed by 3 recoveries from Great Britain and Ireland.

Sterna paradisaea Arctic Tern P M . Few definite visual records, but 6 recoveries from Great Britain.

Sterna fuscata Sooty Tern A V . At least 3 observations offshore. One specimen collected near Abidjan (Intes).

Sterna albifrons Little Tern P (and A ?) M . Uncommon. More often seen on coastal waters (Assini to Grand Lahou) than inland lakes (Taabo, Kossou). African race *guineae* possible, but European migrants confirmed by 2 recoveries (France, Italy).

Sterna (Chlidonias) hybrida Whiskered Tern P M . The least common of the 3 *Chlidonias*. Only seen 6 times on coastal lagoons.

Sterna (Chlidonias) leucoptera White-winged Tern P M . Not uncommon in small numbers from coastal lagoons to Kossou (Nov to Mar).

Sterna (Chlidonias) nigra Black Tern P M . The most abundant tern along the entire coastline and lagoons. Sometimes several hundreds can be seen together. Many remain in June-Aug. Rare on inland lakes (Taabo, Kossou).

Rynchops flavirostris African Skimmer A V . Occasional (4 records, up to 7 birds together) on coastal waters (Ayamé to Azagny, July to Dec).

PTEROCLIDIDAE

Pterocles quadricinctus Four-banded Sandgrouse A M B . Widespread in savannas north of 8°N from Nov to May.

TURNICIDAE

Turnix sylvatica Button Quail R B Common in coastal and derived savannas. Local north of the forest zone (reaches Comoé).

Turnix hottentotta (nana) Black-rumped Button Quail R B . Rarer and more local than *sylvatica*. Shorter grass and more humid grasslands. Reported only from Grand Bassam to Grand Lahou.

Ortyxelos meiffrenii Lark Quail V . Snow mentions an old record from Grand Bassam. The species has not been identified in recent times.

COLUMBIDAE

Columba guinea Speckled Pigeon R B . Local only north of 9°30' (south to Kong, Bouet).

Columba unicincta African Wood Pigeon R B . High rain forest from Abidjan to Tai, Nimba, Sipilou and Lamto.

Columba malherbii (Turturoena iriditorques) Bronze-naped Pigeon R B . Also typical of the canopy of high dense forest, but extends north to Bouaké and Comocé.

Streptopelia semitorquata Red-eyed Dove R B . Abundant in all humid savannas and farmlands. Decreases north of 8°N and becomes more and more local north of 9°N (around forests).

Streptopelia vinacea Vinaceous Dove R B . An abundant savanna species of northern guinea and sudan zones. South to Bouaké.

Streptopelia senegalensis Laughing Dove R B . Common in every town and surrounding farmlands.

Oena capensis Masked Dove A M ? Uncommon. Today more frequent in northern savannas, than in the 1960s and early 1970s, south to Bouaké. So far recorded only in the dry season but may happen to breed.

Turtur (Tymanistris) tymanistris Tambourine Dove R B . Common throughout the forest zone. Enters the gallery forests north to Morhogo and Comocé.

Turtur afer Blue-spotted Wood Dove P B . Common. Secondary forest, humid savanna woodlands, farmlands and gallery forests. Progressively replaced by *T. abyssinicus* north of 8°N, but reaches the northern border in small woods.

Turtur abyssinicus Black-billed Wood Dove R B . Increasingly common from 8°30' northwards in wooded savanna.

Turtur brehmeri (Calophelia puella) Blue-headed Wood Dove R B . Wide-spread in forest undergrowth from Abidjan to Nimba and Comocé.

Aplopelia larvata Lemon Dove Known from the Guinean (Brosset and Liberian (FW) sides of Mt Nimba. May occur on the eastern slopes.

Treron calva African Green Pigeon R B . Abundant all over the forest zone up to extreme northern galleries.

Treron waalia Yellow-bellied Green Pigeon R B . Subsudanian savanna woodlands and small forests, south to 9°N. Moderately common.

PSITTACIDAE

Poicephalus robustus Brown-necked Parrot R B . Mainly restricted to Eorassus Palm southern Guinea savanna, from Sipilou to Lanto and Bougouanou (formerly Dabou). Scarce in northern savannas (Comoré).

Poicephalus gularis Red-crowned Parrot R B . Rare and local in primary forest (Taï, Tiassale, Oumé).

Poicephalus senegalus Senegal Parrot R B . Common in all types of savannas (South to Abidjan).

Psittacus erithacus Grey Parrot R B . Common throughout the forest zone, but only south of 8°N. There is no gap between the 2 subspecies *erithacus* and *timneh* supposed to come in contact along the Bandama river.

Psittacula krameri Rose-winged Parakeet R B . Increasingly common north of 9°N. Rarely reaches Pouake and even Tounodi. A well known population in Abidjan-Grand Bassam may be introduced or relict.

Agapornis pullaria Red-headed Lovebird R B ? Only known from the Boundiali-Tingrela area (Léant).

Agapornis swinderniana Black-collared Lovebird R B ? Seen twice in Taï. May also be on Nimba.

MUSOPHAGIDAE

Corythaecola cristata Great Blue Turaco R B . Formerly common all over the forest zone, north to Odienné, Korhogo and Comoré. Now much reduced by intensive hunting pressure.

Crinifer piscator Grey Turaco R B . Common savanna species throughout, including dry secondary growth on sandy coastal dunes.

Tauraco (Turacus) persa Guinea Turaco R B . Common in every dense forests and galleries north to 10°N. Respective ranges of races *persa* and *buffoni* (Bannerman) not defined.

Tauraco (Turacus) macrorhynchus Verreaux's Turaco R B . Widespread (Taï and Abidjan to Nimba, Sipilou, Lanto and Comoré), but more local than *T. persa*.

Musophaga violacea Violet Turaco R B . Northern edge of the forest zone (Lanto, Sipilou, Agnibilekrou) through the gallery forests of all northern Ivory Coast. Collected in the coastal belt (BMH).

CUCULIDAE

Clamator glandarius Great Spotted Cuckoo A (or P ?) M B . Restricted to the northern savannas in the 1960-70s. Now frequent south to Lanto. So far not recorded in the rainy season.

Clamator jacobinus Pied Crested Cuckoo A V ? 3 records Feb-Apr, M'Ringue and Comoré.

Clamator levaillantii Striped Cuckoo A M (or R ?) B . Commonly occurs throughout the country in all months. The savanna population seems to fluctuate more (peak in dry season) than the less abundant but widespread forest population (secondary growth, edges, galleries).

Cuculus solitarius Red-chested Cuckoo R B . A common song in most forest from the coast to Korhogo and Comoé.

Cuculus clamosus Black Cuckoo R or A M ? B ? As widespread as *solitarius*. The forest population (*C. c. gabonensis* ?) appears more sedentary than the smaller population (*clamosus* ?) of Guinea galleries (north of 8°N) only seen between June and Oct.

Cuculus (canorus) gularis Grey Cuckoo A M B ? Common throughout the savannas (from Lamto northwards) in the dry season (Oct-June). Rarely sings and may not breed there.

Cuculus (canorus) canorus Common Cuckoo P M . Presence of the European migrant documented by a specimen (Lamto, Feb).

Pachycoccyx audeberti (validis) Thick-billed Cuckoo P B . Not uncommon in southern Guinea savanna (several pairs on the 2,700 ha reserve of Lamto). Also occurs south to Tai and north to Comoé, mainly on forest edges.

Cercococcyx mechowi Dusky Long-tailed Cuckoo R B . Scarce. Slightly more widespread than *olivinus* (Tai, Nimba to Azagny and Lamto).

Cercococcyx olivinus Olive Long-tailed Cuckoo R B . Rare. Primary forest of Tai and Nimba.

Chrysococcyx flavigularis Yellow-throated Cuckoo R B . Identified only in the southern primary forest (Ayamé to Abidjan and Tai).

Chrysococcyx cupreus Emerald Cuckoo P B . Widely distributed in every month through all the forest zone north to Korhogo. A young fed by *Muscicapa ussheri* (July, Mt Tonkui).

Chrysococcyx klaas Klaas' Cuckoo A M ? B . Everywhere (coast to Odiénne and Comoé) in large clearings, forest edges, open woodlands and gallery forests, mainly in the dry season (very few observations in June-Sep, except north of 9°N) when it could breed (songs) earlier than the often sympatric *caprius*.

Chrysococcyx caprius Didric Cuckoo A M ? B . In less wooded habitats than any other *Chrysococcyx*. Also more definitely migratory, leaving the forest zone from June to Sep (only 2 records), becoming at that time more abundant north of 8°N and probably breeding (singing).

Centropus leucogaster Black-throated Coucal R B . Rather common throughout the forest, north to Odiénne, Korhogo and Comoé.

Centropus monachus Blue-headed Coucal R B . Favours high grass of humid or swampy areas. Status and distribution unperfectly known, due to confusion with *C. senegalensis*. Both north and south of the country.

Centropus senegalensis Senegal Coucal R B . Common in all open grassy habitats. Melanic form "*epomidis*" seen in both north and south.

Centropus grillii Black Coucal R B . Locally in coastal as well as northern high rank grass areas. Some seasonal movements (not clear).

Ceuthmochares aereus Yellowbill R B . Throughout the forest zone, including northern galleries. Common.

STRIGIDAE

Tyto alba Barn Owl P B . Scattered pairs in many open habitats. Often in towns (including Abidjan) but also natural savannas (Lamto, Comœ, etc.).

Otus scops scops European Scops Owl P M . Specimens from Rouaké and Lamto (Jan-Mar).

Otus (scops) senegalensis African Scops Owl R B . Common throughout wooded grassy habitats, including some farmlands of the semi-deciduous forest zone. Rare in coastal areas.

Otus icterorhynchus Cinnamon Scops Owl R B . Tape recorded in Tai and Nimba (Chappuis).

Otus leucotis White-faced Owl R B . Widely distributed through all Guinea and Sudan savannas from Tounodi northwards. Often occurs in town parks and gardens. An unexpected sighting in a coastal inundated savanna (Azagny, June).

Jubula (Lophotrix) lettii Maned Owl R B . So far only known from Tai. Suspected at Lamto (Chappuis).

Bubo africanus Spotted Eagle Owl R B . The common eagle owl over all the savannas north of the forest (including Lamto). Seen only one time near the coast (Dabou).

Bubo poensis Fraser's Eagle Owl R B . Widespread primary and even secondary forest owl (Abidjan to Tai, Nimba, Lamto and Maraoué).

Bubo shelleyi Shelley's Eagle Owl R B . Collected and tape recorded (Chappuis) in Tai and Nimba. High primary forest only. Probably rare.

Bubo lacteus Verreaux's Eagle Owl R B . Widespread in savanna woodlands and even in large trees of villages north of 8°30.

Bubo leucostictus Akun Eagle Owl R B . The most common forest eagle owl from Abidjan to Tai, Nimba and Maraoué.

Scotopelia peli Pel's Fishing Owl R B . Known from no less than 19 localities from coastal lagoons (Dabou, Azagny) to medium size (Tai) and large (Randama, Comœ) forested rivers, north to at least 9°30.

Scotopelia ussheri Ussher's Fishing Owl R B . So far identified from Tai, Azagny, Lamto and Nimba. The suspected existence of *S. bouvieri*, mainly from calls similar to records from Gabon (Lamto, Comœ) needs to be substantiated by a specimen.

Strix woodfordi African Wood Owl R R . The commonest forest owl everywhere.

Glaucidium perlatum Pearl-spotted Owlet R B . Increasingly frequent in northern savannas and suburban gardens, from Bouaké northwards.

Glaucidium capense ethecopari Barred Owlet R R . Discovered in Lanto, this new subspecies (first thought to be a distinct species closer to *castaneum* than *capense*) has been found in 17 dense primary or mainly secondary forests south to Banco, Azagny and Tai, west to Nimba and north to Maracoué and Comoé. Sometimes common (up to 3 different singers within a 5-600 m radius).

Glaucidium tephronotum Yellow-legged Owlet R B . Recorded from Tai. Cited from the Liberian side of Mt Nimba (FW).

CAPRIMULGIDAE

Caprimulgus binotatus or *C. pectoralis* Brown or Dusky Nightjar Dark nightjars have been seen several times on tracks within dense rain forest, but none has ever been collected. They may eventually prove to be one of the above species.

Caprimulgus ruficollis Red-necked Nightjar P M . Collected near Katiola (Jan, Parelus) and Poundiali (Nov, Ledant).

Caprimulgus europaeus European Nightjar P M . Collected near Korhogo (Feb).

Caprimulgus natalensis Natal Nightjar R B ? 4 records (2 roadkills) in central (Toumodi, N'Douci) and southern (Dabou, Grand Lahou) humid grasslands.

Caprimulgus inornatus Plain Nightjar A M . Widespread dry season (Nov-May) visitor in all savannas (from Korhogo to the coast). Mostly *C. i. inornatus*, but *C. i. vinaceabrunneus* has also been found (Lanto, M'Ringue).

Caprimulgus tristigma Freckled Nightjar R ? B ? Common in northern rocky areas (Nianobo, Comoé, Korhogo, Poundiali).

Caprimulgus fossii Gaboon Nightjar A M ? Found dead in Comoé and Korhogo (Feb-Apr: the only West African records).

Caprimulgus (Scotornis) climacurus Long-tailed Nightjar A M B . Very abundant throughout the savannas. South of 7°N they are found from Nov to May and do not seem to breed, but north of 8°N very small numbers remain between June and Oct and may breed (enlarged ovaries in Mar-May).

Macrodipteryx longipennis Standard-winged Nightjar A M B . Less abundant than *C. climacurus* but similarly widespread from the coast to 10°N outside the forest and disappears between June and Oct. Breeds everywhere Jan-Mar (several nests found).

APODIDAE

Apus apus European Swift P M . Abundant everywhere (including top of Mt Nimba) from Sep to May. 12 records in June to Aug.

Apus melba Alpine Swift P M . Several records (flocks of 5 to 40) in Oct, Dec, Mar and Apr (Nimba to Lamto and Comoe).

Apus aequatorialis Mottled Swift A V ? Most certainly identified at Nimba (Apr) and Comoe (July). Other possible sightings.

Apus caffer African White-rumped Swift R B ? Few scattered records (Bouake, Korhogo, Feb-June). May be overlooked among other swifts.

Apus affinis Little Swift R B . Large breeding colonies in every town and under large bridges.

Apus batesi Black Swift R B ? Identified several times above the primary forest of Tai and Nimba, but a specimen would bring more certainty about its actual identity.

Cypsiurus parvus African Palm Swift R B . Common wherever there are *Borassus* or Coconut palms.

Chaetura sabini Sabine's Spinetail R B . The most frequent forest *Chaetura*: Ayamé to San Pedro, Man, Sipilou and Daloa.

Chaetura ussheri Mottled Spinetail R B . Common in *Borassus* Palm savanna (including along the coast). Only scattered pairs in palmless northern Guinea zone (north to Ferkessedougou).

Chaetura melanopygia Black Spinetail Identified at least from Fresco, Tai, Nimba, Tiassalé, Oumé. Uncommon. Mainly, if not only, above primary forest.

Chaetura cassini Cassin's Spinetail R B . 31 records from Ayamé to Tai north to Damané, Diékué, Oumé, Dimbokro.

TROGONIDAE

Apaloderma narina Narina Trogon R B . Well distributed over all the forest zone, north to Korhogo and Comoe.

ALCEDINIDAE

Ceryle maxima Giant Kingfisher R B . Isolated pairs all along the large rivers, lagoons and even lakes.

Ceryle rudis Pied Kingfisher R B . Locally common on some coastal marshes and lagoons (Azagny, Assinie) and parts of northern rivers and lakes (Korhogo, Comoe), but lacking in many apparently suitable areas.

Alcedo quadribrachys Shining Blue Kingfisher R B . Uncommon but widespread along the forested banks of all running or still waters.

Alcedo (Corythornis) cristata Malachite Kingfisher R B . Small water-courses and ponds of coastal and northern areas but very local in all the central part of Ivory Coast (lack of suitable habitat ?).

Alcedo (Corythornis) leucogaster White-bellied Kingfisher R B . Secretive. Taken in mist-nests from 11 primary or high secondary forests (Lamto to Tai, Damané, Nimba and Daloa).

Ispidina (Ceyx) picta Pygmy Kingfisher R R . The commonest forest Kingfisher (from net-captures) throughout the forest zone, north to 9°30' N.

Ispidina (Ceyx) lecontei Red-headed Dwarf Kingfisher R B . Quite rare in mostly primary forest (Lamto, Gagnoa, Tai, Nimba).

Halcyon senegalensis Woodland (Senegal) Kingfisher P B . Common everywhere and all the year despite some seasonal fluctuations. From coastal swamps and plantations to northern rivers and dry savannas. Darker population in the south (*H. s. fuscopileus*) and paler north of 8°N (*H. s. senegalensis*) but with a wide zone of hybridization.

Halcyon malimbica Blue-breasted Kingfisher R R . Abundant in all the forest zone, including the most northern galleries.

Halcyon badia Chocolate-backed Kingfisher P B . Only found in heavy forest from Ayame to Bondoukou, Lamto, Tai and Nimba.

Halcyon leucocephala Grey-headed Kingfisher A M . Widespread in Guinea savanna during the dry season (south to Lamto), but only north of 9°N from June to Oct.

Halcyon chelicuti Striped Kingfisher R R . Common and sedentary in every kind of savanna, south to the coast.

MEROPIIDAE

Merops apiaster European Bee-eater P M . Numerous flocks (4 to 35 birds) widely ranging all over the country (mainly savanna) from Sep to May.

Merops superciliosus (persicus) Blue-cheeked Bee-eater A (?) V . Rare dry season vagrant north of 9°N (Korhogo, Comôé), except once at Toumodi.

Merops orientalis Little Green Bee-eater R R ? Small numbers in Sudan belt only. Very few during the rains.

Merops malimbicus Rosy Bee-eater A V . Scarce. Small flocks (Abengourou, Nov; Ayamé, Jan).

Merops nubicus Carmine Bee-eater A M . Common dry season visitor (Nov-Apr) north of 8°N, rarely south to Toumodi.

Merops albicollis White-throated Bee-eater A M . Abundant from Sep to May all over the forest zone, but local in northern Guinea savanna (around forest edges). Flocks of migrants even fly over the top of Mt Nimba in Apr.

Merops pusillus Little Bee-eater P R . Widely distributed, sedentary pairs in natural or secondary open grasslands, throughout.

Merops bulocki Red-throated Bee-eater R R . Sparsely distributed, dry season, breeding colonies in northern Guinea belt. More numerous in the Comôé than outside. Seems to strongly decrease from June to Oct (or flocks more widely dispersed).

Merops gularis Black Bee-eater R B . Secondary forest, plantations and primary forest gaps, throughout the humid forest zone, north to Nimba, Sipilou, Daloa, Pongouanou. Usually in pairs.

Merops muelleri Blue-headed Bee-eater P B . Rare primary forest bird (Tai, Nimba, N'Douci).

Merops hirundineus Swallow-tailed Bee-eater R (A M) B . Widespread, usually in pairs, through the Guinea savanna north of the forest. South to Lamto in the dry season. Reduced numbers and only north of 9°N in the rainy season.

CORACIIDAE

Coracias abyssinica Abyssinian Roller A M B Common north of 8°N in the dry season (small numbers south to Lamto). Very rare, north of 9°N from mid June to early Sep.

Coracias garrulus European Roller P M . Regular dry season visitor. 36 records between 8° and 10°N (mainly Comoé). Once in south, at Toumodi.

Coracias cyanogaster Blue-bellied Roller P B . The typical roller of southern guinea savanna (including Dabou). Much rarer in the northern guinea belt, up to Ferkessedougou and Odienne (very local). Sedentary. Invading some of the large cultivated clearings of the forest zone.

Coracias naevia Rufous-crowned Roller A M B . Dry season breeding pairs throughout the savannas north of the forest (including Lamto). More numerous than *abyssinica* south of 8°N where, like *abyssinica*, it has markedly increased during recent (dry) years. Absent from June to Sep south of 9°N and rare north of this limit.

Eurystomus glaucurus (afer) Broad-billed Roller A M B . Abundant throughout the humid savannas (including coastal area and large forest clearings) from Oct to May. Quickly decreases northwards, reaching 10°N. Disappears from its southern range during the rains (mid-June to early Sep), when only small numbers remain north of 8°N.

Eurystomus gularis Blue-throated Roller R B . The forest counterpart of *E. glaucurus* from coast to Touba and Comoé. Restricted to forest edges, gaps, riverbanks and emergent trees above the canopy. Does not increase very much in large clearings which are more often colonized by *glaucurus*.

UPUPIDAE

Upupa epops Hoopoe A and P M (R ?) B . Widespread in Nov-May north of Bouaké. Only 4 sightings in June-Sep. Most of identified birds clearly belong to African *U. e. senegalensis*, but some other well fit the description of the Palearctic *U. e. epops*.

PHOENICULIDAE

Phoeniculus purpureus Senegal Wood-Hoopoe R B . Especially common in *Borassus* palm savanna (including Dabou in the 1960s). More and more local from 8° to 10°N.

Phoeniculus bollei Buff-headed Wood-Hoopoe R B . All over the forest zone, but more often seen along its northern limit and large gallery forests (Sipilou to Maraoué, Bouaké and Comoé).

Phoeniculus castaneiceps Forest Wood-Hoopoe R R . More restricted to high dense rain forest than *Ph. bollei*, in pairs instead of social groups, but also reaches the northern galleries (Sipilou to Comoé).

Phoeniculus aterrimus Lesser Wood-Hoopoe R B . Northern dry savanna; increasingly frequent from Bouaké to 10°N.

BUCCONOTIDAE

Bycanistes cylindricus Brown-cheeked Hornbill P B . The commonest large forest hornbill in primary or high secondary forest from the coast to Sipilou and Comoé. Sometimes concentrations in fruiting trees of up to 90 birds.

Bycanistes subcylindricus Black-and-white-casqued Hornbill R B . Much rarer in the humid forest zone (Ayame to Tai, Nimba and Tiassale) than *cylindricus*, but ranges further north in the savanna-gallery mosaic up to Odiénne and Ferkessedougou.

Bycanistes fistulator Piping Hornbill R B . Abundant throughout the forest zone. Increases in the northern galleries (Comoé) during the wet season.

Ceratogymna elata Yellow-casqued Hornbill R B . Widespread throughout the forest belt, but mainly along edges, clearings in secondary or gallery forest. North to 9°10'N.

Ceratogymna atrata Black-casqued Hornbill R B . Restricted to humid, dense, undisturbed forest, not extending as far north as *C. elata*. Formerly common from Abidjan and Tai to Sipilou and Maroué. Now much reduced by hunting and primary forest destruction.

Tropicranus albocristatus White-crested Hornbill R B . Common throughout the forest undergrowth north to 9°30'.

Tockus nasutus Grey Hornbill A M B . Abundant all over the zone from Sep to June. Rare in July-Aug (when found in only the northern half of the country).

Tockus fasciatus Pied Hornbill R B . The most abundant hornbill throughout the forest zone, including northern galleries. Reaches 10°N (north of Odiénne).

Tockus erythrorhynchus Red-beaked Hornbill A V . Only 2 records (Feb-Mar) in extreme north (M'Pingue, Ouangolodougou).

Tockus camurus Red-billed Dwarf Hornbill R B . Widespread in every high humid forest from the coast to Sipilou, Korhogo and Comoé.

Tockus hartlaubi Black Dwarf Hornbill R B . As widespread as *T. camurus*, but less common, more local and secretive.

Bucorvus abyssinicus Ground Hornbill R B . Now scarce in northern savannas outside reserves (formerly south to Beoumi). May be more than 50-100 pairs in Comoé.

CAPITONIDAE

Lybius dubius Bearded Barbet R B . Northern Guinea savanna woodland south to Pouaké and even Toumodi.

Lybius bidentatus Tooth-billed Barbet R B . More southern distribution than *L. dubius* (but overlaps north to Korhogo): denser woodlands, galleries and forest edges south to Lamto).

Lybius vieillotti Vieillot's Barbet R B . Abundant throughout the savannas (local along the coast).

Lybius (Tricholaima) hirsutus Hairy-breasted Barbet R B . Common in every secondary or gallery forest and plantations, north to Touba and Comoé.

Gymnobucco calvus Naked-faced Barbet R B . Freely overlaps with *G. peli* over most of its range, but more abundant in the southern half of the forest zone and never identified north of 8°N.

Gymnobucco peli Bristle-nosed Barbet R B . Ranges from the coast (local) to Odienné and Comoé.

Pogoniulus (Buccanodon) duchaillui Yellow-spotted Barbet R B . Primary and high secondary forest from Azagny and Tai at least to Gagnoa-Oumé.

Pogoniulus scolopaceus Speckled Tinker-bird R B . Abundant all over the forest zone (mainly secondary, edge or gallery forest and plantations) to Comoé.

Pogoniulus chrysoconus Yellow-fronted Tinker-bird P B . A sudanian savanna species ranging south to Pouaké and even Toumodi.

Pogoniulus leucolaima Yellow-rumped Tinker-bird R B . Common throughout the forest zone, more often in secondary habitats, wherever high trees remain, including northern Guinea galleries.

Pogoniulus subsulphureus Yellow-throated Tinker-bird R B . Distribution, habitat, morphology and song surprisingly similar to those of *P. leucolaima*, with which it overlaps over most of its range.

Pogoniulus atroflavus Red-rumped Tinker-bird R B . Primary and secondary forest from Abidjan to Sipilou, Tai and Maraoué.

Trachyphonus (Trachylaemus) purpuratus Yellow-billed Barbet R B . Restricted to more primary than secondary forest; Abidjan to San Pedro, Nimba, Pouaflé, Lamto.

INDICATORIDAE

Indicator indicator Greater Honeyguide R B . Sparsely distributed throughout the savanna zone north of the forest, including Lamto.

Indicator minor Lesser Honeyguide P B . Inconspicuous and nowhere abundant as other Honeyguides. Gallery and secondary forests, savanna woodlands. Lamto and Beoumi to Nimba and Comôé.

Indicator maculatus 4 Spotted Honeyguide P B . Forest from Tai and Lamto to Foron and Comôé.

Indicator exilis Least Honeyguide R B . Lamto, Soubré, Nimba. Forest edges and gallery.

Indicator willcocksi Willcocks's Honeyguide P B . Tai to Sipilou and Lamto. Pare.

Melichneutes robustus Lyre-tailed Honeyguide P B . In spite of its loud display, known only from Tai and Nimba (Chappuis). Primary forest.

Melignomon eisentrauti Eisentraut's Honeyguide R B ? Collected on Liberian side of Mt Nimba (FW). Suspected in Tai from unconfirmed sighting.

Prodotiscus insignis Cassin's Honeyguide R B . Tai to Gamoa, Lamto, Beoumi, Foron and Comôé. Edges et gallery forests.

Prodotiscus regulus Brown-backed Honeyguide P B . Collected on Nimba (Liberia, FW).

PICIDAE

Junx torquilla European Wryneck P N . Regular at Lamto (Nov-Mar). Also Korhogo and Comôé.

Campethera punctuligera Fine-spotted Woodpecker R B . All the savannas north of the forest. Rare south of Fouaké (to Lamto).

Campethera maculosa Golden-backed Woodpecker P B . The forest zone from Abidjan and Tai to Lamto, Beoumi, Nimba and Sipilou.

Campethera nivosa Buff-spotted Woodpecker P B . Ayame to Dabou and Tai, north to Sipilou, Korhogo and Comôé. Dense undergrowth of primary and secondary forests.

Campethera caroli Brown-eared Woodpecker R B . More a primary forest species than most other woodpeckers. Ayame to Tai, Lamto and Sipilou.

Dendropicos fuscescens Cardinal Woodpecker R B . Irregularly distributed through Guinea woodlands (Lamto to Comôé). Also forest edges.

Dendropicos gabonensis (lugubris) Gabon Woodpecker P B . 18 localities scattered through the forest zone, north to Comôé.

Dendropicos (Dendrocopos) obsoletus Brown-backed Woodpecker R B . Moderately common over the entire savanna zone, from Lamto northwards.

Mesopicos goertae Grey Woodpecker R B . All over the savannas. Increasing frequency as one moves northwards, from Lamto.

Mesopicos pyrrhogaster Fire-bellied Woodpecker R B . The commonest and most uniformly distributed woodpecker in all types of forests, from the coast to Korhogo and Comôé.

EURYLAFMIDAE

Smithornis capensis Delacour's Broadbill R B . Undergrowth of primary and secondary forests of Taï, Nimba to Lamto and Beoumi.

Smithornis rufolateralis Rufous-sided Broadbill R B . Somewhat more local and more restricted to high primary forest than *capensis*. Taï, Nimba, Oumé.

PITTIDAE

Pitta angolensis Blue-winged Pitta (Anoola Pitta) R B . Forest floor of Lamto, Danané, Maraoué and Taï. Uncommon.

ALAUDIDAE

Mirafra rufocinnamomea (buckleyi) Flappet Lark (Buckley's Bush Lark) R B . Regular in dry, open savanna, both southern and northern guinea and even coastal sandy areas (Dabou, Grand Bassam).

Mirafra africana Rufous-naped Bush Lark R B . Montane grassland on top of Mt Nimba.

Mirafra nigricans Dusky Lark R B . From Bouake-Beoumi (only in the dry season) at least to Ferkessedougou and Comoé. Local.

Eremopterix leucotis Chestnut-backed Finch-Lark A V ? Recently recorded near Korhogo (Nov, Ledant). One more example of southward extending range of sudanian species with increasing dryness.

Galerida (Heliocorys) modesta Sun Lark R B . Dry, often rocky savanna from Comoé to Poundiali.

HIRUNDINIDAE

Riparia cincta Banded Sand-martin A V . 3 records (Comoé, Mar to July).

Riparia riparia European Sand-martin P M . Only 8 records on lagoons (Abidjan), lake (Kossou) and river (Comoé). Nov-Apr.

Hirundo nigrita White-throated Blue Swallow R B . Common all along the major rivers with forested banks. Also lagoons.

Hirundo smithii Wire-tailed Swallow P B ? On rivers in the northern Guinea belt. Local (Beoumi to Odienné and Comoé). Also southern lakes (Yamoussoukro, Ayamé).

Hirundo aethiopica Ethiopian Swallow R B . Very local (Katiola, Ferkessedougou). May have been overlooked.

Hirundo lucida Red-chested Swallow R B . Often breeding in villages, from Lamto to 10°N.

Hirundo rustica European Swallow P M . Very abundant mostly in central and southern Ivory Coast (even in towns) where it largely outnumbers local swallows. Sep to Apr, but some remain through the wet season. 13 recoveries of birds ringed in France, Belgium and Germany.

Hirundo leucosoma Pied-winged Swallow R B . Seen in small numbers from Recoumi to Odiénne and Comoe. Breeds in Bouake and near Korhogo.

Hirundo daurica (rufula) Red-rumped Swallow P B . Often in association with other species. More than 30 localities from 7°30' to 10°N.

Hirundo senegalensis Mosque Swallow P B . Identified only in some villages north of 9°N, but cited from coast (BMH, confused with the following ?).

Hirundo semirufa Rufous-chested Swallow R B . The commonest breeding swallow throughout the forest zone, but seen occasionally north to 10°N.

Hirundo abyssinica Lesser Striped Swallow R B . Known all over Ivory Coast, but abundant only in the north (often breeds under road bridges).

Hirundo fuligula (Ptyonoprogne rufigula) African Rock Martin R B . Regular around cliffs in humid areas (Nimba, Man, Odiénne).

Hirundo spilodera (Lecythoplastes preussi) Preuss' Cliff Swallow P B . Locally common (near Korhogo, south of Tingrela).

Hirundo griseopyga Grey-rumped Swallow A V ? A single individual recognized (Comoe, Mar).

Delichon urbica European House Martin P M . Seen a dozen times in Oct-Nov and Mar-Apr, always high over the northern savannas (including Lamto). May be only a passage migrant.

Psalidoprocne nitens Square-tailed Roughwing Swallow R B . Less numerous, more local and restricted to the forest zone than *P. obscura*. Nests found in July near Abidjan (sea level) and Man (Mt Toukmi, 1,150 m). Recorded north to Comoe in July.

Psalidoprocne obscura Fanti Rough-winged Swallow R B . Common from Oct to May south of 7°30'. Becomes rarer in the south during the rains to invade all the Guinea zone.

NOTACILLIDAE

Anthus campestris Tawny Pipit P M . Recognized at least once (Feb), north of Ferkessédougou.

Anthus cervinus Red-throated Pipit P M . Rather frequent in Guinea savanna from Lamto to Ferkessédougou (Nov-Mar).

Anthus leucophrys Plain-backed Pipit R B . Widespread throughout the country in shortgrass, treeless areas (often man-made).

Anthus novaeseelandiae (richardi) Richard's Pipit P V ? Several pipits well fitting this species' description (including call) seen in Mar (Comoe). Would be better confirmed by a capture.

Anthus similis (bannermani) Long-billed Pipit P B ? Not rare on montane grassland of top of Mt Nimba.

Anthus trivialis Tree Pipit P M . Very abundant in all savannas north of the forest (Oct-Apr), sometimes south to Abidjan. Usually small groups of 3 to 10. One recovery from Belgium.

Motacilla flava Yellow Wagtail P M . Very common in humid grasslands, wetlands, around cattle, etc., throughout the country (slightly less in the north), from Sep to May. The races *flava*, *flavissima*, *iberiae*, *cinereocapilla* and *thunbergi* have been tentatively identified. One recovery from France.

Motacilla clara Mountain Wagtail R B ? 3 definite dry season records (Comoé, Randama and Cavally rivers). Other unconfirmed reports.

Motacilla aguimp African Pied Wagtail R B . Common all along the rivers in the forest zone, decreasing north of 8°N but reaching 9°30' N.

Macronyx croceus Yellow-throated Longclaw R B . All open savannas south of 8°N. Becomes more restricted to humid and even swampy grasslands, hence more local, in northern Guinea zone.

LANIIDAE

Prionops plumata Helmet Shrike R B . A widespread northern guinea savanna species, now regularly found south to Lamto where it was unknown up to the 1970s.

Prionops (Sigmodus) caniceps Chestnut-bellied Helmet-shrike R B . Common all over the forest belt (Azagny and Tai to Sipilou and Comoé).

Nilaus afer Brubru Shrike R B . Local in northern guinea savanna zone, south to Beoumi.

Dryoscopus gambensis Gambian Puffback Shrike R B . Common over all the savanna woodlands and northern galleries, now colonizing forest edges and plantations south to Nimba, Tai and Abidjan.

Dryoscopus (Chaunonotus) sabini Sabine's Puffback Shrike R B . Known from 8 high, almost primary, forest localities (Tai and Ayamé to Lamto and Daloa).

Tchagra australis Brown-headed Tchagra R B . All over the country in secondary bush and forest edges. Commoner than *senegala* in the forest zone, becomes local and increasingly rare in northern guinea zone (hardly reaches 10°N) where it avoids pure savanna.

Tchagra senegala Black-headed Tchagra R B . Much commoner than *australis* in all savanna woodlands and much scarcer than it in the forest and coastal zones (except savanna-like grasslands which it favours).

Tchagra (Antichromus) minuta Blackcap Tchagra R B . Only known from tall grass along forest edges in Lamto, Sipilou and Maraoué.

Laniarius barbarus Barbary Shrike R B . Common in dense woodlands north of Bouake, much rarer in the southern guinea belt but again common in the dry bushy areas along the coast (Azagny to Assini).

Laniarius ferrugineus Bell Shrike R B . Common in gallery-savanna mosaic and woodlands of all the guinea zone north of 7°N (rare south to Lamto and even Abidjan).

Laniarius leucorhynchus Black Boubou Shrike R B . Not uncommon in dense low secondary growth from the coastal zone, north to Lamto and Beoumi.

Malaconotus (Chlorophoneus) sulfureopectus Orange-breasted Bush Shrike R B . Often heard in guinea woodlands from Toumodi to 10°N.

Malaconotus (Chlorophoneus) multicolor Many-coloured Bush Shrike R B . Primary forest canopy of Lamto to Nimba, Tai, Maraoué and Comoé.

Malaconotus cruentus Fiery-breasted Bush Shrike R B . Widespread (Abidjan to Bouake and Maraoué) and even common (Danane-Nimba-Tai area) in canopy of primary or high secondary forests.

Malaconotus lagdeni Lagden's Bush Shrike R B . Very rare. Only identified with certainty in Tai. Also cited from Nimba (FV).

Malaconotus blanchoti Grey-headed Bush Shrike R B . Known from 9 localities in northern savanna woodlands (from Bouaké to Comoé and Odienné).

Lanius collaris Fiscal Shrike R B . Common in some urban gardens and suburban areas (e.g. Abidjan), but usually very local in farmlands, recently burnt or overgrazed savannas, north to 9°30 N.

Lanius senator Woodchat Shrike P M . Well distributed from Nov to Apr in all the guinea zone. Rarely enters the forest belt (secondary grasslands).

Corvinella corvina Long-tailed (Yellow-billed) Shrike R B . Widespread resident in savanna woodlands north of Bouaké. Several dry season records south to Toumodi.

ORIOLIDAE

Oriolus oriolus European Golden Oriole P V . A male collected in a gallery forest (Lamto, Oct).

Oriolus auratus African Golden Oriole R B . A common savanna species north of 8°N. Seen south to Toumodi at least from Jan to May.

Oriolus brachyrhynchus Black-headed Oriole R B . Common throughout the forest zone, including the upper slopes of Mt Nimba and gallery forest, north to 9°30.

Oriolus nigripennis Black-winged Oriole R B . Surprisingly sympatric with the similar *O. brachyrhynchus*. As a whole, it is more abundant than the latter in high canopy, primary forest and southern humid forest zone.

DICRURIDAE

Dicrurus adsimilis Glossy-backed Drongo R B . Common in all natural or derived savannas and many secondary open habitats down to the coast.

Dicrurus atripennis Shining Drongo R B . Of regular occurrence in high forest, locally north to 9°30 N.

Dicrurus ludwigii (sharpai) Square-tailed Drongo R B . Commoner than *atripennis* in most forests, especially secondary and gallery forests, also edges and small woods. From the coast to Korhogo.

STURNIDAE

Poeoptera lugubris Narrow-tailed Starling R B . Ayame to San Pedro, Abengourou, Lamto and Man. Often associated with breeding colonies of *Gymnabucco*.

Onychognathus morio Crao Chestnut-winged Starling R B . Found breeding (Parelius) in some rocky outcrops of the Korhogo-Boundiali area.

Onychognathus fulgidus Forest Chestnut-winged Starling R (?) B . Inhabits mainly natural humid savannas (preferably with *Borassus* palms) both north (Lamto to Sipilou, Maraoué and Comoé) and south (Dabou to Sassandra) of the forest zone. Seasonal movements (nearly disappears from Lamto in July-Sep).

Lamprotornis (Lamprocolius) purpureiceps Velvet-headed Glossy Starling R B ? One collected (Sipilou, Apr). A group sighted in Tai.

Lamprotornis (Lamprocolius) cupreocauda Copper-tailed Glossy Starling R B . Groups of up to 50 birds in the forest canopy from Abidjan and San Pedro to Maraoué. Ill defined local movements.

Lamprotornis (Lamprocolius) purpureus Purple Glossy Starling R B . Regular across the northern guinea belt, rarely south to Toumodi in the dry season (seasonal movements).

Lamprotornis (Lamprocolius) chloropterus Lesser Blue-eared Glossy Starling R B . The commonest Glossy Starling from 7 to 9°N (Toumodi to Odienné). More often in pairs than in flocks. A northward shift during the rains.

Lamprotornis (Lamprocolius) chalcurus Short-tailed Glossy Starling R B . Sympatric with *L. purpureus* (i.e. slightly more northern distribution than *L. chloropterus*), at least in the dry season (seems to be much rarer in June-Sep).

Lamprotornis (Lamprocolius) chalybeus Blue-eared Glossy Starling A M ? Rare, north of 9°N during the dry season (only ?). Status unclear.

Lamprotornis caudatus Long-tailed Glossy Starling A V ? The rarest and most northern Glossy Starling (4 dry season records north of 9°30').

Lamprotornis (Coccycolius) iris Emerald Starling P B ? Known only from a narrow belt in the central guinea zone (Dabakala, Bouaké, Reoumi, Touba).

Cinnyricinclus leucogaster Amethyst Starling A M B . Abundant everywhere in most months but with marked migratory movements (involving thousands of birds). Numbers peak in the coastal zone from Nov to Mar with lowest levels in May-June. In southern guinea savanna, they are always less numerous than in the south and nearly disappear from May to Sep. Small groups or isolated pairs may be found in all seasons between 8° and 10°N but they strongly increase in June-Aug, which confirms the northward movement during the rains.

Spreo pulcher Chestnut-bellied Starling A V ? 2 extreme northern dry season records (Ouankolodougou, M'Rinqué).

Euphagus africanus Yellow-billed Oxpecker R B . Small numbers on Buffaloes and Roan Antelopes in Combé and Maraoué, and sometimes on domestic cattle in the northern savannas, but never more than 3-5 birds at a time. It is absent from the most southern savanna, at least now, especially from Lamto where a small herd of Buffaloes still exists. An apparently undescribed small oxpecker has been seen on buffaloes in the undergrowth of Tai forest. It may well disappear with its host species before being known.

CORVIDAE

Ptilostomus afer Black Magpie R B . Uncommon. North of 8°30' (south to Bouake, RMH).

Corvus albus Pied Crow R B . Abundant in all open habitats.

PICATHARTIDAE

Picathartes gymnocephalus Guinea Bare-headed Rockfowl R B . So far found breeding only on Mt Nimba (eggs, Apr). Vagrants seen in gallery forest of Lamto lacking suitable rocks (Aug-Sep, Prendergast).

CAMPEPHAGIDAE

Coracina pectoralis White-breasted Cuckoo-shrike P B ? Recently only found north of 9°N, but Lowe collected it at Beoumi. Seems rarer in the wet season (northward movement ?).

Coracina azurea Blue Cuckoo-shrike R B . Local in high dense forest (San Pedro to Nimba, Gagnoa and Lamto).

Campephaga quiscalina Purple-throated Cuckoo-shrike R B . Uncommon in dense forest (Azagny, Tai, Nimba, Lamto, Maraoué, Bouaké).

Campephaga phoenicea Red-shouldered Cuckoo-shrike R B . Frequent in gallery forests and small woods in all the guinea zone.

Campephaga lobata Wattled Cuckoo-shrike R B ? Seen 2 times in Tai's primary forest. Cited from Nimba (FW).

PYCNONOTIDAE

Pycnonotus barbatus Common Bulbul R B . Very abundant everywhere outside the forest.

Andropadus curvirostris Sombre Bulbul R B . Seen, mistnetted or tape recorded from 24 localities through the forest zone (north to Sipilou and Maraoué).

Andropadus gracilis (ansorgei) Little Grey Bulbul P B . Occurs in secondary as well as primary forest, from the coast to Sipilou, Bouaké and Nabakala. The available information and specimens do not yet support the existence of 2 distinct species (*gracilis* and *ansorgei*).

Andropadus gracilirostris Slender-billed Bulbul P B . Nearly as frequent as (and often sympatric with) *gracilis*, but so far only reported north to Man, Gagnoa and Lamto.

Andropadus virens Little Greenbul R B . Very abundant in all types of secondary and gallery forests north to 10°N.

Andropadus latirostris Yellow-whiskered Greenbul R B . Equally abundant and widespread but more in primary undergrowth where it is usually the dominant species.

Calyptocichla serina Golden Bulbul R B . Local in the forest zone (Tai to Danané, Man, Lamto and Abengourou).

Basypogon indicator White-tailed Greenbul R B . Chiefly in second growth, secondary forest and edges, from the coast to Sipilou, Korhogo and Comoe. Moderately common.

Ixonotus guttatus Spotted Greenbul R B . Quite few records across the forest belt. Enters secondary and gallery forests north to Man, Lamto and Aqribilekrou.

Chlorocichla (Pyrrhurus) flavicollis Yellow-throated Leaf-love R B . Gallery forest and small woods of the northern Guinea zone (south to Toundi).

Chlorocichla (Pyrrhurus) simplex Simple Leaf-love R B . Common in dry bushy areas along the coast, then secondary growth and northern gallery forest to nearly 10°N.

Thescelocichla leucopleura White-tailed Brownbul (Swamp Palm Bulbul) R B . Abundant in every forest with oil or *Raphia* palms, chiefly near water, up to 9°20' N.

Phyllastrephus (Pyrrhurus) scandens Leaf-love R B . Local throughout the forest zone. Becomes commoner in gallery forest of the guinea zone, north to Korhogo.

Phyllastrephus baumanni Baumann's Greenbul R B . Collected in Tai (Chappuis) and Peoumi (Lowe). Also observed from San Pedro (Weitkowitz) to Nimba and Lamto. Rare, primary forest.

Phyllastrephus icterinus Icterine Greenbul R B . The commonest *Phyllastrephus* all over the forest zone, north to Sipilou and Comoe.

Phyllastrephus albigularis White-throated Greenbul R B . Mainly primary forest undergrowth from Abidjan and San Pedro to Mt Nimba and Maraoué.

Bleda syndactyla Bristle-bill R B . Frequent in the forest zone south of 7°N.

Bleda eximia Green-tailed Bristle-bill R B . Mainly the southern, humid evergreen part of the forest (north to Nimba).

Bleda canipilla Grey-headed Bristle-bill R B . By far the commonest *Bleda* all over the forest zone, north to 9°30'.

Criniger (Trichophorus) barbatus Bearded Greenbul R B . Common in all the not too dense forest understory from the coast to 9°30'.

Criniger (Trichophorus) calurus White-bearded Bulbul R B . Much more local than *T. barbatus*. Does not extend (?) beyond Nimba, Maraoué and Abengourou.

Criniger (Trichophorus) olivaceus Yellow-throated Olive Greenbul R B ?
Mistnetted in Taï primary forest.

Nicator chloris West African Nicator R B . All the forest and southern guinea zone, north to gallery forest of Comœ (9°N).

TURDIDAE

Saxicola torquata Stonechat R B . Abundant on the summit ridge of Mt Nimba. No other similar habitat in Ivory Coast.

Saxicola rubetra Whinchat P M . Abundant in every savanna, from Sep to Apr mainly after the fires.

Oenanthe oenanthe Wheatear P M . 3 records (Ferkessedougou and Comœ, Jan-Mar).

Oenanthe bottae Red-breasted Chat A M ? At least one good sighting on a recently burnt savanna (Ouankolodougou, Feb).

Cercomela familiaris Red-tailed Chat R B ? Occurs on several northern inselbergs (Nianabo, Korhogo, Roundiali, south of Odienné).

Myrmecocichla cinnamomeiventris White-crowned Cliff Chat R B . On rocky hills and small cliffs near Touba and Roundiali.

Myrmecocichla (Pentholaea) albifrons White-fronted Black Chat R B . Usually sparse in guinea woodlands (rarely south to Toumodi) but locally commoner (Sipilou, Odienné).

Monticola saxatilis Rock-Thrush P M . One record east of Ferkessedougou (Mar). Seen on Mt Nimba (Brosset).

Monticola solitaria Blue Rock-Thrush P V ? Cited from Mt Nimba (FW).

Phoenicurus phoenicurus Redstart P M . Small numbers throughout the guinea zone (Oct-Mar). Once near Abidjan.

Cercotrichas (Erythropygia) leucosticta Gold Coast Scrub Robin R B . Not rare in primary forest undergrowth from Abidjan to Taï, Nimba, Lanto and Maraoué.

Alethe diademata (castanea) Fire-crest Alethe R B . Common. All the forest zone, north to Korhogo.

Alethe poliocephala Brown-chested Alethe P B . Less common than *A. diademata*. North to Comœ and Sipilou. Up to 1,600 m in montane forest on Nimba.

Sheppardia cyornithopsis Whiskered Redbreast Akalat R B . 15 records (Taï, Danané, Nimba).

Stiphrornis erythrothorax Forest-robin R B . Unconspicuous but widespread in primary forest undergrowth north to Sipilou and Maraoué.

Cossypha polioptera White-browed Robin-chat R B . Abundant on Mt Nimba and Tonkui from 1,000 m to the upper limit of the montane forest.

Cossypha cyanocampter Blue-shouldered Robin-chat R B . The only true lowland forest *Cossypha*. Uncommon from Tai to Sipilou, Lamto and Bouaké.

Cossypha albicapilla White-crowned Robin-chat R B . Chiefly northern guinea and sub-sudan zone in dense woodland. Rare south of 8°N (reaches Tounodii).

Cossypha niveicapilla Snowy-headed Robin-chat R B . Second growth, edges and gallery forest, locally along the coast, commonly through southern guinea zone, and increasingly local north of 8°N.

Neocossyphus poensis White-tailed Ant-thrush R B . Rather common throughout the forest zone, north to Comé and Sipilou.

Neocossyphus (Stizorhina) finschi Finsch's Puffy Flycatcher R B . More restricted distribution and lower abundance than *N. poensis*. Abidjan to Tai, Sipilou, Gagnoa, Abengourou.

Luscinia megarhynchos Nightingale P M . Common Oct-Apr in gardens and secondary vegetation from Abidjan to Korhogo and Nimba. Begins to sing in Mar.

Turdus pelios (libonyanus) Kurrichane Thrush R B . Widespread throughout the country outside the rainforest, but commoner in guinea zone than elsewhere.

Turdus (Geokichla) princei Grey Ground-thrush R B . Primary forest understory, from Abidjan and Tai to Nimba, Lamto and Comé.

TIMALIIDAE

Trichastoma (Malacocincla) fulvescens Brown Illadopsis (Akalat) R B . Mistnetted in Tai, Bouaké, Comé. As other *Trichastoma*, poorly known distribution due to secretive habits and difficult visual identification.

Trichastoma (Malacocincla) rufipennis Pale-breasted Illadopsis (Akalat) R B . Identified: Tai, Nimba.

Trichastoma (Malacocincla) cleaveri Blackcap Illadopsis (Akalat) R B . Recorded: Tai, Nimba, Lamto, Bouaké.

Trichastoma (Malacocincla) rufescens Rufous-winged Illadopsis (Akalat). Lamto, Tai, Nimba. Suspected at 4 other places.

Trichastoma (Malacocincla) puveli Puvel's Illadopsis (Akalat) R B . One of the most widespread *Trichastoma*: Soubre to Danané, Lamto, Bouaké, Boron and Comé, may be to Korhogo.

Phyllanthus atripennis Chestnut Babbler R B . Frequent around Tai and Nimba and in the gallery forest of Maraoué and Comé, but rather patchy distribution over most of the forest zone (known from Abidjan, Lamto, Agnibilekrou).

Turdoides plebejus Brown Babbler R B . Conspicuous in all guinea woodlands, north of Bouaké.

Turdoides reinwardii Blackcap Babbler R B . Apparently sparse distribution across the northern forest-southern guinea belt (Lamto to Sipilou).

SYVIIDAE

Bradypterus baboecala Little Rush Warbler R B ? An unconfirmed record (singing bird in a swamp, Ferkessédougou, June).

Locustella naevia Grasshopper Warbler P M . Found on guinean side of Nimba (Brosset).

Acrocephalus schoenobaenus Sedge Warbler P M . One record (Azagny, Iedant).

Acrocephalus scirpaceus Reed Warbler P M . Common in patches of tall grass of secondary (often dry) habitats throughout the country. One recovery from Belgium, Aug.

Acrocephalus arundinaceus Great Reed Warbler P M . Less common and widespread than *scirpaceus*. More often seen along the coast (Ayame to Azagny) than in the centre (Lamto, Bouaké) or the north (Comoé, Korhogo).

Acrocephalus (Calamoecetor) rufescens Rufous Cane Warbler A V ? A singing bird was strongly suspected to belong to this species because of its peculiar voice, but its presence in Ivory Coast needs yet to be supported by a specimen owing to its close resemblance with the Great Reed Warbler.

Hippolais icterina Icterine Warbler P M . One mistnetted bird (Lamto, Dec). May be overlooked among *H. polyglotta*.

Hippolais polyglotta Melodious Warbler P M . Common Oct-Apr from Abidjan to Korhogo (gardens, second growth, savanna).

Hippolais pallida Olivaceous Warbler P or A M ? One mistnetted (Lamto, Jan). Several probable sightings. Both African and Palearctic populations may occur.

Sphenoeacus (Melocichla) mentalis Moustached Scrub-warbler R B . Common in all savannas, including along the coast.

Sylvia borin Garden Warbler P M . The most abundant *Sylvia* throughout (Abidjan to Nimba, Comoé and Korhogo, Sep-May).

Sylvia atricapilla Blackcap P M . Pather local: Abidjan to Comoé, Bouaké and top of Mt Nimba (Oct-Apr).

Sylvia communis Whitethroat P M . Lamto and Comoé (Dec-Mar). Scarce. May have increased in recent years (following droughts in the Sahel where it more usually wintered ?).

Phylloscopus trochilus Willow Warbler P M . Common in all the guinea zone (gardens and savanna woodlands, Sep-May), but also in the coastal and forest belts. 5 recoveries from Great Britain and Norway.

Phylloscopus sibilatrix Wood Warbler P M . Widespread from Aboisso and Abidjan to Nimba and Comoé. Restricted to forest edge, high second growth, gardens or plantations with many trees.

Cisticola erythrops Red-faced Cisticola R R . The less common of the 5 widespread savanna *Cisticolas*. Patchily distributed from Abidjan to Sipilou and Korhogo.

Cisticola cantans Singing Cisticola R B . Like *C. erythrops*, but locally more abundant and known from more localities (24).

Cisticola lateralis Whistling Cisticola R B . Very abundant in all wooded savannas throughout the country, including low second growth in the forest zone.

Cisticola aberrans (emini) Rock-loving Cisticola R B . Occurs on most rocky hills and inselbergs (Niangbo, Korhogo, Boundiali and also Nimba).

Cisticola galactotes Rufous Grass-Warbler R B . Abundant in all wetlands with highgrass or reedbeds from Abidjan to the sudan zone.

Cisticola natalensis Croaking Cisticola R B . Abundant in all grassy open savanna from north to south.

Cisticola ruficeps Red-pate Cisticola R B . Several mistnetted from Korhogo to M'Bingue. Cited from Comoé (Fgu Kronberg).

Cisticola brachyptera Shortwing Cisticola R B . Very abundant in every type of savanna throughout Ivory Coast, usually sympatric with one to several other *Cisticolas*.

Cisticola juncidis Common Fantail Cisticola R B . Locally common in open, usually dry, grasslands from Abidjan to Ferkessedougou.

Cisticola eximia Gold Coast Cloud-scraper R B . Known only from 6 humid grassland localities between Beoumi, Korhogo and Comoé.

Prinia (Heliolais) erythroptera Red-wing Warbler R B . Locally numerous in densely wooded savannas, bushy areas and suburban gardens over most of the country.

Prinia subflava Tawny-flanked Prinia P B . Very abundant in every open habitat (even forest clearings), the southern *P. s. melanorhyncha* gradually merging into the northern *P. s. subflava*.

Prinia leontica Sierra Leone Prinia R B . Known only from the southwestern quarter of the country: Taï to Nimba, Man, Sipilou and Lanto. Very local.

Apalis flavida (caniceps) Grey-capped Apalis R B . 2 males in breeding condition obtained in gallery forests between Korhogo and M'Bingue (Feb). Cited from Comoé (Fgu Kronberg).

Apalis nigriceps Black-capped Apalis R B . Recorded in high undisturbed forest from both very humid (Taï, Mt Tonkui) and dry areas (Comoé, Ferkessedougou), as well as intervening places (Lanto, Maraoué).

Apalis sharpii (including *goslingi*) Sharpe Apalis P B . Widespread in the forest zone from Abidjan and Taï to Nimba, Bouaké and Comoé.

Hypergerus atriceps Oriole Babbler R B . Often common in gallery forests of the guinea zone, mainly north of 7°30' (rarer south to Lanto).

Bathmocercus cerviniventris Black-headed Stream-warbler R B . So far known from Taï, Nimba, Sipilou, Lamto and Gagnoa, but may have a wider distribution in the forest zone. It favours primary forest edges and clearings.

Camaroptera superciliaris Yellow-browed Camaroptera R B . Widely but sparsely distributed in dense secondary growth and gallery forest from the coast (rare) to northern guinea zone.

Camaroptera chloronota Green-backed Camaroptera R B . Commoner in the western part of the country (Taï to Odienné, including the upper montane forest of Nimba), than elsewhere (Abidjan to Ferkessédougou).

Camaroptera brachyura (brevicaudata) Grey-backed Camaroptera R B . Very abundant throughout the country outside the humid primary forest.

Eremomela pusilla Green-backed Eremomela R B . Common in all the wooded savannas.

Eremomela badiceps Brown-crowned Eremomela R B . Frequent in many secondary or gallery forests from Taï to Sipilou, Lamto and Bouaké.

Sylvietta virens (including flaviventris) Green Crombec R B . Common throughout the forest and guinea zones. Restricted to galleries and dense woods in the north.

Sylvietta denti Lemon-bellied Crombec R B . Smaller range and much lower abundance than *virens* (Abidjan and Taï to Sipilou and Bouaké).

Sylvietta brachyura Senegal Crombec R B . Widespread in northern guinea savanna, south to Lamto where it has markedly increased in recent years.

Macrosphenus concolor Grey Longbill R B . Common in thick secondary forest, edges of clearings etc, from Abidjan-Taï to Odienné (and upper montane forest of Nimba), Korhogo and Comoé.

Macrosphenus flavicans (kempi) Yellow Longbill R B . Recorded from Taï and Nimba to Beoumi and Abengourou.

Hylia prasina Green Hylia R B . Its distinctive call may be heard throughout the forest zone, locally north to Odienné, Ferkessédougou and Comoé. Abundant.

Pholidornis rushiae Tiny Titweaver R B . Known only from Taï, Man, Gagnoa and Lamto. Scarce (?).

MUSCICAPIDAE

Muscicapa striata Spotted Flycatcher P M . Common everywhere outside the forest from Sep to Apr. *M. s. striata* and *M. s. balearica* have been secured.

Muscicapa (Alseonax) cassini Cassin's Grey Flycatcher P B . On all rivers, even small, with forest banks, north to 9°30.

Muscicapa gambagae Gambaga Dusky Flycatcher R B ? Visually identified several times in the northern third of the country but never collected. Owing to its similarity with other *Muscicapa*, a specimen would be desirable.

Muscicapa (Alseonax) aquatica Swamp Flycatcher R B . Identified at least twice (but no specimen secured) in swamps (Korhogo, June).

Muscicapa (Alseonax) epulata Little Blue Flycatcher R R . Definitely identified only from Lamto and Taï (also cited from Nimba, FW), but may occur elsewhere in high dense forest edges).

Muscicapa (Alseonax) olivascens Olivaceous Flycatcher R R . Lamto, Gagnoa, Taï, Nimba. Probably overlooked as other unobtrusive forest species.

Muscicapa caerulescens (= *Alseonax cinereus*) Ashy Flycatcher R B . Not uncommon in small forest clearings around Tiassalé-Oumé-Lamto, San Pedro and Danané.

Muscicapa (Parisoma) griseigularis Grey-throated Tit-Flycatcher R B . Collected at Dueké (*M. g. parellii*, Traylor), then in Taï and Nimba areas. Rare.

Muscicapa (Pedilorchynchus) comitata Dusky Blue Flycatcher R B . A bird of the northern, semi-deciduous forest (Lamto, Gagnoa, Maraoué to Sipilou and even Foron, 9°N). Also recorded around Taï and Abidjan. Secondary and gallery forest.

Muscicapa (Pedilorchynchus) tessmanni Tessmann's Flycatcher R R . More often in primary more humid southern forest than *comitata*. Commoner around San Pedro, Taï and Nimba. North to Lamto.

Muscicapa (Artomyias) ussheri Ussher's Dusky Flycatcher R B . Widespread in clearings of the forest zone from the coast to Sipilou and Beoumi. Breeds at 1,160 m on Mt Tonkui.

Myioparus (Parisoma) plumbeus Grey Tit-flycatcher P B . Sparsely distributed in savanna woodland and small gallery forest from Lamto to Fouaké (rare) and mainly to the northern border.

Ficedula hypoleuca Pied Flycatcher P M . Recorded from the coast to 10°N, Sep to Apr, but less common (or less conspicuous ?) than *M. striata*. Races *F. h. hypoleuca* and one time *F. h. speculigera* obtained.

Fraseria ocreata Forest Flycatcher R B . In primary and secondary forest undergrowth, away from water. From Taï to Comodé.

Fraseria cinerascens White-browed Forest Flycatcher R R . A common bird in the seasonally flooded forest understory along all the rivers and small streams surveyed, north to Sipilou and Comodé.

Melaenornis edolioides Black Flycatcher R R . Well distributed in northern guinea savanna woodland, south to Maraoué and Toumodi.

Melaenornis annamarulae Nimba Flycatcher R B ? Newly discovered from Liberian food of Mt Nimba (FW) and subsequently collected at Taï (Chappuis).

Bradornis pallidus Pale Flycatcher R B . Not uncommon throughout the guinea savanna woodland (Lamto to 10°N). Also locally in the forest and coastal zones.

Hyliota flavigaster Yellow-bellied Flycatcher R B . Another species of the guinea savanna woodland, but scarcer than the previous one. Mostly around 8-9°N, rarely south to Lamto and north of Odienné.

Hyliota violacea Violet-backed Flycatcher R B . Apparently rare and restricted to primary rain forest (Tai to Nimba, Gagnoa and Lamto).

Megabyas flammulatus Shrike-flycatcher R B . High rain forest from Tai to Gagnoa and Oumé (only 9 records). Both in canopy and lower levels.

Bias musicus Black and White Flycatcher R B . Usually on isolated trees of forest clearings, or gallery forest edges in the southern savanna zone. From Abidjan and San Pedro to Beoumi-Pouaké.

Batis minima (poensis) Fernando Po Puff-back Flycatcher R R . Known from Soubre, Gagnoa and Lamto. Cited from Nimba (FW). Rare (or difficult to detect). Dense primary rain forest.

Batis senegalensis Senegal Puff-back Flycatcher R B . Common throughout the savannas north of the forest (including Lamto). Also cited near Abidjan (BMH).

Platysteira cyanea Scarlet-spectacled Wattle-eye R B . Common in gallery forest, small woods and old secondary growth of all the guinea zone, and also locally in coastal area.

Platysteira (Dyaphorophya) castenea Chestnut Wattle-eye R R . The commonest forest flycatcher everywhere, north to Comé and Korhogo.

Platysteira (Dyaphorophya) tonsa White-spotted Wattle-eye R B . Collected near Abidjan and San Pedro in the canopy of primary forest. Rare.

Platysteira (Dyaphorophya) blissetti Red-cheeked Wattle-eye R B . Locally common in thick old secondary vegetation and dense undergrowth of gallery forest from Abidjan and Tai to Sipilou and Beoumi.

Platysteira (Dyaphorophya) concreta Golden-bellied Wattle-eye R R . Not rare in the lower strata of high rain forest from Tai to Sipilou and at least to Lamto. Ascends to 1,500 m on slopes of Mt Nimba.

Erythrocerus mcallii Chestnut-capped Flycatcher R R . Common, in social groups of up to 14 birds, in all the forest zone, north to Nimba, Korhogo and Comé.

Trochocercus (Erannornis) longicauda Blue Fairy Flycatcher R B . Sparsely distributed and local throughout the guinea zone (savanna woodlands, small gallery forests) and also along the coast.

Trochocercus nitens Blue-headed Crested Flycatcher R B . Often seen or mistnetted in the lower level of dense rain forest from Tai to Nimba. Also recorded from Gagnoa and Lamto.

Trochocercus nigromitratus Dusky Crested Flycatcher. Suspected in the Tai forest but not definitely identified.

Terpsiphone rufiventer (*Tchitreia nigriceps*) Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher R B . Abundant in all secondary and gallery forests mainly from Man, Lamto, Abengourou to Comoé, Korhogo and Odienné. Less numerous in dense humid rain forest (Ayamé, Abidjan, Tai) and upper forested slopes of Mt Nimba.

Terpsiphone (*Tchitreia*) *viridis* Paradise Flycatcher R B . Recorded in all months (may be seasonal fluctuations) over the entire forest and guinea zones, but never inside the primary rain forest and much scarcer than *T. rufiventer*.

PAPIDAE

Parus leucomelas (*Melaniparus niger*) Black Tit R B . Widespread all over the guinea zone (savanna woodland) including Lamto.

Parus funereus Dusky Tit R B . Rare primary forest species. Tape recorded at Tai (Chappuis) and collected from Nimba (FW).

REMIZIDAE

Anthoscopus parvulus Penduline Tit R B . Local in dry guinea woodlands north of 9°N.

Anthoscopus flavifrons Forest Penduline Tit R B . Rare in treefall gaps of primary forest (Tai, Fresco).

SALPORNITHIDAE

Salpornis spilonota Spotted Creeper R B . Northern guinea woodlands (Comoé to Odienné and Tindrela).

NECTAPINIIDAE

Anthreptes gabonicus Mouse Brown Sunbird R B . Widespread in mangroves and along the forested banks of rivers north to 9°50'.

Anthreptes fraseri Scarlet-tufted Sunbird R B . Often caught in mist-nets in forest undergrowth from the coast to 9°N.

Anthreptes rectirostris Yellow-chinned Sunbird R B . Mainly secondary or gallery forests and bushy areas. Irregular distribution. Coastal to northern guinea zones.

Anthreptes longuemarei Violet-backed Sunbird R B . Sporadically distributed in northern savannas, from Lamto (rare) and mainly 8° to 10°N. Woodlands and small gallery forest.

Anthreptes collaris Collared Sunbird R B . Abundant throughout the country except dense rain forest and open dry savanna.

Anthreptes (*Hedydipna*) *platura* Pygmy Long-tailed Sunbird R B . Rare, on its southern limit (Comoé, Ferkessedougou, Poudiali).

Nectarinia (*Anthreptes*) *seimundi* Little Green Sunbird R B . Uncommon but widespread in the forest zone. Enters northern gallery forests at least up to 9°N.

Nectarinia (Cyanomitra) batesi Bates' Sunbird R B . Rare primary forest sunbird taken near Lamto, Gagnoa and Tai.

Nectarinia (Cyanomitra) olivacea Olive Sunbird P R . Very abundant in every primary, secondary or gallery forest throughout the country.

Nectarinia (Cyanomitra) verticalis Olive-backed Sunbird P B . Common in coastal to southern guinea zone, outside the dense forest. Decreases north of 9°N.

Nectarinia (Cyanomitra) cyanolaema Blue-throated Brown Sunbird P B . Abundant in coastal woodlands and coconut palm plantations, ranging locally north to Lamto and Daloa.

Nectarinia (Chalcomitra) fuliginosa Carmelite Sunbird P B . Only found in coastal area (Assini to San Pedro) where it is locally common, often in dense bushes near water.

Nectarinia (Chalcomitra) senegalensis Scarlet-breasted Sunbird P B . Ranges right across the northern guinea and sudan zones. Not rare.

Nectarinia (Chalcomitra) adelberti Buff-throated Sunbird R B . Local in plantations, edges, gallery forest, mainly between 6° and 8°N (extremes: Grand Bassam and Korhogo).

Nectarinia (Cinnyris) venusta Yellow-bellied Sunbird P B . Very abundant at the upper limit of montane forest on Mt Nimba (1,600-1,700 m). Widely ranging but local or uncommon in lowland from the coast to 9°20' N.

Nectarinia (Cinnyris) chloropygia Olive-bellied Sunbird P B . Abundant everywhere in secondary vegetation, gardens, edges and gallery forest to nearly 10°N.

Nectarinia (Cinnyris) minulla Tiny Sunbird P B . Less widely ranging (but known from Abidjan to Korhogo) and much less abundant than *N. chloropygia*. Roughly similar, but often more forested, habitat.

Nectarinia (Cinnyris) cuprea Copper Sunbird P R . Common in all types of savanna from the coast to the northern border, but its abundance markedly decreases north of 9°N.

Nectarinia (Cinnyris) coccinigaster Splendid Sunbird R B . Range very similar to that of *N. cuprea* but usually more abundant and more partial to denser woodlands.

Nectarinia pulchella Beautiful Long-tailed Sunbird R B . Rather common north of 9°N, but rarely reported south to Bouaké. A recent sighting of a pair in Abidjan (Arbeille, Mar) may represent a new extension or a previously undetected population, well south of the normal range.

Nectarinia (Cinnyris) johannae Johanna's Sunbird R B . Uncommon forest species, mostly distributed through the humid southern forest (Ayamé to Tai and Nimba) but locally ranging north to Maraoué and Dabakala.

Nectarinia (Cinnyris) superba Superb Sunbird R B . Commoner than *N. johannae* and more often found on edges, secondary or gallery forest. Throughout the forest zone, north to Sipilou and Comodé.

ZOSTEROPIDAE

Zosterops senegalensis Yellow White-eye P R . Mostly northern guinea savanna woodland. Sporadically south to Iamto and even near Abidjan and Azagny.

EMBERIZIDAE

Emberiza hortulana Ortolan P M . Quite common between 1,250 and 1,400 m on the Guinean side of Mt Nimba (Brosset). Not yet recognized within our limits.

Emberiza cabanisi Cabanis' Bunting P R . Scarce in the southern guinea savanna but becomes quite common north of 9°N.

Emberiza forbesi Little Bunting P R . Certain identification only 5 times (Comocé to Ouanolodougou and M'Bingué).

Emberiza tahapisi Cinnamon-breasted Rock Bunting P R . Common on rocky hills around Korhogo, south to Niangbo.

FRINGILLIDAE

Serinus mozambicus Yellow-fronted Canary P R . Common throughout the country in open grassy, lightly wooded habitats.

Serinus (Poliospiza) gularis Streaky-headed Seed-eater P R . Seen and collected at least 4 times between 9° and 10°N (Comocé to Korhogo).

PLOCEIDAE

Amblyospiza albifrons Grosbeak Weaver P B . Several breeding colonies around the forest-savanna limit (Yamoussoukro to Maraoué, Daloa, Bouaké, Katiola and Comocé). More patchily distributed elsewhere south to Sassandra and north to Korhogo. Small scale movements during the dry season.

Ploceus pelzelii Little Weaver P B . Very restricted to some coastal lagoons, marshes and ricefields. Often mixed with other Weaver species on feeding grounds but usually separated. Breeding colonies on trees overhanging water (Grand Bassam, Azagny).

Ploceus aurantius Orange Weaver P B . Another species partial to coastal waters but more abundant and widespread than *P. pelzelii*. Breeds both on dense mangrove ferns and in trees away from water (in Abidjan for instance). Locally along large rivers north to 6°N.

Ploceus heuglini Heuglin's Masked Weaver P B . Widespread throughout the coastal (mostly) southern and (less) northern guinea savannas. Often breeds in small colonies (2 to 14 nests) close to raptors' nests or on telephone wires.

Ploceus cucullatus Village Weaver P B . Common breeder in every town or village.

Ploceus nigerrimus (castaneofuscus) Chestnut and Black Weaver P B . Abundant south of 7°N, it quickly decreases north of the forest but yet breeds in Comocé and Korhogo (forest along water).

Ploceus superciliosus (pachyrhynchus) Compact Weaver R B . Local in high rank grass from Dabou to Comoe. Subject to (local ?) seasonal movements.

Ploceus tricolor Yellow-mantled Weaver R B . All the forest zone but only south of 8°N.

Ploceus albinucha Maxwell's Black Weaver R R . Small breeding colonies found from San Pedro to Lamto, Bonouanou and Maraoué.

Ploceus nigricollis (brachypterus) Spectacled Weaver R B . Locally common in coastal and southern guinea savanna. Very patchy distribution north of 7°N and never seen north of 8°N.

Ploceus preussi Golden-backed Weaver R B . Collected at Sipilou (Apr) and near Taï (Dec). Cited from Nimba (FW). Rare.

Malimbus scutatus Red-vented Malimbe R B . The most abundant Malimbe of the evergreen forest zone. Recorded north to Sipilou and Lamto.

Malimbus nitens Blue-billed Malimbe R B . Common in dense humid undergrowth of every kind of forest, including high mangrove. May even nest in dense savanna woodland if trees overhanging water are available. Extends north to Sipilou and Comoe.

Malimbus malimbicus Crested Malimbe R B . Uncommon and very local, in primary as well as secondary forest from San Pedro and Azagny north to Maraoué and Bouaké. Forages at intermediate levels between *M. nitens* (the lowest) and *M. rubricollis* (upper part of the forest).

Malimbus rubricollis Red-headed Malimbe R B . Widely distributed and common right across the forest zone. South of 6°N it is outnumbered by *M. scutatus* but from Lamto northward, it is the most conspicuous Malimbe (although the secretive *M. nitens* may sometimes dominate). It ranges north to Comoe and Boron.

Malimbus ballmanni Cola Malimbe P B ? Type specimen collected near Taï (Wolters). No additional data.

Malimbus rubriceps (Anaplectes melanotus) Red-headed Weaver R B ? 2 pairs seen at widely separated places in Comoe (Apr and July). Along small patches of forest.

Quelea erythrops Red-headed Quelea R B . The only important pest on ricefields and millet (but flocks and breeding colonies of moderate size). Ranges from the coast (Dabou, Azagny, San Pedro) to the north (especially the Korhogo-Ferkessedougou area). Fostered by agricultural development.

Quelea quelea Red-billed Quelea A V . Recently reported twice in dry season near Ferkessedougou (Ouattara, unpubl. report FAO/OCLIAIV). May be related to the southward shift of the species' range after the successive droughts of the last 10 years.

Euplectes afer (afra) Golden Bishop R B . Much less numerous than *E. orix*. Similar range and habitat.

Euplectes (Coliuspasser) ardens Long-tailed Black Whydah R R . Local. Northern guinea range: Beoumi-Bouake to Comoe and Korhogo.

Euplectes hordaceus (hordacea) Black-winged Red Bishop R B . Small numbers in marshes and ricefields of the coastal area and large clearings of the forest zone. Patchily distributed through the entire guinea belt.

Euplectes orix Red Bishop R B . By far the most abundant *Euplectes* in northern ricefields, but rare in the natural savanna (in high grassy swamps). Does not range southward beyond Bouake.

Euplectes macrourus Yellow-mantled Whydah R B . The most abundant and widespread granivorous bird of all the natural savanna across the country. In central areas (such as Lamto), where other *Euplectes* and *Q. erythrops* are rare, it builds very dense populations on large ricefields switching from a normally territorial and polygamous to a nearly colonial breeding system.

Anomalospiza imberbis Cuckoo Weaver R B . Known only from Mt Tonkui (Dekeyser) and Maraoué.

Plocepasser superciliosus Sparrow-Weaver R B . Uncommon but widespread north of 8°N.

Passer griseus Grey-headed Sparrow R B . Abundant in every town and village. Sometimes found very far from any human settlement (Comoé).

Petronia dentata Bush Sparrow P B . Only 8 records (M'Ringue to Ferkessédougou and Comoé).

Vidua macroura Pin-tailed Whydah P B . Common in all short-grass man-made habitats. Rare in natural savanna.

Vidua orientalis (togoensis) Broad-tailed Paradise Whydah R B . Widespread from Toubia, Beoumi and Bouake to Mali and Upper Volta boundaries. 2 species are sometimes recognized which may both occur in Ivory Coast: *V. togoensis* in the southern part of the range (collected by Lowe) and *V. orientalis* in the north.

Vidua (Hypochera) chalybeata, *Vidua wilsoni (H. funerea)*, *Vidua funerea (H. nigeriae)*, *Vidua camerunensis* Indigo Birds R B . All 4 species have been cited and collected from the northern half of the country (respectively by Pouet, Schouteden and De Roo, Parelus and Traylor, Bellier). All the *Lagonosticta* known to be parasitized by these 4 species also occur within the range of these *Vidua* (Payne 1968). They are often considered merely as subspecies of *V. chalybeata* (White 1963); status of each remains unclear due to nearly impossible field identification.

ESTRILIDAE

Clytospiza dybowski Dybowski's Twin-spot P B ? Collected at Dzekué (Parelus).

Hypargos nitidulus (Mandigoa nitidula) Green Twin-spot R B . Frequent in dense undergrowth of secondary forest, often near ricefields, in the wettest part of the forest zone (Taï-Danané-Nimba).

Pirenestes ostrinus (sanguineus) Seedcracker P B . Common in humid undergrowth of all the forest zone, often raiding nearby ricefields when available. Extends north to Ferkessédougou along rivers.

Nigrita canicapilla Grey-crowned Negro-finch R B . Widespread in broken, secondary or gallery forest from the coast to Odiénne, Korhogo and Comé.

Nigrita bicolor Chestnut-breasted Negro-finch R B . Same status and distribution as *N. canicapilla* but at a lower level in the forest.

Nigrita fusconota White-breasted Negro-finch R B ? Identified between Bondoukou and Agnibilekou (secondary forest edge, July).

Parmoptila woodhousei (jamesoni) Red-fronted Ant-pecker R B . Taken at Taï. Cited from Nimba (FW). Rare.

Spermophaga haematina Blue-billed Weaver R B . Common in all types of forest north to Korhogo and Comé.

Nesocharis capistrata White-cheeked Olive-weaver R B . Uncommon in northern guinea savanna woodland (11 localities).

Amadina fasciata Cut-throat Finch A V ? One dry season sighting (Ouangolodougou).

Pytilia hypogrammica Yellow-winged Pytilia R B . Uncommon in relatively humid savanna woodland (Toumodi to Beoundi, Bouaké and Comé).

Pytilia phoenicoptera Red-winged Pytilia R B . 4 separate records, mainly along gallery forest edges, north and around 9°N (Comé to Odiénne).

Estrilda melpoda Orange-cheeked Waxbill R B . The commonest waxbill throughout the country.

Estrilda troglodytes Black-rumped Waxbill R B . Very patchily distributed through northern forest - southern guinea belt (Maraoué, Abengourou, Comé). Also near Abidjan (Champroux).

Estrilda astrild Waxbill R B . Widespread but rarely common all over the guinea savanna (Lamto to Ferkessedougou).

Estrilda bengala (Uraeginthus bengalus) Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu R B . All open savannas north of 9°N.

Estrilda (Lagonosticta) caerulescens Lavender Firefinch R B . Often seen, only north of 9°N (isolated pairs).

Estrilda larvata (Lagonosticta nigricollis) Black faced Firefinch R B . Rather local (7 records), all north of 9°N.

Lagonosticta rufopicta Bar-breasted Firefinch R B . Same northern distribution as the 3 previous species, but may be rare (only 4 records).

Lagonosticta senegala Senegal Firefinch R B . Widespread in the northern half of the country and rarer south to the coast (Abidjan). Nearly always in towns and villages.

Lagonosticta rubricata Blue-billed Firefinch R B . Short grass, open savannas, from 10°N to extreme south (Sipilou) of the northern guinea zone.

Lagonotsticta rara Black-bellied Firefinch P B . Locally common along some gallery forest, from Bouaké to Comoé and Korhogo at least.

Amandava (Estrilda) subflava Zebra Waxbill P B . Tall grass swamps and open plains along rivers (Korhogo and Comoé).

Oryzospiza atricollis Quail-finch R B . Not uncommon in short grass areas, from Comoé and Korhogo, south to Bouaké and Man.

Lonchura fringilloides Magpie Mannikin R B . More patchily distributed than the other 2 *Lonchura*. Along ricefields and in high rank grass of abandoned plantations. From Soubre to Danane, Sipilou, Abengourou and Bouaké.

Lonchura bicolor Blue-billed Mannikin R B . Not numerous but widespread through high grass, often humid, areas south of 8°N.

Lonchura cucullata Bronze Mannikin R B . Very abundant, in every town and village, and surrounding farmlands.

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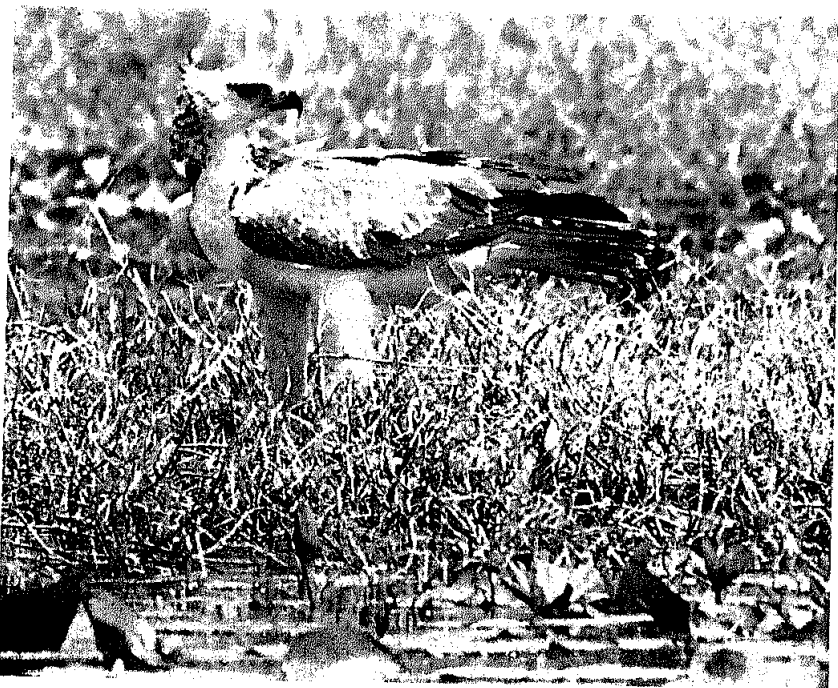
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Martial Eagle Polemaetus bellicosus, Nigeria. Photo: Philip Blasdale

GAZETTEER

ABENGOUROU	6°42N-3°27W	GRAND LAHOU	5°09N-5°01W
ABIDJAN	5°19N-4°01W	JACQUEVILLE	5°12N-4°25W
ABOISSO	5°26N-3°13W	KAKPIN	8°40N-3°41W
ADIPODOUME	5°19N-4°01W	KATIOLA	8°31N-5°04W
AGNIBILEKROU	7°10N-3°11W	KONG	9°10N-4°33W
ANYAMA	5°19N-4°01W	KOPHOGO	9°22N-5°31W
ASSINIE	5°08N-3°15W	KOSSOU (Lake)	6°59N-5°32W
AYAME (Lake)	5°33N-3°13W	LAMTO	6°13N-5°02W
AZAGNY (Nat. Park)	5°10N-4°50W	MAN	7°31N-7°37W
BANCO (Nat. Park)	5°19N-4°01W	MARAOUE (Nat. Park)	6°55-7°13N-5°55-6°14W
BEOUMI	7°44N-5°23W	M'BINGUE	10°00N-5°54W
BIANKOUMA	7°52N-7°40W	N'DOUCI (near TIASSALE)	
RINGERVILLE	5°19N-4°01W	NIANGRO (Mount)	9°00N-5°20W
BONGOUANOU	6°44N-4°10W	NIMPA (Mount, including DANIPLEU, YEALE)	7°35N-8°25W
BORON	8°41N-5°47W	ODIPINNE	9°36N-7°32W
BOUAKE	7°42N-5°00W	OUANGOLODOUGOU	9°56N-5°11W
BOUNA	9°19N-2°53W	OUME	6°22N-5°26W
BOUNDIALI	9°30N-6°31W	PORT-BOUEI	5°19N-4°01W
BUYO (Lake)	6°21N-7°05W	SANPEDRO	4°45N-6°37W
COMOE (Nat. Park, bordered by KAKPIN, BOUNA, TEHINI and KONG)		SASSANDRA	4°58N-6°08W
DABAKALA	8°19N-4°24W	SEQUELA	7°58N-6°44W
DABOU	5°20N-4°23W	SIPILOU	7°52N-8°06W
DALOA	6°56N-6°28W	SOUBRE	5°50N-6°35W
DANANE	7°21N-8°10W	TAAFO (Lake, near LAMTO)	
DIMBOKRO	6°43N-4°46W	TAI (Nat. Park)	5°52N-7°28W, extend- ing E and SE
DUEKUE	6°50N-7°22W	TEHINI	9°39N-3°32W
FERKESSEDOUGOU	9°30N-5°10W	TIASSALE	5°53N-4°57W
FRESCO	5°03N-5°31W	TINGRELA	10°26N-6°20W
GAGNOA	6°04N-5°55W	TONKUI (Mount, near MAN)	
GRABO	4°57N-7°30W	TOURA	8°22N-7°42W
GRAND BASSAM	5°14N-3°45W	TOUMODI	6°34N-5°01W
GRAND BEREBY	4°38N-6°56W	YAMOOUSSOUKRO	6°49N-5°17W