

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



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Wood Warbler Spotted Flycatcher Pied Flycatcher Collared Flycatcher Ortolan Bunting	P. sibilatrix Muscicapa striata Ficedula hypoleuca F. albicollis Emberiza hortulana	15 12	153 281 242 23 6
	Palaearctic birds Ethiopian birds	1138 103	53437 14726
	Total	1241	68163

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ADDITIONAL OBSERVATIONS ON THE BIRDS OF YANKARI GAME RESERVE - Following publication of our list of the birds (Dyer & Gartshore 1975, Bull.Nigerian Orn. Soc. 11: 77-84), we have had the opportunity to visit the Reserve again, from 13 to 19 December 1975. 120 species were recorded then, of which 11 are new, as follows.

Falco biarmicus Lanner A pair was seen daily at Wikki Camp.

<u>Himantopus himantopus Black-winged Stilt</u> A group of three seen along the Gaji River.

Sterna leucoptera White-winged Black Tern A single bird feeding along the Gaji.

Centropus monachus Blue-headed Coucal Up to 10 distributed over about 20 ha of Cyperus swamp.

Merops pusillus Little Bee-eater One mist-netted at the confluence of the Gaji and Wikki streams; also several sight records of individual birds.

<u>Lanius collurio isabellinus</u> Isabelline Shrike One, probably female, being mobbed by a small flock of <u>Euplectes</u> bishops.

Myrmecocichla aethiops Ant-eater Chat One seen in farmland about 1 km north of the Reserve boundary.

Hippolais polyglotta Melodious Warbler

H. pallida Olivaceous Warbler
Cisticola brachyptera Short-wing Cisticola

One of each species was mist-netted in light bush along the Gaji River.

Vidua chalybeata Indigo-bird One or two seen in several flocks of fire-finches Lagonosticta.

We are grateful to Dr N.M. Gadzama, Department of Biological Sciences, Ahmadu Bello University, who organized the field-trip to Yankari and to Y r A. Lassan, Senior Game Preservation Officer, North-East State, for granting permission to use mist-nets in the Reserve.

Dyer & Gartshore (op. cit.) have listed the birds recorded for Yankari Game Reserve. I visited the Reserve on 6-8 February 1971 and 27 March - 1 April 1973, and recorded the following additional species.

Ciconia nigra Black Stork One on the Gaji marshes in 1971. The only other recent records of this species in Nigeria were in Borgu (Walsh 1968, Bull. Nigerian Orn. Soc. 5 (18):50-51) and on the Benue (Fry 1970, Bull. Nigerian Orn. Soc. 7 (25/26: 7-24). Elgood (1975, Bull. Nigerian Orn. Soc. 11: 68-73) listed it as unvalidated, so it is worth stressing that any out-of-season apparent Abdim's Stork C. abdimii should be scrutinised with the present species in mind; in the Sudan Republic I found what had previously been thought of as wintering Abdim's Storks to be all Black Storks.

<u>Sagittarius serpentarius</u> <u>Secretary-Bird</u> <u>Listed by Dyer & Gartshore on the basis of one seen by Elgood just outside the Reserve. I saw one soaring over Wikki Camp in 1973.</u>

Burhinus capensis Dikkop Several in the Reserve in 1973, usually on open, eroded areas. A nest with two eggs was found on bare, gravelly soil near Sir Gawain Bell Falls and photographed.

<u>Himantopus himantopus Black-winged Stilt</u> One on the Gaji marshes in 1971.

Sterna leucoptera White-winged Black Tern Three over the Gaji marshes in 1973.

Clamator levaillantii Levaillant's Cuckoo One at Wikki in 1973 was presumably an early pre-rains migrant.

Apus aequatorialis Mottled Swift 500-600 birds of this species were seen over Wikki on 7 February 1971. They suddenly appeared at 0915 hrs., remained feeding in a rather concentrated flock low over the camp area, with numbers falling off from 1030 hrs onwards until 1115 hrs when all had disappeared. Weather cold, dustry and anticyclonic.

Apus melba Alpine Swift One was with the Mottled Swifts on 7 February 1971. Apart from a single Little Swift A. affinis there were no other species feeding with them.

Buphagus africanus Yellow-billed Oxpecker Seen on Buffalo Syncerus caffer in 1973.

In addition to these records I have also noted Hoopoe <u>Upupa epops</u> breeding on upland areas in February 1971. Antony Pettet

The following species are additional to Dyer & Gartshore's list (op. cit.) of birds of Yankari Game Reserve :

Platalea alba African Spoonbill One on 4 January 1966.

Eurystomus glaucurus Broad-billed Roller One on 31 December 1966.

Ficedula hypoleuca Pied Flycatcher One on 6 January 1966. M. Skilleter