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le considérer comme l'or. Lorsqu'il trouve un nid contenant des oisillons, cas d'ailleurs assez rare, un homme Lega attachera les tarses des oisillons par une corde à un support solide à l'extérieure du nid. Aussitôt que les oisillons seront prêts à voler, leur mère cherchera à couper la corde avec son bec. Les petits s'envolent avec la mère et la corde sera récupérée par l'homme. Alors, pour toute affaire judiciaire, il se munira de cette corde afin d'être rapidement libéré de tout procès et d'être acquitté même s'il est coupable. J'ai vu ces pratiques quand, le 25 jan, j'ai repassé pour la visite. Malheureusement, la femelle avait déjà déplacé ses oisillons. Le pisteur Basubi était très déçu car la corde n'était pas encore attachée sur les tarses des oisillons.

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Breeding of Swallow-tailed Kite *Chelictinia riocourii* in Senegal

On 20 Jan 2000, Effoléming Manga and Valentin Mansaly of Parcs Nationaux du Sénégal found a colony of five nests of Swallow-tailed Kite *Chelictinia riocourii* in a small group of low trees in an open area c. 1 km from the fishing village of Bassine,

on an islet in the Saloum Delta, Région de Fatick, N Senegal (13°56'N, 16°35'W). Also present were one nest of Black-shouldered Kite *Elanus caeruleus* and one of African Scops Owl *Otus senegalensis*. All these nests had young.

They and I visited the site on 12 February, by which time there was just one nest of Swallow-tailed Kite with an adult brooding large young, and one Black-shouldered Kite brooding. The Swallow-tailed Kite left the nest as we approached, but soon returned and brooded throughout our period of observation, 30–45 min. The Scops had fledged, and an adult and one young were roosting nearby. The nests were about 5 m from the ground, in trees not more than 7 m high; the trees spread in a narrow belt about 100 m long. Five Swallow-tailed and two Black-shouldered Kites were flying around close by, all adults.

There is one previous Swallow-tailed Kite breeding record for Sénégal, at Patakour, Région de Kaffrine, in Feb 1992 (Savage & Rodwell 1998).

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First records of Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula* in Cameroon

On 22 May 1999 at 17h00, we observed two diving ducks on Lake Petponoun near Nkouden, Western Province of Cameroon (5°37'70"N, 10°38'22"E). They were easily identified as male Tufted Ducks *Aythya fuligula*, by their small size with short neck, yellow eyes and bluish grey bills, with rounded heads and loose crests. The birds were black with white side panels and kept jump-diving and bobbing to the surface. We spent close to an hour watching them. They shared the pond with Pygmy Goose *Nettapus auritus*, Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus* and Lesser Jacana *Microparra capensis*. When we visited the area again, one month later, the Tufted Ducks were not seen.

Tufted Duck is a Palaearctic migrant to N, NE and W Africa, south to the equator (Brown *et al.* 1997, Moreau 1972). There are several records from Nigeria (Elgood *et al.* 1994) and Moreau (1972) recorded 60 individuals on Lake Chad in February 1963. This is the first published record for Cameroon and the species is not mentioned by Louette (1981). However, a female has also been observed at the lake of Ngaoundaba Ranch (7°8'N, 13°41'E), Adamaoua Province, 2–4 Dec 1995 (C.J.R. Bowden pers. comm.).