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Storks *Ciconia ciconia* (Mundy 1978). Early explorers were by no means infallible in their identifications.

What then did Alexander have as his Bioko specimen? Probably it was simply an immature Palm-nut Vulture. Although vagrant White-backed Vultures occur in odd places (*e.g.* Brosset & Erard 1977), but on the mainland, the whole tenor of Alexander's remarks is that the species was fairly common on Bioko. This cannot refer to White-backed Vulture, which should be removed from the Bioko (and Equatorial Guinea) list.

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Correspondence on this matter is now closed. (Ed.)

First breeding record of Hadada *Bostrychia hagedash* from Senegal

On 5 August 2000, a nest containing two nestling Hadada *Bostrychia hagedash*, was discovered in a holiday resort at Saly Portudal on the Atlantic coast of Senegal, northwest of Mbour, Thiès Region (coordinates of the nest: 14°26.40′N, 17°0.75′W).

The nest, made of sticks, was rather loosely built on a forked branch of a eucalyptus *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* tree, at a height of *c.* 10 m. The tree was part of a stand of eucalyptus planted between the apartments of the hotel. The nest was small, diameter *c.* 50 cm, with some longer sticks supporting the base (Fig. 1). The nestlings

were feathered and already showed the characteristic white cheek streaks, but with the bill *c.* 80% of adult bill length.

Figure 1. Nest of Hadada in *Eucalyptus* tree, with one adult and one juvenile visible, Saly Portudal, Senegal, 7 Aug 2000.

No adult birds were present when the nest was discovered at 16h00, and the two juveniles were standing or walking on the edge of the nest. At 19h00, one adult bird was on the nest as well. An adult was also present the following day at 9h00, but absent at 12h00. On 7 August an adult was again present between 10h30 and 12h00. It occasionally preened one of the nestlings. Both adult and young were silent. The young birds were never seen to walk off the nest. During the last visit, faeces from under the nest tree were collected for diet analysis. Because the gardens under the trees were regularly worked by gardeners, the faeces were probably not more than two days old.

According to Brown *et al.* (1982) young Hadadas are fully feathered at 27 days, including the white cheek streaks, and they do not walk on surrounding branches before they are 34 days old (Skead 1951). Based on this information, we estimate that our nestlings were about one month old. With an incubation period of 25–28 days (Hancock *et al.* 1992) and a clutch of 2–3 eggs (Brown *et al.* 1982), laid every other

day (Skead 1951), laying must have started between 6 and 11 June. This agrees with laying dates reported from Niger and Nigeria (Brown *et al.* 1982). Both Brown *et al.* (1982) and Hancock *et al.* (1992) mention breeding from The Gambia between January and March. However, neither Jensen & Kirkeby (1980), Gore (1990), Dowsett & Forbes-Watson (1993), nor Barlow *et al.* (1997 and pers. comm.) mention Hadada as a confirmed breeding species for this country. According to E.K. Urban, author of the species' entry in Brown *et al.* (1982) this statement is possibly based on Chapman (1969). However, Chapman only mentioned that the Hadada occurs regularly in The Gambia in "Stink corner" marsh from January to early March, without giving any evidence for breeding. Hancock *et al.* probably simply copied the data from Brown *et al.* (1982). Therefore, breeding in The Gambia should be considered previously unproven.

Hadadas are irregularly observed throughout the year in the southern half of Senegal (Morel & Morel 1990), particularly in Niokolo Koba and elsewhere along the River Gambia (Sauvage & Rodwell 1998), and in The Gambia (Gore 1990, Barlow *et al.* 1997). Breeding has not previously been documented from Senegal, although Morel (1972) stated that it perhaps nested in mangroves of Casamance and The Gambia. Considering their solitary breeding behaviour (Brown *et al.* 1982, Hancock *et al.* 1992) and the rather poor ornithological coverage of Senegal, they may easily have been overlooked. In August and September of 1995 and 1996, a pair of Hadadas was regularly observed at the IRD (formerly ORSTOM) ecological field station of Mbour. The birds usually arrived in the early morning, singly or together. No indication of breeding was obtained (Moussa Sega Diop, pers. comm.). This site is not more than 10 km apart from the actual breeding place. The nest site has been developed in the last 15 years, with many hotels and bungalows constructed and *c.* 100 ha of fenced, park-like landscape created by planting fast-growing eucalyptus trees. Some of these trees have now grown to *c.* 15–17 m and, together with other tree species, form a luxuriant green area in a surrounding landscape where tree densities are ever decreasing, mainly due to over-exploitation.

The faecal analysis revealed many tiny arthropod fragments, many of which, based on leg structure, were identified as dung-beetles Scarabaeidae, and one complete individual was an *Onthophagus* sp. This suggests that the birds fed at fresh livestock faeces, where Scarabaeidae concentrate. Skead (1951) mentions Hadadas searching cow-pats for dung-beetles, especially in dry conditions. According to Hancock *et al.* (1992), Hadadas prefer to feed in moist soil by probing. Except for swimming pools and the sea, we found no water pools, water courses or moist grasslands near the nesting site, but the birds could also feed on the irrigated lawns of the tourist complex, as they do elsewhere (Hancock *et al.* 1992, WCM pers. obs. in Burundi, Uganda and South Africa).

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Moussa Sega Diop, IRD, Dakar, kindly draw my attention to some earlier observations in the breeding period. For their valuable comments on an earlier version of this note, and for their making some of the cited publications available, we thank Joost Brouwer, Bob Dowsett and Peter L. Meininger, Gerard J. Morel and Emil K. Urban.

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Précisions sur la répartition de la Tourterelle de l'Adamaoua *Streptopelia hypopyrrha* au nord Cameroun

Au Cameroun, la Tourterelle de l'Adamaoua est décrite comme une espèce très localisée; elle est décrite presque uniquement dans les régions de Ngaoundéré, du plateau de l'Adamaoua, et dans certains secteurs de la vallée de la Bénoué et de Garoua, sans autres précisions pour l'ensemble des provinces du Nord et de l'Adamaoua. (Louette 1981, Urban *et al.* 1986). Cependant, on peut l'observer plus fréquemment et sur une aire plus large que ce qui est indiqué jusqu'à présent. J'apporte ici quelques précisions sur son comportement, notamment sur sa