



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



**Join the WAOS and support  
the future availability of free  
pdfs on this website.**

<http://malimbus.free.fr/member.htm>

If this link does not work, please copy it to your browser and try again.  
If you want to print this pdf, we suggest you begin on the next page (2) to conserve paper.

**Devenez membre de la  
SOOA et soutenez la  
disponibilité future des pdfs  
gratuits sur ce site.**

<http://malimbus.free.fr/adhesion.htm>

Si ce lien ne fonctionne pas, veuillez le copier pour votre navigateur et réessayer.  
Si vous souhaitez imprimer ce pdf, nous vous suggérons de commencer par la page suivante  
(2) pour économiser du papier.

## THE BIRDS OF SERTI

by P. Hall

Received 15 May 1976

Serti lies at 07°30'N 11°22'E in the Southern Sardauna Province of the newly created Gongola State. Around Serti the vegetation is mostly derived savanna, with Lophira lanceolata, Parinari curatellifolia and Uapaca togoensis prominent in more densely wooded places. Throughout the area there are many marked and localised changes in the vegetation, often with dense riparian woodland or forest along streams and rivers (including Brachystegia eurycoma, Erythrophleum africanum, Syzigium sp. and Adina microcephala). The region is associated with the middle reaches of rivers (particularly the Mayo Kam) flowing from the Mambilla Plateau and much of it is being reserved at present to protect this important catchment area. It is also fully intended to open up and develop the area as a multiple-use game park (Hall, in press). The mean annual rainfall of the area is 127 cm (50 in) with rain from April to November.

This study was carried out from September 1974 to January 1975, and after the rains finished in early November there was a continuous passage of migrants into and through the area. As a result of this and related studies in Sudan savanna around Maiduguri, I have gathered much new information about African migrants in north-eastern Nigeria.

The species I recorded are listed below, scientific nomenclature following White (1960-65) and English names Mackworth-Praed and Grant (1970-73).

LONG-TAILED CORMORANT Phalacrocorax africanus A dry season migrant, first recorded on 21 December and then present in small numbers on the main rivers until at least April (Gray 1971).

SQUACCO HERON Ardeola ralloides One on 22 December.

CATTLE EGRET Ardeola ibis A pronounced dry season migrant, first recorded on 15 November and subsequently seen occasionally passing through the area in small flocks.

GREEN-BACKED HERON Butorides striatus A rains migrant occasional in September and October and then appearing to move out of the area. Gray (1971) recorded it in April in the early rains.

GREY HERON Ardea cinerea Only one, 17 December; probably a scarce dry season migrant to the area.

BLACK-HEADED HERON Ardea melanocephala A dry season migrant first recorded on 27 November and occasional thereafter.

HAMMERKOP Scopus umbretta A partial dry season migrant, occasional in September and October with numbers building up noticeably in November, especially on the Mayo Kam river.

ABDIM'S STORK Ciconia abdimii A pronounced dry season migrant, small numbers passing through in mid-November. Gray (1971) recorded a flock of 12 in the early rains.

WHITE-HEADED VULTURE Trigonoceps occipitalis Only once recorded in the area (in November) but probably a scarce resident.

HOODED VULTURE Neophron monachus A frequent resident throughout the area.

PALM-NUT VULTURE Cypohierax angolensis Once, near the Mayo Kam river in November, but probably a scarce resident.

HARRIER-HAWK Polyboroides radiatus Recorded occasionally throughout the period although the frequency of sightings increased markedly in November and December and it is probably a partial migrant to the area.

BATELEUR Terathopius ecaudatus Recorded regularly throughout the period.

SHIKRA Accipiter badius A pronounced dry season migrant first recorded on 24 November and subsequently in small numbers.

OVAMPO SPARROW-HAWK Accipiter ovampensis One on 24 November. The paucity of records of this species in Nigeria keeps its status unclear.

BANDED HARRIER EAGLE Circaetus cinereus One on 10 October; again it is difficult to draw any conclusions on the status of this species.

GABAR GOSHAWK Melierax gabar Possibly a dry season migrant although only recorded twice, in November and December.

RED-NECKED BUZZARD Buteo auguralis A dry season migrant first recorded on 12 November and afterwards widespread.

LONG-CRESTED HAWK-EAGLE Lophoaelus occipitalis Frequent in September but only occasional thereafter so that possibly there is a dry season movement out of the area.

MARTIAL EAGLE Polemaetus bellicosus A dry season migrant first recorded on 27 November and occasional thereafter.

TAWNY EAGLE Aquila rapax A pronounced dry season migrant first seen on 11 December and frequent thereafter.

FISH EAGLE Haliaeetus vocifer Only recorded twice, on the Mayo Kam river in November. Gray (1973) also recorded it on the Mayo Kam in April; it is probably resident although when the rivers are at their highest there may be a partial movement out of the area.

KITE Milvus migrans Small numbers present throughout the period.

BLACK-SHOULDERED KITE Elanus caeruleus First recorded on 11 December. Occasional thereafter, and possibly a dry season migrant to the area.

PEREGRINE Falco peregrinus One on 21 December. I also found it on the Mambilla Plateau in December, but its status remains unclear.

GREY KESTREL Falco ardosiaceus A dry season migrant to the area, first recorded on 18 November.

KESTREL Falco tinnunculus Twice, in September and October. Its status is unclear although one would expect numbers to build up during the dry season as birds move down to lower ground.

FOX KESTREL Falco alopec Two at a bush fire near Serti in December; probably resident on rocky escarpments.

DOUBLE-SPURRED FRANCOLIN Francolinus bicalcaratus A widespread and common resident throughout the area.

STONE-PARTRIDGE Ptilopachus petrosus Resident and frequent in rocky areas.

GUINEA-FOWL Numida meleagris Occasionally seen in small parties throughout the area.

DENHAM'S BUSTARD Neotis denhami A migrant occasionally recorded in November.

SENEGAL THICK-KNEE Burhinus senegalensis A migrant noted only twice, in late November and December.

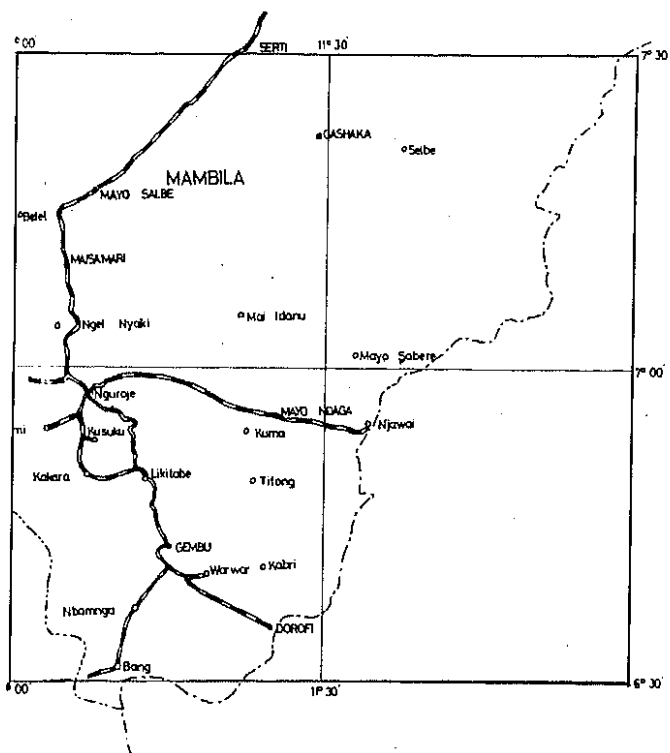
WHITE-HEADED PLOVER Vanellus albiceps A pronounced dry season migrant, first seen on the Mayo Kam on 12 November; in small numbers thereafter.

WATTLED PLOVER Vanellus senegallus A dry season migrant although only recorded on two days in December. Gray (1971) recorded four in April.

THREE-BANDED PLOVER Charadrius tricollaris Only recorded once, in November, and possibly a scarce dry season migrant.

WOOD SANDPIPER Tringa glareola One on 25 October.

GREEN SANDPIPER Tringa ochropus Occasional on passage throughout November and December.



Map showing location of Serti and also of Mambilla Plateau  
(see Hall 1976)

COMMON SANDPIPER Tringa hypoleucos  
to November.

Frequent on passage from September

EGYPTIAN PLOVER Pluvianus aegyptius  
first recorded on 12 November on the Mayo Kam; occasional there-  
after.

A pronounced dry season migrant,

GREY PRATINCOLE Glareola cinerea  
the early rains in April (Gray, 1971).

A dry season migrant seen only in

SPECKLED PIGEON Columba guinea

A scarce resident, seen occasionally  
in the area throughout the period.

RED-EYED DOVE Streptopelia semitorquata

Widespread and frequent.

VINACEOUS DOVE Streptopelia vinacea A pronounced dry season migrant.  
First on 7 October, and frequent thereafter.

LAUGHING DOVE Streptopelia senegalensis Possibly a partial dry-season migrant to the area, numbers appearing to build up in October/November.

BLUE-SPOTTED WOOD-DOVE Turtur afer Resident throughout in small numbers.

GREEN PIGEON Treron australis Not recorded by me but seen by Gray (1971) in April; probably a scarce resident.

BRUCE'S GREEN PIGEON Treron waalia Occasionally recorded throughout the area.

YELLOW-BELLIED PARROT Poicephalus senegalus Recorded throughout the period with more frequent sightings in November/December. It may be a partial dry season migrant.

RED-HEADED LOVEBIRD Agapornis pullaria Probably a scarce resident although only recorded twice, once in late-October and once in November.

WHITE-CRESTED TURACO Tauraco leucolophus Occasionally recorded in riverine woodland.

GREY PLANTAIN-EATER Crinifer piscator Widespread and frequent in open savanna.

GREAT SPOTTED CUCKOO Clamator glandarius A scarce dry season migrant recorded only once, in December.

BLACK CUCKOO Cuculus clamosus A rains migrant frequently heard calling throughout September and October.

CUCKOO Cuculus canorus A dry season migrant first recorded on 17 November and then present in small numbers for the rest of the period. Gray (1971) recorded it in April.

KLAAS' CUCKOO Chrysococcyx klaas A rains migrant, frequent in September and early October and departing by mid-October.

DIDRIC CUCKOO Chrysococcyx caprius A rains migrant to the area, frequent in September and early October and departing by mid-October.

SENEGAL COUCAL Centropus senegalensis Resident and widespread throughout the area.

STANDARD-WINGED NIGHTJAR Macrodipteryx longipennis Recorded only in late December. Possibly a dry season migrant.

- COMMON SWIFT Apus apus Large numbers passed through the area in September.
- WHITE-RUMPED SWIFT Apus caffer Locally common, particularly near the River Serti.
- LITTLE SWIFT Apus affinis Common and widespread.
- PALM SWIFT Cypsiurus parvus Frequent and widespread throughout
- SPECKLED MOUSEBIRD Colius striatus Widespread; especially in areas of cultivation.
- GIANT KINGFISHER Ceryle maxima Occasionally noted on the Mayo Kam and the Serti in November and December and possibly a dry season migrant to the area.
- PIED KINGFISHER Ceryle rudis A pronounced dry season migrant, first recorded on 26 October, and occasional in small numbers thereafter.
- SHINING-BLUE KINGFISHER Alcedo quadribrachys Once in November; probably a scarce resident preferring well-wooded stretches of rivers.
- MALACHITE KINGFISHER Alcedo cristata Possibly a dry season migrant to the area, since I first saw it on 18 November and noted it occasionally thereafter.
- PYGMY KINGFISHER Ceyx picta Present in small numbers throughout the period.
- WOODLAND KINGFISHER Halcyon senegalensis A scarce dry season migrant; recorded occasionally from 19 November.
- BLUE-BREASTED KINGFISHER Halcyon malimbica Twice, in September and December; possibly a scarce dry season migrant.
- STRIPED KINGFISHER Halcyon chelicuti Present throughout the period in small numbers.
- GREY-HEADED KINGFISHER Halcyon leucocephala A pronounced dry season migrant to the area first recorded on 14 November and present in small numbers thereafter.
- CARMINE BEE-EATER Merops nubicus A pronounced dry season migrant. First recorded on 13 November, occasional in the second half of November and frequent in December.
- WHITE-THROATED BEE-EATER Merops albicollis Frequent on passage from 8 to 12 November.

- LITTLE BEE-EATER Merops pusillus Recorded only twice, in September. Possibly these were passing through after breeding further north.
- RED-THROATED BEE-EATER Merops bulocki Occasional small parties seen in the area in September and October. Birds were present at a small colony by late October, and it is possible that they move into the area after the rains and leave after breeding, since Gray (1971) did not record them in April.
- SWALLOW-TAILED BEE-EATER Merops hirundineus Small parties recorded on passage through the area from 18 to 21 November.
- ABYSSINIAN ROLLER Coracias abyssinica A pronounced dry season migrant, first recorded on 8 November and widespread in small numbers thereafter.
- RUFous-CROWNED ROLLER Coracias naevia Recorded only on 18 December.
- HOOPoe Upupa epops A pronounced dry season migrant, first recorded on 14 November, and occasional thereafter until mid-December. Race not identified.
- GREEN WOOD-HOOPoe Phoeniculus purpureus Seen regularly throughout the period.
- GREY HORNBILL Tockus nasutus A pronounced dry season migrant, first recorded on 23 October and frequent thereafter.
- GROUND HORNBILL Bucorvus abyssinicus Seen only in December.
- DOUBLE-TOOTHED BARBET Lybius bidentatus Twice in November. Probably a scarce resident.
- VIEILLOT'S BARBET Lybius vieilloti Widespread and frequent.
- YELLOW-FRONTED TINKER-BIRD Pogoniulus chrysoconus Sparsely distributed.
- SPOTTED HONEY-GUIDE Indicator maculatus One was netted in riverine woodland in December and constitutes the third record for Nigeria.
- BLACK-THROATED HONEY-GUIDE Indicator indicator Heard calling only in November and December, but possibly overlooked previously and almost certainly resident.
- LESSER HONEY-GUIDE Indicator minor Once in mid November. Probably a scarce resident.
- WHYNECK Jynx torquilla Occasional in November and December.
- RED-BREASTED WHYNECK Jynx ruficollis One on 16 and 17 December, in very open savanna. This is the third record for Nigeria, it having been recorded previously from Mambilla and Abong, both in the south-west of Gongola State.



- FINE-SPOTTED WOODPECKER Campeothera punctuligera Widespread and frequent throughout the area.
- BUFF-SPOTTED WOODPECKER Campeothera nivos Not seen during the period, but recorded by Gray (1971) in April.
- CARDINAL WOODPECKER Dendropicos fuscescens One in mid-November.
- UGANDA SPOTTED WOODPECKER Dendropicos poecilolaemus One netted on the edge of cultivation on 11 October. This constitutes the first record for Nigeria.
- BROWN-BACKED WOODPECKER Dendropicos obsoletus Recorded twice in November but easily overlooked and most probably resident.
- GREY WOODPECKER Mesopicos goertae Twice in November; probably resident.
- SWALLOW Hirundo rustica A small passage on 24 September.
- WIRE-TAILED SWALLOW Hirundo smithi Possibly a scarce dry-season passage migrant; four on 13 and two on 20 November.
- ETHIOPIAN SWALLOW Hirundo aethiopica Resident and frequent throughout the area.
- MOSQUE SWALLOW Hirundo senegalensis Small numbers in September; also recorded by Gray (1971) in April. Probably a rains migrant to the area.
- STRIPED SWALLOW Hirundo abyssinica A dry season migrant, first recorded on 24 November and frequent thereafter.
- HOUSE-MARTIN Delichon urbica Frequent on passage on several days in November and December.
- BLUE ROUGH-WING SWALLOW Psaldoprocne pristoptera A rains migrant seen in small numbers in September and October, and also by Gray (1971) in April.
- YELLOW WAGTAIL Motacilla flava Occasional from 22 November and frequent from mid-December.
- AFRICAN PIED WAGTAIL Motacilla alba Widespread in small numbers near fast-flowing rivers and streams.
- TREE PIPIT Anthus trivialis Widespread and frequent from 13 November.
- STRAIGHT-CRESTED HELMET SHRIKE Prionops plumata Small parties recorded frequently throughout the area.

- NORTHERN BRUBRU Nilaus afer A dry season migrant, first recorded on 12 November and occasional throughout the area thereafter.
- PUFF-BACK Dryoscopus gambensis A scarce dry season migrant, first recorded in early October and occasional thereafter.
- BLACK-HEADED BUSH-SHRIKE Tchagra senegala Widespread throughout the area in small numbers.
- TROPICAL BOUBOU Laniarius ferrugineus Frequent in riverine woodland throughout the area.
- EMIN'S SHRIKE Lanius gubernator A scarce dry season migrant; first recorded on 15 November and subsequently on three other occasions.
- AFRICAN GOLDEN ORIOLE Oriolus auratus A dry season migrant first seen on 15 November and thereafter present in small numbers.
- DRONGO Dicrurus adsimilis Widespread in small numbers throughout
- PURPLE GLOSSY STARLING Lamprotornis purpurea Not seen by me, but recorded by Gray (1971) in April.
- LESSER BLUE-EARED GLOSSY STARLING Lamprotornis chloropterus A scarce dry season migrant, its presence being indicated only by netting. Small flocks of glossy starlings were present throughout the area from 8 November.
- BRONZE-TAILED GLOSSY STARLING Lamprotornis chalcurus A dry season migrant to the area and by far the commonest of the glossy starlings recorded.
- VIOLET-BACKED STARLING Cinnyricinclus leucogaster Not recorded during the period, but Gray (1971) found it in April. Almost certainly a dry season migrant to the area.
- YELLOW-BILLED OXPECKER Buphagus africanus Once in September; scarce undoubtedly because of the paucity of 'host' mammals in the area.
- PIED CROW Corvus albus A dry season migrant to the area initially recorded on 23 October and only infrequently thereafter.
- WHITE-VENTED BULBUL Pycnonotus barbatus Widespread and frequent throughout the area.
- YELLOW-THROATED LEAF-LOVE Chlorocichla flavicollis Frequent especially in riverine woodland.
- SIMPLE GREENBUL Chlorocichla simplex Only recorded around the Mayo Kam but possibly overlooked, and probably widespread in any areas of dense undergrowth.

- WHINCHAT Saxicola rubetra First noted on 21 September and widespread thereafter.
- WHITE-FRONTED BLACK CHAT Mymecocichla albifrons Widespread in small numbers throughout the area.
- BROWN-CHESTED ALETHE Alethe poliocephala One netted in fairly dense riverine woodland in December.
- WHITE-CROWNED ROBIN-CHAT Cossypha albicapilla Present in small numbers in the dense undergrowth of riverine woodland.
- NIGHTINGALE Luscinia megarhynchos First recorded on 23 December, and obviously a scarce visitor with only one later record.
- OLIVE THRUSH Turdus pelios Widespread and frequent throughout September and October but moved completely out of the area in November. Possibly a rains migrant to the area.
- BROWN BABBLER Turdoides plebejus Occasionally recorded throughout.
- BLACKCAP BABBLER Turdoides reinwardii Present in small numbers in the dense undergrowth of riverine woodland.
- SEDGE WARBLER Acrocephalus schoenobaenus One on 24 October.
- REED WARBLER Acrocephalus scirpaceus A few on passage in October.
- GREAT REED WARBLER Acrocephalus arundinaceus Present in small numbers in marshy areas from 23 October.
- AFRICAN REED WARBLER Acrocephalus baeticatus One netted in October and one in November. Possibly a dry season migrant.
- RUFIOUS SWAMP WARBLER Acrocephalus rufescens Occasionally recorded in marshy areas from October to December, a few being netted. Possibly a dry season migrant.
- MOUSTACHE-WARBLER Sphenoeacus mentalis Occasionally seen in tall grass in October, but seemed to move out of the area after the rains.
- MELODIOUS WARBLER Hippolais polyglotta Scarce on passage in November and December, three being netted.
- GARDEN WARBLER Sylvia borin First recorded on 28 September, occasional in October, and frequent from November.
- WILLOW WARBLER Phylloscopus trochilus Occasionally recorded throughout the area from 8 November.
- RED-FACED CISTICOLA Cisticola erythrops Widespread and frequent in tall grassy areas.

- WINDING CISTICOLA Cisticola galactotes Only once recorded, in December. Probably a scarce resident.
- SIFFLING CISTICOLA Cisticola brachyptera Widespread and frequent in tall grassy areas.
- ZITTING CISTICOLA Cisticola juncidis A few on cultivated land.
- RED-WING WARBLER Prinia erythroptera First on 19 December, and then frequent. Almost certainly a dry season migrant to the area.
- TAWNY-FLANKED PRINIA Prinia subflava Widespread in small numbers throughout the area.
- GREY-BACKED CAMAROPTERA Camaroptera brachyura Only once recorded, in late December, and possibly a scarce dry season migrant to the area.
- SMALLER GREEN-BACKED EREMOMELA Eremomela pusilla Widespread in small numbers.
- CROMBEC Sylvietta brachyura Recorded occasionally from 18 November. It may be a dry season migrant to the area.
- SPOTTED FLYCATCHER Muscicapa striata First noted on 29 September and thereafter occasionally in October.
- USSHER'S DUSKY FLYCATCHER Artomyias ussheri One was netted on 23 December and seen on 24 and 30 December. In the hand, the underparts were uniformly dark with no suggestion of streaking. (With A. fuliginosa Wells (1967) felt that even in the field the streaking on the breast was not too difficult to observe.) In the field, the A. ussheri hawked in typical flycatcher fashion from the dead boughs of a tall tree in fairly open derived savanna on the edge of a belt of riverine woodland. This will be the first definite record of A. ussheri in Nigeria and the first east of Ghana, although Smith (1966) and Gray (Bull. Nigerian Orn. Soc. 3(10) p. 48) each saw flycatchers that they considered to be this species, respectively 14 km north-west of the mouth of the Benin river and at Utange, 45 km east of Obudu. In the light of this new record and in view of Wells' comments (1967), the two old records should be re-examined.
- BLACK FLYCATCHER Melaenomis edolioides A scarce dry season migrant, once recorded on 20 December.
- PALE FLYCATCHER Bradornis pallidus Widespread and frequent.
- YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER Hyliota flavigaster Occasional throughout the area.
- SENEGAL PUFFBACK FLYCATCHER Batis senegalensis Widespread throughout in small numbers.

- WATTLE-EYE Platysteira cyanea Only once, near the Mayo Kam, but probably resident. Gray (1971) recorded it in April.
- BLUE FLYCATCHER Trochocercus longicauda Widespread in small numbers, always in trees fringing streams or rivers.
- PARADISE FLYCATCHER Terpsiphone viridis Probably a scarce dry season visitor; recorded only on 25 December.
- BLACK TIT Parus leucomelas Occasionally seen in small parties throughout the area.
- SPOTTED CREEPER Salpormis spilonota Occasionally recorded throughout the area.
- PYGMY SUNBIRD Anthreptes platura A dry season migrant, seen first on 16 November and then in small numbers.
- SCARLET-CHESTED SUNBIRD Nectarinia senegalensis A rains migrant, widespread in September/October but completely absent by late October.
- VARIABLE SUNBIRD Nectarinia venusta Widespread and frequent throughout the area.
- COPPER SUNBIRD Nectarinia cuprea A rains migrant, occasionally recorded in September/October but by late October completely absent from the area.
- SPLENDID SUNBIRD Nectarinia coccinigaster A rains migrant, widespread and frequent in September/October but by late-October completely absent. Gray (1971) recorded it in April in the early rains.
- YELLOW WHITE-EYE Zosterops senegalensis Occasional throughout in small parties.
- CABANIS'S BUNTING Emberiza cabanisi Occasionally recorded throughout the area.
- YELLOW-FRONTED CANARY Serinus mozambicus Widespread and frequent.
- STREAKY-HEADED SEED-EATER Serinus gularis Once, netted on 28 September.
- HEUGLIN'S MASKED WEAVER Ploceus heuglini Possibly nested during the rains and then moved out of the area. Two pairs were seen at old nests at the end of September.
- BLACK-HEADED VILLAGE WEAVER Ploceus cucullatus Widespread and common throughout the area.

- VIEILLOT'S BLACK WEAVER Ploceus nigerrimus Very localised, small numbers nesting amidst a colony of Village Weavers in one locality. Recorded only during September/October and possibly moved out of the area after the rains.
- COMPACT WEAVER Ploceus superciliosus Widespread in small numbers in fairly open grassland. A nest with eggs in late September.
- BLACK-NECKED WEAVER Ploceus nigricollis Very localised and scarce, recorded only on the edges of riverine woodland.
- RED-HEADED QUELEA Quelea erythrops A dry-season migrant from late October. Frequent in small flocks.
- LONG-TAILED BLACK WHYDAH Euplectes ardens A few in open grassland.
- BLACK-WINGED RED BISHOP Euplectes hordaceus Widespread and common.
- YELLOW-MANILED WIDOW-BIRD Euplectes macrourus Widespread and frequent.
- GREY-HEADED SPARROW Passer griseus Widespread and common.
- PIN-TAILED WHYDAH Vidua macroura Widespread and frequent.
- INDIGO-BIRD Vidua chalybeata Widespread in small numbers during the rains, after which none was seen.
- BROAD-TAILED PARADISE WHYDAH Vidua orientalis A dry season migrant, first recorded on 26 October and frequent from mid-November onwards.
- BROWN TWIN-SPOT Clytospiza monteiri A few were netted in riverine woodland. Previously recorded in Nigeria only at Abong in Gongola State.
- DYBOWSKI'S DUSKY TWIN-SPOT Clytospiza dybowskii Small numbers were netted in riverine woodland.
- YELLOW-WINGED PYTILIA Pytilia hypogrammica Widespread in small numbers.
- ORANGE-CHEEKED WAXBILL Estrilda melpoda Widespread and frequent, but numbers diminished markedly after the rains.
- RED-CHEEKED CORDON-BLEU Estrilda bengala Possibly a rains migrant to the area. Widespread in small numbers throughout September/October but then it moved out of the area completely. Gray (1971) recorded it in April.
- BLACK-FACED FIRE-FINCH Estrilda larvata Frequent in mixed fire-finch flocks in cultivated areas in September and early October. It disappeared in October and I saw only one in December.

- BAR-BREASTED FIRE-FINCH Lagonosticta rufopicta Frequent especially in marshy areas.
- RED-BILLED FIRE-FINCH Lagonosticta senegala Frequent in mixed fire-finch flocks in September and early October after which time it moved away from the area.
- AFRICAN FIRE-FINCH Lagonosticta rubricata Frequent in mixed fire-finch flocks in September and early October after which time it moved out of the area.
- BLACK-BELLIED FIRE-FINCH Lagonosticta rara Frequent in mixed fire-finch flocks in September and early October; after that the few seen were in damp areas..
- MAGPIE MANNIKIN Lonchura fringilloides Frequent and widespread throughout the area.
- BRONZE MANNIKIN Lonchura cucullata Common and widespread throughout.

### References

- Gray, H.H. (1971) Further notes on the birds of Mambilla Plateau. Bull. Nigerian Orn. Soc. 8 (31/32): 51-54
- Hall, P. (1976) The birds of Mambilla Plateau. Bull. Nigerian Orn. Soc. 12: 67-72
- Hall, P. (in press) Priorities for wildlife conservation in north-eastern Nigeria
- Smith, P.A. (1966) Ussher's Flycatcher: a new bird for Nigeria. Bull. Nigerian Orn. Soc. 3 (10): 48
- Wells, D.R. (1967) Possible range extension of the Dusky Flycatcher. Bull. Nigerian Orn. Soc. 4 (13/14): 40

P. Hall, Ministry of Natural Resources, Forestry Division, P.M.B. 47, Maiduguri, Borno State, Nigeria