

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



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Micropus caffer White-rumped Swift one feeding over the coastal dunes at Malamfatori on 18th July, 1965, with a large flock of Colletoptera affinis, Micropus apus, Cypsiurus parvus, Hirundo iopica and Pseudohirundo griseopygia. The flock appeared after a heavy rainstorm and left abruptly after a few hours (J.H., A.J.H.).

Halcyon senegalensis Senegal Kingfisher - occurs frequently as a rainy season visitor to Acacia nilotica woodland in the Yobe valley. First noted in the Malamfatori area on 2nd July,1965, but the actual date of arrival was probably a month earlier. Last seen in mid-September. H. leucocephala the Grey-headed Kingfisher, is also a common rainy season visitor, but it occurs in dry open country as well as in riverside woodland (C.H.F., J.H., A.J.H.).

Batis minor Chad Puffback Flycatcher - at least one pair in thin Acacia raddiana woodland on dunes near Malamfatori on 6th January, 1966. The mantle of the male, grey spotted with white, was clearly seen as was the narrow dark chestnut breast-band of the female. Previously B. senegalensis the Senegal Puffback Flycatcher has been recorded from the Malamfatori area (Hopson, 1964, Bull. Nig. Orn. Soc. 1 (4): 14), and the present record, the first from Nigeria, proves that the two species overlap in the vicinity of Lake Chad, minor extending to the east and senegalensis to the west. (J.A.B., J.H., A.J.H.).

Ptilostomus afer Piapiac - one in open woodland near the river between Yo and Daya, 4th July, 1965 (C.H.F., J.H., A.J.H.).

J.A.Button, C.H.Fry, J.and A.J.Hopson

Plateau Province over 3,000 ft.

Dicrocercus hirundineus Swallow-tailed Bee-eater - seen at a kurmi a mile south-east of Vom Hospital in November 1961. There is another record from the same kurmi on an unrecorded date. One was netted at Vom by V.W.Smith on 6th November, 1965, and these November dates suggest the possibility of (southbound) migration at that period.

Pentholaea albifrons White-fronted Black Chat - noted on 6th February, 1966 in a small river kurmi 6 miles north-west of Vom Hospital, towards the Kigom hills. Since then, it has also been recorded by P.J.E. Woods in the Kigom hill area. In January and February, 1965, a pair nested on the Veterinary reservation, Vom (V.W. Smith, pers. comm.)

Zaria. The following species have been recorded for the first time in the Zaria area, since the production of my check-list (1964, Bull. Nig. Orn. Soc. 2: 68-79 & 91-102):

Hagedashia hagedash Hadada - about 3 at Dunbi wood and inselberg, Zaria, 25th Octomber, 1965 (D.R.Wells, C.H.F.).