

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



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Possible Range Extension of the Dusky Flycatcher. On 22nd March 1967 H.G.M.Bass and myself watched an Artomyias flycatcher hawking for insects from an exposed dead tree in typical fashion. I have seen A. fuliginosa in S. Cameroun, but the western locality of the present bird made me suspicious of its identity since I am not familiar with the Upper Guinea Ussher's Flycatcher A. ussheri. Marchant (1966, Bull. Niger. Orn. Soc. 3 (2): 75) claims that plumage differences between A. ussheri and the Dusky Flycatcher A. fuliginosa are not well marked, but our bird did not have a forked tail and had a hint of streaking on the breast. In Cameroun birds I found the latter character not too difficult to spot provided one looked reasonably carefully. If we were correct in our identification of the Gambari bird as A. fuliginosa, this record marks a westward extension of the known range of the species by about 150 miles, from Benin Province.

D.R.Wells

A Nest of Onychognathus morio neumanni in the Ivory Coast. A nest of the Chestnut-winged Rock Starling Onychognathus morio neumanni was discovered on 13th July 1966 at Boudiali, northern Ivory Coast. It was placed in a cave formed by rock cleavage in a 1000 ft high granite kopje. A shallow hole in a narrow shelf 15 ft from the cave floor was used, the actual nest being a simple cup of straw 7 ins. in diameter. In the nest the three young could not be seen, but they would come out onto a 'porch' to be fed.

The adults had a prescribed path to the nest, from one boulder to another, using two in particular as look-out posts. Both appeared to visit the nest, and presumably fed the young. This appeared to be either a late or early nesting pair, for other birds of this species were feeding and roosting in loose flocks about the mountain.

D.A.Parelius

Ortolan Buntings at Vom, 1966. The 1965-66 season appears to have been a good one for Ortolan Buntings Emberiza hortulana at Vom. On 27th December 1965 a female was netted and ringed in my compound (this is the earliest Vom record). Early in January 1966 two were seen in a tall Eucalyptus tree behind my house. Subsequently, until I left Vom in mid-March 1966, one was seen frequently at the back of the house on the hillside, consorting with Rock Buntings Fringillaria tahapisi. This bird, which was not wearing a ring, was remarkably tame and several times appeared on the back verandah where it could be seen at a distance of a few feet.

V.W.Smith

Recoveries in Nigeria of Palaearctic Birds. Notification has been received of the following recoveries:

European Swallow <u>Hirundo rustica</u> ringed 16.vii.1966 Ieper 50° 51' N 02° 53' 6A 37990 E Belgium as juv; recovered 4.i.1967 Oshi-Akinima 05°06' N 06° 40' E, Ahaoda Division, Nigeria.

Sandwich Tern Storna sandvicensis ringed 11.vi.1966 Coquet Island 55° 20' N DS 31.017 01° 32' W, Northumberland, England as pullus; recovered 1.iii. 1967 Lagos, Nigeria. (per D.D.Condon) Editor