

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

DESCRIPTIONS OF SEVEN NEW SUBSPECIES OF
AMERICAN BIRDS.

BY OUTRAM BANGS.

The seven birds herein described as new subspecies are from material that has accumulated in the Bangs collection, from various sources, during the past few years. The descriptions have been prepared from time to time and are now published together to avoid the inconvenience of a number of short articles.

Crypturus soui mustelinus subsp. nov.

SANTA MARTA TINAMOU.

Type from mountains near Santa Marta, Colombia, 3,000 feet altitude, ♀ adult, No. 5002, coll. of E. A. and O. Bangs. Collected February 4, 1898, by W. W. Brown, Jr.

Characters.—Similar to true *C. soui* of Guiana and Venezuela, but much more brightly colored. Adult ♀: Whole upperparts, except crown which is dusky, rich, bright chestnut, the wing coverts tipped with orange-rufous and ferruginous (in true *C. soui* the upperparts are, in the adult ♀ Prout's brown shading on rump toward burnt umber, and hazel on wing coverts); underparts rich tawny-ochraceous or tawny, becoming darker and brighter, more ochraceous-rufous on sides, under surface of neck and upper breast, with a slight vinous cast overlaying this color on neck, not decidedly paler in middle of belly (in true *C. soui* the underparts are much duller and paler with a decidedly paler-buffy-patch in middle of belly); chin white; throat white, the feathers tipped with ochraceous.

MEASUREMENTS.

No.	Sex.	Locality.	Wing.	Tail.	Tar- sus.	Cul- men.
5002	♀ ad.	Santa Marta, Colombia, 3,000 ft.	128	27	39	20
6129	♀ ad.	La Concepcion, " 3,000 ft.	125	28	37.5	19.5

Remarks.—This form, which replaces true *soui* of Guiana and Venezuela in the Santa Marta region of Colombia is much more brightly colored than the typical form, and judged from the plate and descriptions is not unlike *C. castaneus* Scl. in color. That it is not that species, but a member of the *soui* series, is shown by its whitish throat and smaller dimensions.

I have seen several specimens from Guiana and have one adult ♀ taken by Capt. Wirt Robinson at San Julian, Venezuela, that is just like them. In fact, Plate 829, of d'Aubenton's Planches Enlumineées, on which *Crypturus soui* was based, could not be more like this specimen, if it had actually been taken from it.

Crypturus soui mustelinus needs no comparison with the dark-necked form *C. soui modestus* that occurs just north of it in Panama. I have seen no males of the new form, but undoubtedly they would be much darker and duller than the females as is the case with most species of *Crypturus*.

Scardafella inca dialeucos subsp. nov.

NICARAGUA SCALED DOVE.

Type from the boundary line between Honduras and Nicaragua, 180 miles from Pacific coast.* No. 4796, coll. of E. A. and O. Bangs.

Characters.—Somewhat similar to true *S. inca* of Mexico, etc., but larger wing coverts grayish white in marked contrast to rest of coverts; underparts more distinctly barred with blackish, the bars extending over the entire breast, though less distinct as they reach the throat; vinaceous of breast much paler and more restricted, the buffy white of belly reaching farther forward. Similar also to *S. ridgwayi* † of South America, but upperparts much darker, with the dusky squamulations less distinct; light patch on wing not so white; and underparts less heavily barred with blackish. Size as in *S. inca inca*.

Measurements.—Type: Wing, 89; tail, 90.5; tarsus, 16; culmen, 15.

Remarks.—*Scardafella inca inca* ranges from southern Arizona and Texas through Mexico and Guatemala, with but little if any geographical variation, but at the very southern extremity of its range gives place to a race that in all the points of difference from the northern form approaches *S.*

*The type is one of a collection of birds which was bought by me some years ago from an engineer who had been engaged in work on the boundary line between Honduras and Nicaragua. The specimens were all taken at one point in summer and early autumn.

† Dr. Richmond has pointed out that, even if *S. ridgwayi* of Margarita Id. is not considered a valid form the name must hold for the species, *Columba squamosa* Temm. and Knip. being preoccupied.

ridgwayi of South America. In fact, if there was not a wide gap between the ranges of *S. inca* and *S. ridgwayi* the new form here described might almost be looked upon as an intergrade between them.

Claravis pretiosa livida subsp. nov.

COLOMBIAN GRAY DOVE.

Type from Rio Cauca, Colombia, ♂ adult, No. 4056, coll. of E. A. and O. Bangs. Collected June, 1898, by J. H. Batty.

Characters.—Very similar to true *C. pretiosa* (Ferrari-Perez) of Mexico, but paler throughout. Adult ♂ with the breast and belly pearl gray (French gray to cinereous in true *C. pretiosa*). Adult ♀ with wings, back and head paler brown.

MEASUREMENTS.

No.	Sex.	Locality.	Wing.	Tail.	Tar-sus.	Cul-men.
4056	♂ ad.	Colombia, Rio Cauca	114	73	18.2	15
4055	♂ ad.	Colombia, Las Tambos	115	74	18.6	15
4054	♀ ad.	Colombia, Castilla	114	70	18	14.4

Remarks.—In 1886, Fernando Ferrari-Perez * substituted the name *pretiosa*, based on Mexican birds, for the preoccupied *cinerea* † by which title the gray dove had till then been known.

In Catalogue of Birds in British Mus. XXI, Salvadori mentions no differences between northern and southern examples of the gray dove, but calls the bird throughout its range by the preoccupied name *cinerea*, and even Sharpe, ‡ though he recognizes the Mexican form by Ferrari-Perez's name, retains for the southern form *cinerea* of Temm. and Knip.

The Colombian form is only a closely related subspecies, differing chiefly in the much paler head and underparts in the male. The darkest skins of true *C. pretiosa* I have seen come from Mexico, while a large series from Panama shows a tendency toward the paler colors of *C. pretiosa livida*, though none quite match the Colombian form in this respect and some are almost as dark as Mexican birds.

Geotrygon martinica digressa subsp. nov.

GUADELOUPE QUAIL DOVE.

Type from Guadeloupe, Lesser Antilles. ♀ adult. No. 11,442, coll. of E. A. and O. Bangs. Collected May 9, 1901.

Characters.—Much larger than *G. martinica martinica* (Linn.) and much paler in coloration. General color of upperparts bright hazel, glossed with

* Catalogue of Mexican Animals, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., IX, p. 175, 1886.

† *Columba cinerea* Scop., Del. Flor. et Faun. Insubr. II, p. 94, n. 93, 1786, being some eastern dove not yet satisfactorily identified, but of course excluding the use of *Columba cinerea* Temm. and Knip., Fig. I, p. 126, pl. 58, 1808-11, for the American Gray Dove.

‡ Hand-List of Birds, Vol. I, p. 82, 1899.

metallic rose purple (the upperparts in true *G. martinica* are almost liver brown and the metallic gloss is lilac); crop region vinaceous-pink (dark purplish vinaceous in true *G. martinica*); belly and under tail coverts paler, more buffy, less brownish or clay color.

MEASUREMENTS.

No.	Sex.	Locality.	Wing.	Tail.	Tar-sus.	Cul-men.
11,442	♀ ad.	Guadeloupe	169	84	36	25

Specimens of *Geotrygon martinica martinica* measure—

13,513	♂ ad.	Dominica	152	75	33	25
13,514	♂ ad.	do.	150	71.5	33	24
13,556	♀ ad.	do.	150	74	33	25
13,557	♀ ad.	do.	156	76	33.5	24.5
27,427*	—ad.	Sta. Lucia	152	79	33	24.5
27,428*	—ad.	do.	149	77	33.5	26
27,429*	—ad.	do.	153	79	34	25
28,575*	—ad.	do.	150	79	34	26

Remarks.—If the large series of *G. martinica* I have examined in this connection is properly sexed by the collectors, and I see no reason why it is not so, then the sexes in this quail dove do not differ in color. The plain dark colored examples are all marked “young” and appear to be such. These had been supposed to be adult females, and the species was given by Salvadori in *Cat. Birds, Brit. Mus., Vol. XXI*, as having the same difference in color between the sexes as *Geotrygon montana*.

I have seen no skins from Martinique, but have examined a number from both Dominica and Sta. Lucia which are precisely similar. The one specimen from Guadeloupe differs so much from these that the question is simply whether it shall be called a species or subspecies; the latter course perhaps better expresses its relationship.

The present subdivision of the species, then, restricts true *G. martinica* to Sta. Lucia, Martinique, and Dominica and makes the bird of Guadeloupe a well-marked island form. Specimens from Guadeloupe appear to be very rare in collections and when Salvadori wrote *Vol. XXI*, he could only conjecture that the bird probably occurred there.

Dacnis cayana callaina subsp. nov.

CHIRIQUI DACNIS.

Type from Divala, Chiriqui, ♂ adult, No. 8200, Coll. of E. A. and O. Bangs. Collected November 2, 1900, by W. W. Brown, Jr.

Characters.—Adult ♂ with the blue portion of the plumage cerulean or turquoise, exactly as in *D. cayana cayana*, of South America, but at once distinguished from that form by the throat being dull bluish green *instead*

* Mus. of Comparative Zoölogy, Cambridge, Mass.

of black, and the throat patch less extensive. Similar in size and color of throat patch, to *D. cayana ultramarina* of Panama to eastern Nicaragua, but the blue portion of the plumage very different, being in the latter form bright ultramarine or cobalt. Size as in true *D. cayana*. Type, ♂ adult: Wing, 61; tail, 41.5; tarsus, 15.2; culmen, 12.6.

Remarks.—This is the form about which there has been so much discussion. Salvin and Godman in *Biol. Cent. Am.* I, p. 244, mention its peculiarities and say that the pale color of the throat is perfectly constant, but that they do not consider this a distinctive character. Ridgway in *Birds of North and Middle America*, II, p. 393, foot-note, again calls attention to the differences shown by the Chiriqui bird and very hesitatingly refers it to true *D. cayana* on account of lack of material.

In my way of looking at the geographical races of birds I can see no alternative but to give this form a name. It is remarkable that in Chiriqui there should be a race of *Dacnis cayana* so exactly like the South American form in general coloration, except for the throat, and yet cut off from that form and nearly surrounded by the dark colored *D. cayana ultramarina*. There are, however, many other peculiar forms in Chiriqui with equally restricted ranges.

It is also remarkable that the bird of central Peru should be so much like the Chiriqui form, from which it differs chiefly in size. The measurements given by Von Berlepsch and Stolzmann for their *Dacnis cayana glaucogularis* from La Merced are: Wing, 66.5 to 67; tail, 45 to 49.5; tarsus, 15; culmen, 13 (two adult males).

Mr. Harry C. Oberholser has kindly compared my Chiriqui male and one in the National Museum with five skins of *D. cayana glaucogularis* from Peru and finds the difference in size to be constant, and the Chiriqui form also to be paler and more greenish in color.

Calospiza lavinia cara subsp. nov.

HONDURAS TANAGER.

Type from Ceiba, Honduras, ♂ young adult, No. 10,024, coll. of E. A. and O. Bangs. Collected January 9, 1902, by W. W. Brown, Jr.

Characters.—Similar in color to *C. lavinia lavinia* (Cassin) from northern Colombia to Nicaragua, but much larger with a much longer and more slender bill.

MEASUREMENTS.

No.	Sex.	Wing.	Tail.	Tarsus.	Exposed Culmen.
10,024	♂ type	73	50.5	19	12.4
10,025	♀ topotype	70	48	17.2	12

Remarks.—In a paper on the birds and mammals collected by Mr. Brown on the coast of Honduras * I mentioned the peculiarities of these two

* Bull. Mus. Comp. Zoöl. XXXIX, No. 6, p. 155, July, 1903.

specimens, and called attention to the fact that the place whence they came was the most northern from which the species had been recorded. Since then I have examined a number of additional skins of true *C. lavinia* from all of which the Honduras bird differs so much in size and length of bill, that it must certainly be regarded as a well-defined subspecies quite worthy of recognition by name.

***Phœnicothraupis rubica confinis* subsp. nov.**

HONDURAS ANT Tanager.

Type from Yaruca, Honduras, ♂ adult, No. 10,034, coll. of E. A. and O. Bangs. Collected February 25, 1902, by W. W. Brown, Jr.

Characters.—Adult ♂ intermediate in color between true *P. rubica* of South America and *P. rubica vinacea* of Costa Rica to Panama—much darker, more vinaceous red than in *rubica*, but lacking the dusky mottling on throat of *vinacea*. Compared with the male of *P. rubica rubicoides* of southern Mexico, the new form is much deeper red and vinaceous below and much redder, less brownish above. Adult ♀ quite different in color from that sex in the allied forms—much greener than in true *rubica* with little of the reddish brown shade so marked, especially on tail, in that form; crown patch clearer, paler yellow. Not so greenish in general coloration as *vinacea* with the throat much yellower, wholly lacking the dusky mottling. From the female of *rubicoides* the new form differs in much greener less brownish general coloration and in having the yellowish throat patch much more clearly marked and much yellower, less brownish.

Size a little less than in *P. rubica rubica*.

MEASUREMENTS.

No.	Sex.	Wing.	Tail.	Tarsus.	Culmen.
10,034	♂ ad. type	98	80.6	23.2	18
10,035	♂ ad. topotype	97	82	24	18.6
10,036	♂ ad. do.	94.4	77	24	—
10,037	♀ ad. do.	90	75	24	17.6
10,038	♀ ad. do.	86	69.6	23.2	17.4
10,039	♀ ad. do.	91	72.4	23	18

Remarks.—The six specimens on which this well-marked new form is based had lain in my collection identified as *P. rubica rubicoides* ever since Mr. Brown sent them in, until last winter, when E. W. Nelson saw them and instantly declared them to represent a new form. He very kindly helped me compare them with ample material, when it at once became evident that the form from the coast region of Honduras is quite as strongly characterized as any of the geographical races of *Phœnicothraupis rubica*.



Bangs, Outram. 1905. "Descriptions of seven new subspecies of American birds." *Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington* 18, 151–156.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/19435>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/144727>

Holding Institution

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

Sponsored by

Internet Archive

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: NOT_IN_COPYRIGHT

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.