

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

THREE NEW SUBSPECIES OF BIRDS FROM EASTERN
MEXICO AND YUCATAN.

BY OUTRAM BANGS.

Of the three birds here provided with new names one is a well-marked subspecies of *Tityra semifasciata*, inhabiting Yucatan, characters for which have already been indicated by Ridgway. Another is the resident form of the American Robin of Southern Mexico, the peculiarities of which have been noticed by both Ridgway and Phillips. The third is a strongly characterized northeastern form of the little blue grosbeak of Mexico—*Cyanocompsa parellina*.

***Tityra semifasciata deses* subsp. nov.**

Type from Chichen Itza, Yucatan. No. 40,079, Museum of Comparative Zoology, adult ♂. Collected February 26, 1904, by L. J. Cole.

Characters.—Similar to *T. semifasciata personata* (J. & S.) but smaller and paler. Adult ♂ with gray of upper parts paler, and with the under parts white, less grayish. Adult ♀ with the color of upper parts pale, more uniform and decidedly more brownish.

Measurements.—In four adult ♂ topotypes, wing, 125.5 to 127.5; tail, 73 to 75; tarsus, 24 to 26; exposed culmen, 23 to 24. In three adult ♀ topotypes, wing, 121 to 124; tail, 70.5 to 72; tarsus, 25.5 to 28; exposed culmen, 24-25.5.

***Turdus migratorius phillipsi** subsp. nov.**

Type from Las Viegas, Vera Cruz, Mexico, adult ♀, No. 2130. Bangs Coll. in Mus. Comp. Zoöl. Collected April 20, 1897, by C. B. Isham.

Characters.—Similar in color and markings to *T. migratorius propinquus* Ridg., but decidedly smaller with relatively larger bill. *Type*, adult ♀. Wing, 126; tail feathers, 86; tarsus, 33; exposed culmen, 19. For further measurements and remarks, see Ridgway, Birds of North and

* Named for my colleague, Dr. John C. Phillips.

Middle America, Part IV, p. 101, and Phillips, A Year's Collecting in the State of Tamaulipas, Mexico, The Auk, Vol. XXVIII, p. 80.

Remarks.—All specimens from Central and Northwestern Mexico should, I think, be referred to *T. migratorius propinquus*, those from northern Tamaulipas are more or less intermediate, while all from southern Tamaulipas and the mountains of Vera Cruz belong to the new form.

I use the generic name *Turdus*, not because I consider the American Robin more nearly related to the spotted thrushes than to the members of the so-called genus *Planesticus*, but because I agree with most European ornithologists in failing utterly to understand why such intimately related forms should be separated generically.

***Cyanocompsa parellina beneplacita* subsp. nov.**

Type from Santa Leonor, Tamaulipas, Mexico. Adult ♂, No. 49,685, Coll. Mus. Comp. Zool. Collected April 5, 1909, by F. B. Armstrong.

Characters.—At once distinguished from all the other subspecies by having a *much* shorter, narrower, more fringilline bill, which in the ♂ is wholly black, in the ♀ dusky horn color; the mandible scarcely paler.

Adult ♂ duller and grayer blue than the adult ♂ of *C. parellina parellina* (Bp.) of Vera Cruz to Yucatan, some examples nearly as pale as *C. parellina indigotica* Ridg. of western Mexico (as a whole the series is about intermediate in color between these two forms). Adult ♀, much paler and grayer brown, both above and below than the ♀ of *C. p. parellina*, not very different in color from the ♀ of *C. p. indigotica*. Size, except bill, about as in *C. p. parellina*, smaller than in *C. p. indigotica*.

Measurements.—*Type*, adult ♂. Wing, 68; tail, 55; tarsus, 19.5; culmen from base, 10.5; width of mandible at base, 7. Adult ♀ *topotype* No. 49,682, wing, 66; tail, 52; tarsus, 18.5; culmen from base, 10; width of mandible at base, 6.5. Extreme measurements afforded by ten other males are—wing, 67–70.5; tail, 52.5–57; tarsus, 17–19.5; culmen from base, 10–11; width of mandible at base, 6.5–7.5; by three other females—wing, 64–65; tail, 50–52; tarsus, 18–19; culmen from base, 10–10.5; width of mandible at base, 6.5–7.

Remarks.—While collecting for Doctor Phillips in Tamaulipas, F. B. Armstrong secured twenty-six specimens of this well-marked form. All from the hill country in the west central part of the state are typical. Several skins, however, from Altamira in the southeastern corner of Tamaulipas are decidedly intermediate in all characters, and might almost as well be referred to *C. p. parellina* as to the new form.

It is possible a still further subdivision should be made and the Yucatan form be given a name. It is similar to the Vera Cruz bird in size and in size, shape and color of the bill, but three out of our four adult males are very bright blue below, much more brilliant than in any Vera Cruz skin; the fourth specimen, however, is not different from Vera Cruz examples.



Bangs, Outram. 1915. "Three new subspecies of birds from eastern Mexico and Yucatan." *Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington* 28, 125–126.

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