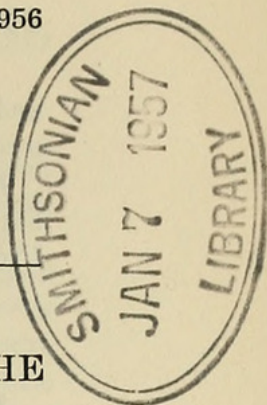


PROCEEDINGS
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NEW RACES OF BIRDS FROM LAEM THONG, THE
GOLDEN CHERSONESE

BY H. G. DEIGNAN*

In the course of a general revision of the birds of Thailand in connection with preparation of a regional check-list, the several forms described below have seemed to deserve sub-specific recognition. For the loan of comparative material of one or more species and information on specimens not personally examined, I wish to express my thanks to the authorities of the British Museum (Nat. Hist.), London, the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, Cambridge, Mass., the American Museum of Natural History, New York, the Chicago Natural History Museum, and the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.

FAMILY PSITTACIDAE

Loriculus vernalis phileticus, subsp. nov.

Type.—U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 153682, adult female, collected at Ban Phra Muang [lat. 7°20' N., long. 99°30' E.], Trang Province, Thailand, on 15 March 1896, by William L. Abbott.

Diagnosis.—Nearest *L. v. vernalis* of the Indo-Chinese countries north of the Isthmus of Kra, from which it differs in adult plumage by having the green coloration everywhere decidedly darker and duller (less yellow-green, more grass green).

Range.—The Mergui Archipelago (Sullivan's Island), the southern part of the Mergui District of Tenasserim, and Thailand south of the Isthmus of Kra.

FAMILY CAPITONIDAE

Megalaima incognita elbeli, subsp. nov.

Type.—U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 452629, adult female, collected at Ban Muang Khai [lat. 17°30' N., long. 101°20' E.], Loei Province, Thailand, on 7 January 1955, by Robert E. Elbel (collector's number RE 4399).

Diagnosis.—Nearest *M. i. euroa* of southeastern Thailand (Chanthaburi and Trat Provinces), from which it is separable by having the throat a blue-suffused green or green-suffused blue rather than cerulean blue; the postocular black streak but narrowly and indistinctly bordered above with greenish blue, rather than broadly bordered with rich blue;

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and by having the auriculars anteriorly yellow-green, gradually changing posteriorly to greenish blue, rather than wholly cerulean blue.

Range.—Tongking (Laokay Province); Laos (Chiang Khwang and Saravane Provinces); eastern Thailand (Loei and Nakhon Ratchasima Provinces).

FAMILY MUSCICAPIDAE (TIMALIINAE)

Pellorneum ruficeps elbeli, subsp. nov.

Type.—U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 459792, adult male, collected at Ban Na Muang, near Muang Daen Sai [lat. 17°15' N., long. 101°05' E.], Loei Province, Thailand, on 7 October 1954, by Robert E. Elbel (collector's number RE 4110).

Diagnosis.—As its geographical position implies, this form is intermediate between *P. r. chthonium* of northern Thailand and *P. r. ubonense* of the southeast portion of the eastern plateau, having the upper parts olivaceous brown as in *ubonense* (although averaging rather lighter), and the ground color and degree of streaking of the under parts quite as in *chthonium*.

Range.—The northwestern portion of the eastern Siamese plateau (Loei and Phetchabun Provinces).

Pomatorhinus schisticeps difficilis, subsp. nov.

Type.—U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 336655, adult male, collected on Doi Luang Chiang Dao [lat. 19°25' N., long. 98°55' E.], Chiang Mai Province, Thailand, on 23 November 1936, by H. G. Deignan (collector's number 2010).

Diagnosis.—From *P. sch. ripponi* of the Shan States and northernmost Thailand (Chaiya Prakan and Chiang Rai Provinces), separable in fresh-plumaged adults by longer and more robust bill, by having the general coloration of the upper parts rufescent brown rather than olivaceous brown, and by having the coloration at the sides of the breast and along the flanks chestnut rufous rather than rufescent orange or light rufescent brown.

From fresh-plumaged adult *P. sch. humilis* of the Mae Khong basin and northeastern Thailand (Nan and Loei Provinces), separable by much more massive bill, much more rufescent upper parts, and by having the coloration at the sides of the breast and along the flanks chestnut rufous rather than dull rufescent brown or light grayish brown.

From fresh-plumaged adults of *P. sch. nuchalis* of the Karen Hills, separable by having the crown rufescent brown rather than slaty brown and by having the coloration at the sides of the breast and along the flanks chestnut rufous rather than chestnut.

From fresh-plumaged adults of *P. sch. alivaceus* (synonym: *siamensis* Stuart Baker) of Tenasserim (southward from the Tavoy District) and southwestern Thailand, separable by shorter and less robust bill and by having the coloration at the sides of the breast and along the flanks chestnut rufous rather than dark rufescent brown or deep grayish brown.

Range.—Mountains of northwestern Thailand from Doi Luang Chiang Dao south into the Amherst District of Tenasserim.

Macronus gularis saraburiensis, subsp. nov.

Type.—U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 332019, adult male, collected at Sathani Hin Lap [lat. 14°40' N., long. 101°10' E.], Sara Buri Province, Thailand, on 6 December 1931, by Hugh McC. Smith (collector's number 5200).

Diagnosis.—Belonging to the group of races with finely streaked throat, this form invites comparison only with *lutescens* and *sulphureus* among its neighbors. From the former it differs in having the pileum duller and more nearly chestnut than chestnut-rufous, and the mantle paler and olivaceous brown rather than an oily-tinged brownish olive; from the latter it differs in having both the pileum and the mantle decidedly darker and duller, without any golden suffusion. From both it differs in having the under parts Barium Yellow (Ridgway), rather than Pale Lemon Yellow (Ridgway), washed along the flanks with olivaceous gray rather than olivaceous green.

Range.—The southwestern portion of the eastern plateau of Thailand (Sara Buri, Nakhon Ratchasima, Nakhon Nayok, and Prachin Buri Provinces).

FAMILY MUSCICAPIDAE (SYLVIINAE)

Phylloscopus davisoni intensior, subsp. nov.

Type.—U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 324638, adult male, collected on Khao Kuap [lat. 12°25' N., long. 102°50' E.], Trat Province, Thailand, on 26 December 1929, by Hugh McC. Smith (collector's number 3571).

Diagnosis.—Nearest *Ph. d. davisoni* of northern Tenasserim and northwestern Thailand, but differing by having the broad coronal bands black (not blackish olive) and much more clearly defined, the central coronal streak, supercilium, lores, ear coverts, and sides of the throat suffused with a brighter yellow. From *Ph. d. klossi* of southern Annam easily distinguishable by its generally much less rich yellow suffusion, but especially over the under parts (which are no yellower than those of the nominate race).

Range.—Southeastern Thailand (Trat Province) and probably the mountains of adjacent Cambodia.

FAMILY MUSCICAPIDAE (MUSCICAPINAE)

Muscicapa banyumas lekhakuni, subsp. nov.

Type.—U. S. Nat. Mus. 330734, adult male, collected on Khao Laem [lat. 14°25' N., long. 101°30' E.], Nakhon Ratchasima Province, Thailand, on 26 December 1930, by Hugh McC. Smith (collector's number 4416).

Diagnosis.—Nearest *M. b. deignani* of southeastern Thailand (Chanthaburi and Trat Provinces), but differing in the adult male by having the indigo blue of the upper parts slightly deeper and the shining blue of the front and shoulder patch brighter and more extensive; the orange-rufous of the under parts of a deeper tone and not at all pallescent on the throat.

From *M. b. whitei*, which occurs in the northwestern portion of the eastern plateau, separable in the male by its larger bill and much deeper tones of blue above and orange-rufous below, in the female by larger bill, gray-washed crown, and richer orange-rufous under parts.

Range.—The southeastern portion of the eastern plateau of Thailand (Nakhon Ratchasima Province).

***Monarcha azurea galerita*, subsp. nov.**

Cotypes.—U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 249048, adult male, collected on the islet Ko Kut [lat. $11^{\circ}40'$ N., long. $102^{\circ}35'$ E.], Trat Province, Thailand, on 26 December 1914, by Cecil Boden Kloss; U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 249050, adult female, collected on Ko Kut, on 29 December 1915, by Cecil Boden Kloss.

Diagnosis.—The unworn adult male differs from *M. a. montana* of northern Thailand by having the general coloration Dark Diva Blue (Ridgway) instead of Cadet Blue (Ridgway); from *M. a. prophata* of the Malay Peninsula south of the Isthmus of Kra, by having the pallid area of the posterior under parts of greater extent and more nearly pure white. The unworn adult female differs from that of *prophata* (exactly as does that of *montana*) by having the mantle a paler, more rufescent, brown and the pallid area of the posterior under parts of greater extent and more nearly pure white.

Range.—The coastal regions of the southeastern provinces of Thailand, of the central plains (Bangkok), and of the southwestern provinces (Prachuap Khiri Khan); ?Cochin-China.

Remarks.—It has seemed to me advisable to establish cotypes for the new form, since the males show characters very near those of *prophata*, while the females possess characters equally near those of *montana*. Such ambivalence has, in the past, led to its identification with one or the other race, in accordance with each author's emphasis on the characters of one or the other sex.

FAMILY NECTARINIIDAE

***Arachnothera affinis caena*, subsp. nov.**

Type.—U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 451428, unsexed adult, collected at Ban Hin Laem [lat. $14^{\circ}40'$ N., long. $98^{\circ}40'$ E.], Kanchanaburi Province, Thailand, on 3 November 1952, by H. G. Deignan (collector's number 59).

Diagnosis.—Separable from *A. a. modesta* of the Malay Peninsula southward from the Isthmus of Kra by having the upper parts a lighter and brighter, more golden, olive green, and the under parts with the olivaceous-gray ground color paler and everywhere more strongly washed with pale yellow.

Range.—Central Tenasserim (Amherst and Tavoy Districts) and the evergreen forest of southwestern Thailand (Kanchanaburi and Prachuap Khiri Khan Provinces).

***Arachnothera magna musarum*, subsp. nov.**

Type.—U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 350458, adult male, collected on Doi Phu Kha [lat. $19^{\circ}05'$ N., long. $101^{\circ}05'$ E.], Nan Province, Thailand, on 5 April 1936, by H. G. Deignan (collector's number 1095).

Diagnosis.—Separable from *A. m. magna* of the eastern Himalayas by having the general coloration above decidedly less suffused with golden, and the ground color of the under parts, especially on the abdomen and under tail coverts, only faintly washed with pale yellow.

Range.—The Southern Shan States; northern Tenasserim (Salween District); northern Thailand; northern Laos.

Remarks.—Immature specimens of *musarum* have the under parts as strongly washed with yellow as the adults of the nominate race.

***Arachnothera magna pagodarum*, subsp. nov.**

Type.—U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 451430, adult female, collected at Ban Hin Laem [lat. 14°40' N., long. 98°40' E.], Kanchanaburi Province, Thailand, on 25 November 1952, by H. G. Deignan (collector's number 263).

Diagnosis.—From *A. m. musarum* of northern Thailand separable by having the upper parts still less suffused with golden, thus duller and greener, and the striations, while everywhere equally numerous, less clearly defined; from *A. m. aurata* of Pegu, distinguished by stronger striation above and by having the streaks of the under parts as broad and bold as in *musarum*.

Range.—Lowland evergreen forest of central Tenasserim (Tavoy District) and southwestern Thailand (southern Tak and Kanchanaburi Provinces).

FAMILY DICAETIDAE

***Dicaeum agile separabile*, subsp. nov.**

Type.—U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 361256, adult male, collected near Dalat [lat. 11°55' N., long. 108°26' E.], Haut-Donai Province, Annam, in October 1939, by Joseph F. C. Rock (collector's number 857).

Diagnosis.—In fresh plumage distinguishable from *D. a. pallescens* of eastern Thailand by having the upper parts a paler olive green, suffused with ashy over the head and anterior mantle, and the ground color of the under parts whiter, less suffused with cream.

Range.—Southern Annam (Haut-Donai and Phanrang Provinces).

FAMILY PLOCEIDAE

***Ploceus philippinus angelorum*, subsp. nov.**

Type.—U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 307353, adult female, collected at Bangkok [lat. 13°45' N., long. 100°30' E.], Thailand, on 8 April 1924, by Hugh McC. Smith.

Diagnosis.—When females in fresh nuptial plumage (March-April in most regions) are compared, this form is separable from *Pl. ph. passerinus* of Nepal (synonym: *burmanicus* Ticehurst) by having the edgings of the feathers of the upper parts a warm Ochraceous-Buff (Ridgway) instead of a colder grayish buff, and from *Pl. ph. infortunatus* of Malaya by having these edgings a warm Ochraceous-Buff (Ridgway) instead of a rich rufescent buff.

Range.—The plains of central Thailand.

Remarks.—Examples of *passerinus* in the juvenal plumage show much the same coloration as adults of *angelorum*.



Deignan, H. G. 1956. "New races of birds from Laem Thong, the golden Chersonese." *Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington* 69, 207–211.

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