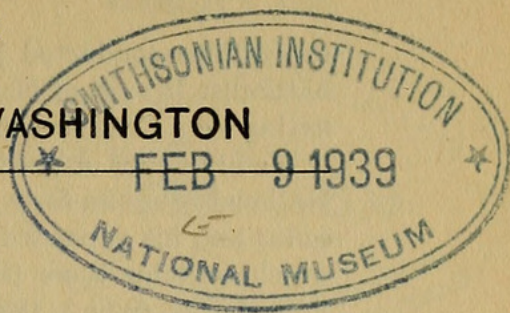


PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON



A NORTHWESTERN RACE OF THE MEXICAN
CORMORANT.

BY A. J. VAN ROSSEM AND THE MARQUESS HACHISUKA.

During a collecting trip by van Rossem and Robert Hannum in southern Sonora in the early summer of 1937, three Mexican cormorants were taken at Tesia in the lower Mayo River Valley. The species was common in that locality and it is regrettable that more specimens were not collected; however, it was only later and on comparison with true *mexicanus* that it was realized that an undescribed race was present. We are indebted to the authorities of the Bureau of Biological Survey and the United States National Museum for the privilege of examining their series of this species from southern Mexico, Texas, and Louisiana, as well as two specimens of the new race from Sinaloa.

***Phalacrocorax olivaceus chanco*, subsp. nov.**

Type.—Male adult, just losing the last of the breeding plumes, number 31893 Dickey collection; Dow Ranch, 7 miles east of Tesia on the lower Mayo River, Sonora, Mexico, June 20, 1937; collected by A. J. van Rossem and Robert Hannum.

Subspecific characters.—Similar to *Phalacrocorax olivaceus mexicanus* (Brandt) of eastern and southern Mexico and northern Central America but black of underparts, head, and neck glossed with brownish instead of greenish or violaceous; upper parts duller, paler, and more grayish slate, with the feather margins duller black and distinctly narrower. Size, particularly of bill, tarsi, and feet, distinctly smaller.

Range.—Northwestern Mexico in the States of Sinaloa (Mazatlan) and Sonora (Tesia).

Remarks.—Although Brandt's description gives no measurements other than the total length, his statement as to the color of the underparts, "vix paulisper virescentia," would seem to associate his type with the eastern race. Furthermore, his type did not come through any of the Pacific

expeditions conducted by early Russian explorers but from the dealer-naturalist Brandt of Hamburg. This being the case we feel safe in designating Vera Cruz as a restricted locality for *mexicanus*.

We are under obligations to Mr. Herbert Deignan of the United States National Museum for a transcription of Brandt's diagnosis of *Carbo mexicanus* and his appended remarks as to the source of his type. The work which contains these (Bull. Sci. publié par l'Acad. Imp. de Sci. de St. Pétersbourg, tome 3, 1838, col. 56 [read Oct. 6, 1837]) is, so far as we know, not available on the Pacific Coast.

Since we can discern no size differences due to sex we include all adult specimens in the following measurements.

MEASUREMENTS.

	WING	TAIL	CULMEN	TARSUS	OUTER TOE MINUS CLAW
18 <i>mexicanus</i>	250-265	160-195	43-50	52-56	66-73
5 <i>chancho</i>	245-260	155-175	38-43	48-50	63-68



Van Rossem, A. J. and Hachisuka, Masauji. 1939. "A northwestern race of the Mexican cormorant." *Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington* 52, 9–10.

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