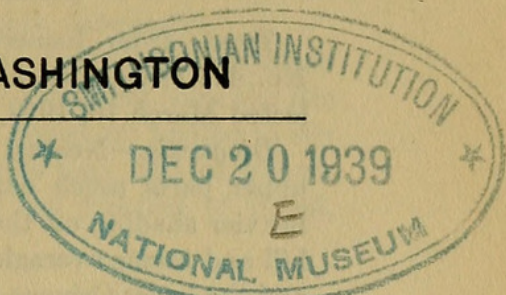


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A NEW SUBSPECIES OF *INEZIA SUBFLAVA* FROM
THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF MT. DUIDA,
VENEZUELA.

BY JOHN T. ZIMMER.

In the course of recent studies of Peruvian genera of the family Tyrannidae, I have had occasion to examine *Inezia subflava*, a species and genus which does not occur within the Peruvian boundaries. Certain facts have come to light regarding extensions of range and subspecific characters in this species which it may be well to place on record.

A good series of *I. s. caudata* from Dutch Guiana, the lower Orinoco in Venezuela, and the Rio Surumú in northeastern Brazil shows great consistency in the clear white or pale yellow of the entire outer web of the outermost rectrix, sometimes with a very slight incursion of brown from the inner web across the shaft just before the tip. This character is shared by *I. s. intermedia* (as exemplified by a specimen from the lower Magdalena, Colombia) but not by *I. s. subflava*. In the lower Amazonian form, there is a narrow pale margin along the outer edge of the outer web of the outermost rectrix but it does not reach the shaft, except where the pale tip of the feather crosses both webs, and it sometimes is obsolete. This character appears to have escaped the notice of students of the species. The buffy tinge of the breast and throat in *caudata*, the relatively broad whitish area of the chin, the pale tint of yellow on the belly, and the usually positive brown hue of the upper parts are other, better known characters of this subspecies.

I. s. subflava is represented in the collections at hand from localities as far west as the right bank of the Rio Madeira, south of the Amazon, and from the north bank on the Rio Jamundá and the lower left bank of the Rio Negro. Heretofore it has been known only from the Tocantins and the Tapajoz, both south of the Amazon.

A series of birds from the upper Orinoco, the vicinity of Mt. Duida, the Río Cassiquiare, and the upper Rio Negro shows a closer affinity to *subflava* than to *caudata*, especially with respect to the markings on the outer tail-feathers and the bright colors of the under parts but the birds have good distinctive characters of their own and deserve separate recognition as follows:

***Inezia subflava obscura*, new subspecies.**

Type.—from Esmeraldas, Mt. Duida, Venezuela; altitude 325 feet. No. 435,778, American Museum of Natural History. Adult female collected March 16, 1929, by the Olalla brothers.

Diagnosis.—Nearest to *I. s. subflava* of the lower Amazon, Brazil, but upper parts much darker and browner; under part duller yellow with heavier shading on the sides of the breast and broadly along the flanks; bill and tarsus averaging longer. Differs from *I. s. caudata* of the Guianas and the lower Orinoco by having the upper under parts deeper yellow with heavier shading on the sides and flanks but without any tinge of buff on the throat and chest; white chin-spot more restricted and more sharply defined; outer rectrices with only a relatively narrow outer margin whitish or yellowish, not reaching the shaft; bill longer but tarsus shorter.

Range.—Upper Orinoco, Venezuela, from Munduapo to the foot of Mt. Duida and the Cassiquiare, ranging southward along the upper Rio Negro, Brazil, at least to San Gabriel and Camanaos.

Description of type.—Upper parts dark Olive with indistinctly darker centers on the feathers; uropygium a little brighter but upper tail-coverts like the mantle. A large dusky spot reaching from the front of the orbit to the gape; rest of lores, nasal feathering, a narrow superciliary line, and a broader subocular space involving the bases of the auricular feathers clear white; the superciliary line gradually disappears over the auriculars, becoming tinged with yellowish posteriorly; tips of auriculars, postocular space, and sides of neck paler olive than the back; chin narrowly white, connecting with the white subocular space; throat Primrose Yellow, becoming tinged with Light Yellowish Olive laterally and on the malar region; breast centrally dull Primrose Yellow; sides decidedly darker, Citrine Drab (X Yellowish Olive) continued broadly down the flanks; belly medially Reed Yellow X Citron Yellow; under tail-coverts Primrose Yellow. Remiges near Clove Brown; primaries with outer margins very inconspicuously and finely paler and with inconspicuous pale terminal margins; secondaries similar but with pale edges and tips broader, becoming most pronounced on the inner feathers; tertials with outer margins and tips still broader, whitish, and sharply defined; lesser upper wing-coverts like the back; middle and greater series warm brown with conspicuous yellowish white tips, forming two pronounced wing-bars; under wing-coverts Primrose Yellow; inner margins of remiges narrowly yellowish white. Tail strongly rounded; outer rectrices 9 mm. shorter than the median ones), warm, dark brown with outer margins of the rectrices narrowly olivaceous, and with conspicuous, buffy whitish tips on all the feathers, narrowest on the median pair; outer web of outermost rectrix with only the faintest trace of a thread-like, pale outer margin. Bill (in dried skin) blackish; feet dark slate. Wing, 51 mm.; tail, 48.5; exposed culmen, 10.5; culmen from base, 14; tarsus, 16.

Remarks.—Males like the female.

Although the type and some other specimens of *obscura* have almost no trace of a pale outer margin on the outermost rectrices, still other examples have such a margin, very narrow, and occasionally accompanied by an obvious lightening of the tone of brown on the rest of the outer web. The same type of variation is shown by typical *subflava* but I have seen no

specimen of either form in which the whole outer web of the outermost rectrix is whitish as it is in *caudata* and, presumably, *intermedia*.

Occasional specimens from Muirapinimá, lower Rio Negro, approach *obscura* while others are typical *subflava*. I have no material from the Rio Negro between Muirapinimá and Camanaos and hence am unable to say where the dividing line between the two subspecies may best be placed. Two examples from Frechal, Rio Surumú, near the junction of Brazil, Venezuela, and British Guiana, are *caudata*.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED.

I. s. subflava.—

BRAZIL:

- Rio Tocantins, Ilha das Pavas, 1 ♂;
- Rio Irirí, Santa Julia, 1 ♀;
- Rio Xingú, Porto de Moz, 1 ♂;
- Rio Tapajoz, Tauary, 4 ♂, 1 ♀;
- Igarapé Brabo, 2 ♂;
- Caxiricatuba, 2 ♀;
- Aramanay, 1 ♀;
- Rio Amazonas, Villa Bella Imperatriz, 1 (?);
- Rio Madeira, Borba, 1 ♂, 1 ♀, 1 (?);
- Rio Negro, Igarapé Cacao Pereira, 5 ♂, 2 ♀, 1 (?);
- Muirapinimá, 2 ♂, 2 ♀, 2 (?);
- Rio Jamundá, Faro, 8 ♂, 7 ♀, 2 (?).

I. s. obscura.—

BRAZIL:

- Rio Negro, Camanaos, 1 ♂, 1 ♀;
- San Gabriel, 1 ♂, 3 ♀;
- Tatú, 1 ♀.

VENEZUELA:

- Mt. Duida, Esmeralda, 2 ♂, 4 ♀ (incl. type);
- Río Orinoco, mouth of Río Ocama, 2 ♀;
- Munduapo, 1 ♂;
- Río Cassiquiare, El Merey, 1 ♀.

I. s. caudata.—

VENEZUELA:

- Río Orinoco, Caicara, 3 ♂, 3 ♀, 1 (?);
- Quiribana de Caicara, 1 ♀;
- Altagracia, 2 ♂, 1 ♀;
- Ciudad Bolívar, 1 ♀;
- Agua Salada de Ciudad Bolívar, 1 ♀;
- Las Barrancas, 1 ♂;
- Río San Feliz, La Cascabel, 1 ♀.

DUTCH GUIANA:

- Near Paramaribo, 3 ♂.

BRAZIL:

- Rio Surumú, Frechal, 2 ♀.

I. s. intermedia.—

COLOMBIA:

- Río Magdalena, Algodonal, 1 ♂.



Zimmer, John T. 1939. "A new subspecies of *Inezia subflava* from the neighborhood of Mt. Duida, Venezuela." *Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington* 52, 167–169.

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