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The Lesser Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna javanica* (Horsfield) in Flores

by S. Somadikarta and M. Noerdjito

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Rensch (1931a: 504) reported 2♀♀ specimens of *Dendrocygna javanica* (Horsfield) from Sumbawa Island. These specimens were collected by J. Elbert in Dompu (8° 32' S, 118° 28' E) on 21 December 1909. This record seems to have been overlooked by Peters (1931: 153), Scott (1965: 34), Delacour (1975: 31, 44), and Howard & Moore (1980: 69), since none mentions that *D. javanica* occurs on the islands east of Wallace's line. In addition, Paynter (1963) recorded a wing of this species collected on Flores in 1956; and Schmutz (1977) recorded a ♂ on Flores with enlarged gonads in November.

In the collection of the Museum Zoologicum Bogoriense there are 2 ♂♂ of *D. javanica* from Flores Island (registered numbers 14499 and 14500) which were collected in Reo (8° 19' S, 120° 30' E) in 1911:—wings 185.0, 191.0; tails 45.0, 47.0; exposed culmens 40.0, 40.0; tarsi 50.0, 49.0 mm, respectively. Thirteen other specimens, of 9 different species, bearing similar data and field labels to those of the above two *D. javanica* males, were reported by Rensch (1931b: 400). The collector's name, Endih, appeared on some of the field labels. Rensch, however, did not mention these *D. javanica* specimens in his subsequent publications.

The occurrence of *D. javanica* on the islands of Sumbawa and Flores could be considered as stragglers, despite Schmutz record, and it is quite likely that unusually heavy rainfall creating suitable habitat could have affected their movement (cf. Delacour 1975: 44). The average yearly rainfall in Dompu during a period of 15 years (1925-1941) was 1354.0 mm, while the highest average monthly rainfall (278.0 mm) during the same period was for December (Berlage Jr. 1949: 156). The actual rainfall in December 1909 in Dompu could not be obtained. Reo's total rainfall in 1911 was 1098.0 mm. It is interesting to note that the monthly rainfall for January, February, November and December 1911 was 81.0, 344.0, 62.0 and 395.0 mm respectively (cf. Koninklijk . . . 1915: 80, 81). It is most likely, then, that the 2 ♂♂ specimens of *D. javanica* from Flores Island were collected either in February or in December 1911.

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New subspecies of forest birds from Tanzania

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During 1981 a number of visits were paid by ornithologists to Mwanihana Forest (36° 50'E, 7° 45'S), a previously unstudied mountain forest on the eastern scarp of the Uzungwa Mountains, eastern Tanzania. Range extensions and some other notable records, together with a description of the area, have been documented elsewhere (Stuart *et al.* 1981, Stuart & Jensen 1982). In the present paper we revise the subspecies of *Buccanodon olivaceum* in Tanzania and describe 4 new subspecies of birds from the Mwanihana Forest.

GREEN BARBET *Buccanodon olivaceum*

Britton (1980) recognises 4 subspecies of the Green Barbet *Buccanodon olivaceum* in Tanzania. The nominate form ranges from the Tana River, south along the Kenya coast to the Usambara and Nguru Mountains in Tanzania. Specimens from Mahenge, eastern Tanzania, have also been assigned to this subspecies. Ripley & Heinrich (1969) described *uluguruensis* from the Uluguru Mountains. The subspecies *rungeensis* occurs in the highlands at the north end of Lake Malawi from Umalila and Isoko in Tanzania to the Misuku Hills in Malawi; while *woodwardi* is known from Nchingidi in southeast Tanzania and the Ngoye Forest in Natal, South Africa. A fifth subspecies, *belcheri*, occurs in southern Malawi on Thyolo (Cholo) Mt. and in northern Mozambique on Namuli Mt. (White 1965). Clancey (1979a) placed this species in a new genus *Cryptolybia*, and separated *woodwardi* as a species of *Cryptolybia*, Woodward's Barbet. Subsequently he shows convincingly that birds from Nchingidi are different from the nominate subspecies *C. w. woodwardi* of Ngoye Forest (Clancey 1979b) and he assigns birds from southeastern Tanzania to a new subspecies *C. w. hylophona*. We follow Clancey in all these changes except that for the time being we prefer to retain both *olivaceum* and *woodwardi* in the genus *Buccanodon*.

We compared a series of nominate *B. o. olivaceum* from the Usambaras, Ngurus and Kilifi on the Kenya coast with 5 males and 6 females from the Ulugurus. We believe there to be no justification for recognising a separate



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