

(in Short and Burleigh, 1965) has previously made concerning the likelihood of intrageneric hybridization within *Contopus*. Of interest is the difference in size between *C. musicus* and *C. sordidulus*. This is but weakly reflected in wing length, because of the relatively long, pointed wings of the highly migratory *C. sordidulus*. Weights present a better picture of their difference in size. In Nayarit, whence we have the most satisfactory data on weight of the forms in question, three males of *sordidulus* weighed 13.3 to 13.8 gm. (average 13.6 gm.) and two females weighed 11.9 and 12.0 gm.; against these, three males of *musicus* weighed 26.9 to 28.2 gm. (average 27.6 gm.), and three females weighed 24.2 to 25.3 gm. (average 24.8 gm.). Weights of these species elsewhere are close to these: three other *musicus* vary from 25.3 to 28.3 gm., and 20 *sordidulus* (including some larger specimens from the western United States) weighed 11.5 to 15.5 gm. Thus, *C. musicus* weighs about twice as much as the smaller species, besides differing rather markedly in its longer crest, orangish mandible, and its peculiarly coloured underparts. Indeed the superficial differences between the parental species in colour and size are greater in this case than in the intergeneric hybrid reported by Short and Burleigh (*op. cit.*).

We express our gratitude to the authorities of the British Museum (Natural History) for the opportunity to study and compare this specimen at leisure, and to the Frank M. Chapman Memorial Committee for helping to support Phillips' research in London.

Addendum by Phillips: As a name for *C. pertinax auct.*, *Tyrannula musica* Swainson has many years' priority. The latter name has been adopted by Phillips (MS; and in Phillips, Marshall and Monson, *op. cit.*) because both the description and the name itself apply so clearly to this species. In 1966 Phillips was enabled to re-discover Swainson's type in the Cambridge University Museum, through the courtesy of C. W. Benson. Like all of Swainson's types, this one had not been so marked by early ornithologists, and in fact it had been overlooked by all except Salvin and Godman (1889), who unfortunately failed to mention its presence in the Cambridge University Museum collection. I am unable to account for Hellmayr's (in Cory and Hellmayr, 1927) inability to recognize Swainson's descriptions of both *T. musica* and *T. pusilla* (see Swainson, 1827; and Swainson and Richardson, 1831).

References:

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Seafowl observed on a voyage, Cape Town to Southampton, 24th January to 5th February, 1968

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The format of this paper follows Pitman (*Bull. B.O.C.* 87 (7), October, 1967) very closely, as that paper described the birds seen on a similar

voyage from Cape Town to London in January-February 1967. Las Palmas, Gran Canaria, the sole port of call, was visited in darkness at 2200 hrs. on 1st February. Our arrival at Southampton also took place in darkness at 0600 hrs. on 5th February and no mention is made of any birds seen in the harbour subsequent to our arrival. All times given are local.

It was not the season for land migrants and the only land birds encountered were two ringed feral pigeons which came aboard at 1615 hrs. on 1st February when the ship was about 20 miles off Gran Canaria; one of these birds remained with the ship until 1000 hrs. the next day. Seafoal were sparse but for the evening of 24th January (until sunset) and the following morning (from 0550 to 0930 hrs.), when in Cape seas, and on the afternoon of 30th January (from 1145 to 1800 hrs.) when off the coast of Sierra Leone. No birds were recorded on 27th January (13° 32' S, 00° 38' E.) and 29th January (00° 53' N, 10° 28' W.), and both 28th January (06° 08' S, 04° 53' W.) and 2nd February (31° 22' N., 14° 19' W.) produced only one entry. The ship's recorded position is at noon.

Following Pitman, species are listed in the order in which they were first encountered. The ship left Cape Town harbour at 1600 hrs. on 24th January on bearing 323° true.

HARTLAUB'S GULL, *Larus hartlaubii*. Of hundreds in Cape Town harbour only one followed the ship into open water. This bird followed with the next species until c. 1730 hrs.

SOUTHERN BLACK-BACKED GULL, *Larus dominicanus*. Hundreds, mostly adults, in Cape Town harbour; only one non-adult followed the ship with c. 90 adults. About 60 were still following at 1700 hrs., c. 20 at sunset and one or two thereafter until 2015 hrs.

CAPE CORMORANT, *Phalacrocorax capensis*. Dozens in Cape Town harbour. On 24th January, six flew west over the wake at 1700 hrs. and an immature bird flew over the ship at 1835 hrs.

COMMON/ARCTIC/ROSEATE TERN, *Sterna hirundo/macrura/dougallii*. Probably hundreds, both adults and immatures, in Cape Town harbour. On 24th January, three passed the ship at 1650 hrs. and c. 15 were seen at 1840 hrs.

CAPE GANNET, *Sula capensis*. On 24th January, single adults at 1615 hrs. and 1715 hrs.; several groups of up to six adults between 1720 and 1750 hrs.; hundreds, adults and some sub-adults, between 1800 hrs. and sunset. On 25th January, an adult at 0550 hrs.

BLACK-BROWED ALBATROSS, *Diomedea melanophris*. On 24th January, a non-adult flew alongside the ship at 1800 hrs.; two, an adult and a sub-adult, at 1950 hrs. On 25th January, three, at least one of them adult, at 0645 hrs.; an adult at 1715 hrs.; single sub-adults at 0900 hrs. and 0925 hrs. None were following.

CAPE HEN, *Procellaria aequinoctialis*. On 24th January, one at 1715 hrs three at 1845 hrs. and one at 1945 hrs.; all were flying over the wake though only one settled to inspect it.

GREAT-WINGED PETREL, *Pterodroma macroptera*. On 24th January, at least 30 about the ship between 1810 and 1825 hrs. and three at 1950 hrs. On 25th January, three at 0900 hrs. two at 0920 hrs. and singles at 1600 hrs. and 1625 hrs. On 26th January, two flew south at 1130 hrs.

WANDERING ALBATROSS, *Diomedea exulans*. On 24th January, a non-adult over the wake, settling briefly, at 1825 hrs. and a sub-adult at 2000 hrs. On 25th January, two non-adults following briefly from 0550 to 0600 hrs.

ANTARCTIC SKUA, *Catharacta skua antarctica*. One about the ship from 1900 to 2000 hrs. on 24th January had frequent skirmishes with *Larus dominicanus*. At least two at 0630 hrs. and another, different bird at 0900 hrs., on 25th January.

GREAT GREY SHEARWATER, *Adamastor cinereus*. One flew over the wake at 0550 hrs. on 25th January.

CORY'S SHEARWATER, *Procellaria diomedea*. On 25th January, birds about the ship continuously from 0600 to 0800 hrs.; another c. 30 between 0900 and 0925 hrs. and a single bird at 1145 hrs. On 30th January, four with a flock of phalaropes at 1145 hrs. and one circling by the wake at 1250 hrs. On 31st January, a flock of about 40 birds, and other smaller parties totalling another 20, at 1640 hrs.; another six at 1705 hrs.

POMARINE SKUA, *Stercorarius pomarinus*. One by the ship at 1610 hrs. on 25th January and a total of at least 15 seen between 1245 and 1800 hrs. on 30th January. At least this number was involved, as most were seen flying strongly towards the ship, often from half a mile distant. None followed the ship for any length of time, though two settled to examine the wake. All birds were light phase adults.

SOOTY SHEARWATER, *Procellaria grisea*. On 25th January, singles at 0745 hrs. and 0800 hrs. and two at 0900 hrs.; all were flying with *P. diomedea*.

WILSON'S PETREL, *Oceanites oceanicus*. On 25th January, two at 1015 hrs., four at 1040 hrs., one at 1050 hrs. and one at 1120 hrs. All passed southerly, close to the ship, lingering and occasionally settling on the water. None followed or showed any interest in the wake. Single birds came on board on the nights of 25th January and 28th January.

PETREL spp. A small dark petrel flew south at 1050 hrs. on 30th January. A small petrel low over the wake at 0925 hrs. and a small dark petrel over the wake at 1040 hrs., on 31st January. A large dark petrel with white rump at 1050 hrs. on 1st February was probably *Oceanodroma castro/leucorhoa*.

PHALAROPE sp. On 30th January, a flock of at least 200 birds flying in a tight flock and occasionally settling, at 1145 hrs.; a single bird at 1440 hrs. On 1st February, several small flocks totalling about 60 birds flying and settling near the ship at 1050 hrs.

ARCTIC SKUA, *Stercorarius parasiticus*. A dark immature at 1145 hrs. and a dark adult at 1430 hrs. on 30th January.

KITTIWAKE, *Rissa tridactyla*. Single immature followed briefly at 1505

hrs. on 30th January and 0925 hrs. on 31st January. On 1st February, two immatures flew south at 1050 hrs. and about a dozen immatures with an adult followed briefly at 1550 hrs. On 3rd February, an adult at 0820 hrs., four adults with an immature at 0830 hrs. and an adult at 1015 hrs. On 4th February, two sub-adults from 0840 to 0850 hrs., an adult at 1045 hrs. and four adults or sub-adults from 1310 to 1330 hrs.; all following.

LITTLE SHEARWATER, *Puffinus assimilis*. On 30th January, three individuals flew south close to the ship between 1620 and 1630 hrs.; flapping with little gliding.

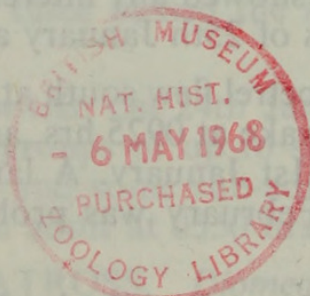
LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL, *Larus fuscus*. About 40 birds, mostly adults, transferred from an outgoing vessel at 1630 hrs. on 1st February when we were approaching Gran Canaria (first sighted at 1725 hrs.) and some 70 miles from port. Most of these, and certainly some recruits followed until dusk (at 1850 hrs.) when observations ceased. On 4th February, an adult (far darker than Gran Canaria birds) followed with two Kittiwakes at 0840 hrs.; two paler adults followed at 1325 hrs.

GREAT SKUA, *Catharacta skua skua*. One followed briefly at 1600 hrs. on 2nd February.

HERRING GULL, *Larus argentatus*. An adult and a sub-adult followed briefly at 1045 hrs. on 4th February.

GANNET, *Sula bassana*. On 4th February, two adults flew south at 10.40 hrs. and several adults with a few first year birds were seen in rough seas between 1130 and 1330 hrs.

Observations ceased at 1330 hrs. on 4th February because of bad weather.





Britton, Hazel A. and Britton, P. L. 1968. "Seafowl observed on a voyage, Cape Town to Southampton, 24th January to 5th February, 1968." *Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club* 88, 93–96.

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