

**Geothlypis flaviceps**, sp. nov.

YELLOW-HEADED WARBLER.

*Type*, No. 158741, ♂ ad., U. S. National Mus., Biological Survey Coll. From Alta Mira, Tamaulipas, Mexico. Collected April 20, 1898 by E. W. Nelson and E. A. Goldman.

*Distribution*.—Tulé marshes along coast lagoons near Tampico in southern Tamaulipas and northern Vera Cruz, Mexico.

*Description of type*.—Color: A broad black mask from bill to line back of orbits on crown and thence down over cheeks and ear coverts to sides of neck; rest of top and sides of head and nape distinctly yellow, slightly washed with olive green posteriorly. Back, including upper surface of wings and tail olive green. Entire lower surface almost uniform gamboge yellow, only a little duller on flanks.

*Dimensions of type*.—Wing, 60; tail, 56; culmen, 15; tarsus, 21.

*Remarks*.—This species is closely related to Mr. Ridgway's *G. flavovelatus*, also described from Alta Mira, but may be distinguished at once from that species by its larger bill, greater extent of yellow on top of head and deeper yellow under surface. The type of *G. flavovelatus* was taken in December and was probably a migrant from farther north while my specimens were taken in April and May and were undoubtedly resident birds. Dimensions of *G. flavovelatus*: Wing, 53; tail, 54; culmen, 12; tarsus, 21.

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A SYNOPSIS OF THE BLUE HONEY-CREEPERS OF  
TROPICAL AMERICA.

BY HARRY C. OBERHOLSER.

THIS very homogeneous group of Cœrebidæ has by some authors been called *Cæreba*, by some *Caereba*, by others *Arbelorhina*, but unfortunately none of these names is properly applicable to the genus. As Mr. Ridgway has already shown<sup>1</sup> the

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<sup>1</sup> Manual of N. Amer. Birds, 1887, 590.



name *Cæreba* Vieillot<sup>1</sup> can not be used for this group, since the only recognized<sup>2</sup> species mentioned in the original diagnosis is *Certhia flaveola* Linn., which must therefore necessarily be the type; the term *Cæreba* thus supplanting the more recent *Certhiola* Sundevall. *Caereba* of Vigors<sup>3</sup> is merely an emendation, accidental or otherwise, of Vieillot's *Coereba*, and therefore identical in application. *Arbelorhina* was proposed by Cabanis<sup>4</sup> simply to replace *Cæreba*,—"Den regelwidrigen Namen *Caereba* haben wir in *Arbelorhina* umgeändert." That the same author subsequently sought<sup>5</sup> to restrict *Arbelorhina* to the group at present under consideration can, of course, not in the least alter the case, and *Arbelorhina* must be considered a strict synonym of *Cæreba*. As this disposition leaves the Blue Creepers without a generic name<sup>6</sup>, it is proposed that they be called

### **Cyanerpes**,<sup>7</sup> gen. nov.

*Cæreba* AUCT., nec VIEILLOT, 1807.

*Cæreba* AUCT., nec VIGORS, 1825.

*Arbelorhina* AUCT., nec CABANIS, 1847.

*Arbelorhina* CABANIS, 1850.

Type, *Certhia cyanea* Linnæus.

CHARS. GEN.—Genus generi 'Chlorophanes' dicto similis, sed rostro multo graciliore et magis incurvato dignoscendum.

*Geographic Distribution.*—Neotropical Region, from Cuba and southern Mexico to southern Brazil.

### **Cyanerpes cyaneus** (*Linnaeus*).

*Certhia cyanea* LINNÆUS, Syst. Nat. ed. 12, 1766, I, 188.

? *Certhia flavipes* GMELIN, Syst. Nat., 1788, I, i, 472.

? *Certhia cyanogastra* LATHAM, Ind. Orn. 1790, I, 295.

<sup>1</sup> Ois. Amer. Sept., 1807, II, 70.

<sup>2</sup> *C. bananivora* (Gmel.) is also noticed but is referred to *flaveola*.

<sup>3</sup> Zool. Journ., Oct., 1825, 401.

<sup>4</sup> Archiv für Naturg., 1847, I, pt. i, 325.

<sup>5</sup> Mus. Hein., 1850, I, 96.

<sup>6</sup> *Guitus* Rafinesque, Analyse, 1815, 68, is a nomen nudum.

<sup>7</sup> κύανος = cyaneus, + ἑρπης.



*Coereba cyanea* VIEILLOT, Nouv. Dict. d'Hist. Nat., 1817, XIV, 44.

*Arbelorhina cyanea* CABANIS, in Schomb. Reise in Brit. Guiana, 1848, III, 675.

*Geog. Dist.*—South America, from southern Brazil and Bolivia to Trinidad and central Colombia.

### **Cyanerpes cyaneus carneipes** (*Sclater*).

*Cæreba carneipes* SCLATER, P. Z. S., 1859, 376.

*Geog. Dist.*—Central America, from southern Mexico to Panama.

This race differs from typical *cyaneus* in the color of the *females*, which are noticeably darker and more yellowish green below.

### ✓ **Cyanerpes cyaneus brevipes** (*Cabanis*).

*Arbelorhina brevipes* CABANIS, Mus. Hein., 1850, I, 96.

*Arbelorhina eximia* CABANIS, Mus. Hein., 1850, I, 96.

*Coereba brevipes* REICHENBACH, Handb. Spec. Orn., 1851, 237.

*Coereba eximia* REICHENBACH, Handb. Spec. Orn., 1851, 237.

*Arbelorhina cyanea eximia* ROBINSON, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 1895, XVIII, 679.

*Geog. Dist.*—Caribbean coast of Colombia and Venezuela; islands of Cuba and Tobago.

This form, whenever recognized, has usually been called *eximia*; but the name *brevipes* undoubtedly applies to the same bird, being from the same locality; and, as it stands first on the page, should be adopted. Although Cabanis states his *Arbelorhina brevipes* to be smaller than *cyaneus*, whereas his *Arbelorhina eximia* is larger, this discrepancy can apparently be accounted for by individual variation,—in fact, to the difference in length of bill among specimens from the mainland of Venezuela, Dr. C. W. Richmond has already called attention<sup>1</sup>.

From *cyaneus* proper the present race may be distinguished by the darker, more yellowish color of the lower surface in the females; and from both *cyaneus* and *carneipes* by the considerably greater length of bill.

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<sup>1</sup> Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 1895, XVIII, 680.



**Cyanerpes cæruleus** (*Linnæus*).*Certhia cærulea* LINNÆUS, Syst. Nat. ed. 10, 1758, I, 118.*Certhia ochrochlora* GMELIN, Syst. Nat., 1788, I, i, 472.*Certhia surinamensis* LATHAM, Ind. Orn., 1790, I, 295.*Coereba cærulea* VIEILLLOT, Nouv. Dict. d'Hist. Nat., 1817, XIV, 45.*Arbelorhina cærulea* CABANIS, in Schomb. Reise in Brit. Guiana, 1848, III, 675.*Arbelorhina brevirostris* CABANIS, Mus. Hein., 1850, I, 96.*Cæreba brevirostris* SCLATER, Cat. Coll. Amer. Birds, 1861, 53.*Coereba coerulea microrhyncha* BERLEPSCH, Journ. f. Orn., 1884, 287.*Arbelorhina cærulea microrhyncha* BANGS, Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., 1898, XII, 143.*Geog. Dist.*—South America, from Bolivia to Colombia, Venezuela and British Guiana.

Material now at hand does not seem to warrant the recognition of a subspecies *microrhyncha*; but should this form eventually prove distinct it ought probably to bear the name *brevirostris* Cabanis.

**Cyanerpes cæruleus longirostris** (*Cabanis*).*Arbelorhina longirostristris* (err. typ.) CABANIS, Mus. Hein., 1850, I, 96.*Coereba longirostris* FINSCH, P. Z. S., 1870, 561.*Geog. Dist.*—Trinidad and the coast of Venezuela from Caracas eastward.

There seems to be little doubt that the birds from Trinidad are identical with those from Caracas, whence came the type of *Arbelorhina longirostris* Cabanis; but should this prove not to be the case the Trinidad form will require to be named. The present subspecific distinction is based on Trinidad specimens, which differ from true *cæruleus* of Guiana chiefly in the conspicuously greater length of bill.

**Cyanerpes lucidus** (*Sclater & Salvin*).*Cæreba lucida* SCLATER & SALVIN, Ibis, 1859, 14.*Arbelorhina lucida* HEINE & REICHENOW, Nom. Mus. Hein. Orn., 1882, 60.*Geog. Dist.*—Central America, from Guatemala to Panama.



Closely allied to *cæruleus*, but apparently a distinct species.

**Cyanerpes nitidus** (*Hartlaub*).

*Coereba nitida* HARTLAUB, Rev. Zool., 1847, 84.

*Arbelorhina nitida* CABANIS, Mus. Hein., 1850, I, 96.

*Geog. Dist.*—Province of Amazonas, in Brazil; northeastern Peru, eastern Ecuador, and southeastern Colombia to Bogota.

The writer is under obligations to the authorities of the National Museum and of the American Museum of Natural History, for the use of the specimens upon which this paper has been based.

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NEW SPECIES, ETC., OF AMERICAN BIRDS.—III.  
FRINGILLIDÆ (Continued)<sup>1</sup>.

BY ROBERT RIDGWAY.

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**Melospiza fasciata cooperi.** SAN DIEGO SONG SPARROW.

Similar to *M. f. heermanni* but slightly smaller and coloration much lighter and grayer; prevailing color of back, etc., grayish olive, the back broadly streaked with black, these streaks with little if any rusty edging.

*Adult male*: wing, 2.30–2.66 (2.48); tail, 2.19–2.68 (2.49); exposed culmen, 0.44–0.52 (0.48); depth of bill at base, 0.29–0.31 (0.29); tarsus, 0.80–0.89 (0.86). 3

*Type*, No. 51895, U. S. Nat. Mus., adult, San Diego, California, April 18, 1862; Dr. J. G. Cooper.

*Range*.—Southern coast district of California (north to Monterey Bay, east to Ft. Tejon, San Bernardino, etc.) and northern Pacific coast of Lower California (south to San Quentin Bay).

**Melospiza fasciata pusillula.** SALT MARSH SONG SPARROW.

Similar to *M. f. samuelis* but still smaller, the wings and tail especially; coloration much less rusty (more olivaceous) above, with superciliary stripe and under parts more or less tinged with yellowish, the latter

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<sup>1</sup> Part II was published in 'The Auk' for October, 1898 (pp. 319–324).



Oberholser, Harry C. 1899. "A Synopsis of the Blue Honey-Creepers of Tropical America." *The Auk* 16, 31–35. <https://doi.org/10.2307/4069264>.

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