

dense strong red feathers above the bill at the age of eight weeks. It was very tame at this age and when I placed it on the ground and walked away ten steps, it followed me and crawled upon my shoe. It partook by itself of the offered food. The old birds are very devoted to each other and are always together, and if one flies away the other follows immediately. They stand cold very well, but enjoy having their under parts touched by warm breath, for which purpose they cling to the wires and permit me to breath upon them, pecking me on the nose tenderly at the same time. In the cage I can play with them as I wish and even take them in my hands, but I dare not grasp or close the hand, for then they slip away at once, screaming.<sup>1</sup>

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## DESCRIPTION OF A NEW *AMAZILIA*.

BY HARRY C. OBERHOLSER.

A COMPARISON of specimens of *Amazilia cerviniventris* Gould, from Texas, with examples from the State of Vera Cruz, Mexico, seems to indicate that there exist two geographical races of this species, one of which is without a name. As the type of *A. cerviniventris* came from Cordova, Vera Cruz,<sup>2</sup> it is proposed to characterize the Texas form as

### *Amazilia cerviniventris chalconota*, subsp. nov.

CHARS. SUBSP.—*Amazilia A. cerviniventris affinis, sed abdomine crisso que conspicue dilutioribus; notaeo paulo magis aureo tincto.*

AL., 52–59 (55.2) mm.; caud., 31–38 (33.9) mm.; culm. exp., 20–22 (21) mm.

*Habitat.*—Valley of the Lower Rio Grande, with the coast region of southern Texas, north to Bee County, and south in winter into eastern Mexico.

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<sup>1</sup> Carolina Paroquets have been living in the Zoölogical Garden at Frankfort a. M. for ten to twelve years (according to the report of Dr. Max Schmidt).—KARL RUSS.

<sup>2</sup> Gould, Proc. Zoöl. Soc. Lond., 1856, 150.

*Description.*—Type, male adult, No. 134941, U. S. Nat. Mus.; Beeville, Texas, May 29, 1894; F. B. Armstrong.—Upper parts bronze green, the cervix less golden; tips of coronal feathers broadly slate color, giving to the head a dingy appearance; feathers of the superior tail-coverts edged with chestnut. Wings dull, dark, metallic purple; tectrices, except the primary coverts, bronze green like the back. Tail chestnut, the two central rectrices greenish bronze, all the others externally margined, and the outer ones narrowly, the inner broadly, tipped with the same color. Throat and breast glittering green; central portion of abdomen ochraceous buff, lower tail-coverts somewhat darker; two pure white down tufts, one on either side of anal region, these almost wholly concealed by the contour feathers; flanks pale cinnamon rufous, mixed, especially on the anterior portions, with bronze green; under wing-coverts and axillars greenish bronze; edge of wing light cinnamon rufous.

From *Amazilia cerviniiventris* this new subspecies may be readily discriminated by the much lighter color of the posterior lower parts, in this respect there being more difference than exists between true *Amazilia cerviniiventris* and *A. yucatanensis*. Among the birds from Texas (16 in number) this character is quite constant. The upper parts are appreciably more golden in hue, although this can be regarded as only an average distinction, for some examples of *cerviniiventris* are fully as golden bronze above as is *chalconota*. There seems to be little if any difference in size.

A specimen from Hidalgo, Tamaulipas, Mexico, on the Rio Grande, has the abdomen more deeply colored than the Texas birds; in fact, almost as dark as the palest examples of *cerviniiventris*. It is thus rather intermediate between *chalconota* and *cerviniiventris*, but is apparently nearer the former. A specimen from 'Mexico' (No. 38635, Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.) is quite indistinguishable from some examples of *chalconota*, and, although no date is attached, may very safely be considered a migrant and referred to this form.

Among the Texas specimens there is evident considerable individual variation, part of which is undoubtedly due to age. Some have the posterior lower parts much lighter than others, the type representing in this respect about the average. But even the darkest specimens are easily separable from typical *cerviniiventris*. The extent of the bronze on the tail-feathers is quite variable. In one bird (No. 142258, U. S. Nat. Mus.) this color is much

reduced, for, with the exception of the extreme bases of the central feathers, and very narrow edgings to the exterior rectrices, the entire tail is chestnut. In some examples, as in the one just mentioned, this bronze green on the rectrices is partially or wholly replaced by a dark metallic purple, very like the color of the wing quills. Some specimens have the rufous margins to the upper tail-coverts much broader and more conspicuous, this being possibly an indication of immaturity, although in none of the birds examined is this marking entirely absent. The color of the upper parts presents quite an appreciable variation, being in some cases much less golden than in others. Owing to narrower slate colored edging of the feathers on the crown, that part in some specimens is very nearly like the back, although in many it is noticeably even duller than in the type. An individual difference is apparent in also the shade of the throat, some having the green much more yellowish than others.

This Hummingbird was first recorded from the United States by Dr. J. C. Merrill,<sup>1</sup> who captured a specimen at Fort Brown, Texas, in 1876. While it is at some places within our borders an abundant summer resident, its range seems to be quite restricted, for in very few of the numerous papers on the birds of Texas is any mention made of the species. So far as the present writer has been able to ascertain, there are in the State only four localities where *Amazilia c. chalconota* has been taken. These are Fort Brown, Brownsville, Corpus Christi, and Beeville. Of the last mentioned, which is the northernmost record, there appears to be no published account. There are available no specimens from the State of Tamaulipas, in Mexico, so that it is impossible to determine to which form the breeding birds from this region belong.

True *Amazilia cerviniventris* exhibits a range of individual variation similar to that existing in *Amazilia c. chalconota*. Only two of the specimens here referred to *cerviniventris* are with any difficulty to be distinguished from *chalconota*. One of these, from Tlacotalpan, Vera Cruz, is apparently an immature bird; and though somewhat intermediate in the color of the abdomen, seems

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<sup>1</sup> Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club, II, 1877, 26.

be nearer *cerviniventris*. The other example is a female from the same locality, and was taken on May 28, 1894. So far as the color of its posterior lower parts is concerned, it can scarcely be separated from the darker examples of *chalconota*, though the lower tail-coverts are more like *cerviniventris*; but in view of the date and locality it would appear to be considered better as an unusually pale *cerviniventris* than as a belated migrant of *chalconota*.

One specimen of *A. cerviniventris* (No. 38634, Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.) is from Cordova, Vera Cruz, the type locality, and is one of the specimens obtained by Sallé, the collector of Gould's type specimens. It may therefore be regarded as typical of this form. The two darkest birds in the series are respectively from Coatzacoalcos and Tlacotalpan, Vera Cruz, but others from both of these localities are noticeably less deeply colored.

In *Amazilia yucatanensis* the posterior lower parts are almost ferruginous, quite different in appearance from the cinnamon rufous of the two dark Vera Cruz examples of *cerviniventris*; though in respect to the shade of this color, these latter more nearly approach *yucatanensis* than any of the other specimens now at hand. But the extension of bronze green over the breast and sides is very strongly indicated in these two birds, leaving no doubt of their correct identification with *cerviniventris*. Only one example from the *cerviniventris* series shows a marked approach to *yucatanensis* in the lateral extension of the green of the breast. This specimen (No. 155313, U. S. Nat. Mus.) is from Ocozucantla, Chiapas, Mexico, and was collected Aug. 19, 1895. At first sight it shows scarcely more green upon the sides than do the specimens of *Amazilia yucatanensis* examined, but upon close inspection this color is seen to extend as a very slight wash considerably farther back than in *yucatanensis*. Furthermore, this Chiapas bird is so very much duller and paler below than *yucatanensis* that its identity with *cerviniventris* can hardly be questioned. The evidence presented by the specimens above mentioned seems not sufficient to establish intergradation between *cerviniventris* and *yucatanensis*, and both are therefore here accorded full specific rank.

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Hart Merriam for a similar favor with regard to the collection of the Biological Survey; to Dr. J. A. Allen and Mr. F. M. Chapman for the loan of material from the American Museum of Natural History.

MEASUREMENTS OF *Amazilia cerviniventris cerviniventris*.

	Wing.	Tail.	Exposed Culmen.
Average of ten specimens . . .	55.1	34.9	20.7
Maximum . . . . .	56	37	21.5
Minimum . . . . .	53	34	20

MEASUREMENTS OF *Amazilia cerviniventris chalconota*.

	Wing.	Tail.	Exposed Culmen.
Average of thirteen specimens	55.2	33.9	21
Maximum . . . . .	59	38	22
Minimum . . . . .	52	31	20

TWO NEW BIRDS FROM THE PACIFIC COAST  
OF AMERICA.

BY A. W. ANTHONY.

*Anous stolidus ridgwayi*, subsp. nov. RIDGWAY'S NODDY.

*Subsp. char.*—Much darker and less brown than *A. raussaui*, resembling in this respect *A. galapagensis*, from which it differs in much paler cap.

Type No. 8220, collection A. W. A., Socorro Island, Mexico, May 5, 1897. Chin, throat, neck, and chest uniform deep brownish slate, but darker on the lores and above the eyes. A small white spot on the