

## A COSTA RICAN RACE OF JARDINE'S PYGMY OWL

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AFTER an extensive examination of specimens it appears that Costa Rican examples of *Glaucidium jardinii* differ from those of the remainder of the bird's range. They are therefore characterized as a new race:—

***Glaucidium jardinii costaricanum*** subsp. nov.

*Type*.—Adult unsexed, U. S. National Museum, No. 90,392, no date; Costa Rica; collected by Dr. van Patten.

*Subspecific characters*.—Brown phase similar to that of *Glaucidium j. jardinii* but the rounded white spots on outer edges of two outermost primaries less than 1.5 mm. in diameter or absent, instead of being 1.5 mm. or more broad; red phase similar to that of *Glaucidium j. jardinii* but hind neck, back, and upper wing coverts a deeper, brighter rufous; primaries mostly sooty to blackish brown with only a few narrow spots of lighter on the outer webs, instead of having regular bands or bars of broad, lighter spots; breast, abdomen and flanks a plain deeper cinnamon-rufous instead of being faintly barred or streaked with lighter; legs plain cinnamon-rufous or hazel instead of being faintly barred with brown.

*Measurements of type*.—Total length, 157 mm.; wing, 99; tail, 54.5; culmen, from cere, 10.

*Range*.—Temperate to Subtropical Zone, Costa Rica to Panama.

*Remarks*.—Six specimens of the new form and eleven of the old have been examined. The brown phase of the former has the sides of the breast and flanks with slightly more of a buffy or ochraceous wash. The average measurements of the two forms do not differ greatly. The typical race ranges from Colombia to Venezuela, the Guianas (?), Peru, Ecuador.

The limited climatological data available for Central America indicate that the humidity there is greater than at similar altitudes in northern South America. This may account for the deeper rufescent and brown colors that characterize the race described here and such forms as *Pulsatrix perspicillata saturata*, *Pulsatrix p. chapmani*, *Otus trichopsis mesamericanus*, *Lophotrix cristatus weddli*, *Strix fulvescens*, *Ciccaba virgata virgata*, *Glaucidium minutissimum cobanense*, *Glaucidium m. rarum*, and *Tyto alba guatemalae*.

*Washington, D. C.*