

TWO NEW BIRDS FROM THE KINGDOM OF SIAM

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CONTINUED study of the collection of birds recently made in Siam by the writer for the United States National Museum, has revealed the existence in the national collection of specimens of two more Indo-Chinese forms which demand subspecific recognition. I am indebted to Dr. Ernst Mayr of the American Museum of Natural History, who has lent me valuable comparative material of the species concerned, and to Mr. J. H. Riley, of the U. S. National Museum, who has granted me the privilege of naming them.

The first, a minivet, may be known as:

***Pericrocotus solaris nassovicus* subsp. nov.**

Type.—Adult male, United States National Museum no. 324499; collected on Khao Khuap, Krat (Trat) Province, southeastern Siam, December 24, 1929, by Dr. Hugh M. Smith.

Diagnosis.—Male: general color a vivid grenadine-red (Ridgway) as in *Pericrocotus solaris cinereigula* of North Borneo, not vivid orange-chrome (Ridgway) as in *P. s. solaris* of the Himalayas and *P. s. griseigularis* of Taiwan. The gray of the throat is intermediate in hue between that of *cinereigula* and *solaris*, and faintly washed with dull orange in the center. The ear coverts are gray and sharply demarcated from the slaty-black crown, as in *solaris*. The upper parts are (excepting the grenadine-red lower back and rump) slaty black, as in both *solaris* and *cinereigula*.

Female: under parts pure yellow as in *cinereigula*, lacking the greenish tinge of *solaris*. The throat and ear coverts are as in the corresponding sex of both *solaris* and *cinereigula*. The gray upper parts are as in *cinereigula*, but with a barely discernible greenish wash just before meeting the greenish yellow of the lower back (in *solaris* the whole of the upper back is more or less strongly washed with olive green).

Measurements: as in the related races.

Distribution.—Probably confined to the Chain of the Elephant, an isolated mountain range of western Cambodia and southeastern Siam.

Material examined.—*P. s. solaris*: 38 (Sikkim, 5; northern Cachar, 2; northern Siam, 31). *P. s. griseigularis*: 17 (Taiwan, 11; Fukien, 4; Kwangtung, 1; "E. China," 1). *P. s. ?ripponi*: 1 (Siam-Kengtung boundary, 1). *P. s. nassovicus*: 2 (southeastern Siam, 2). *P. s. montanus*: 4 (Selangor-Pahang boundary, 4). *P. s. cinereigula*: 4 (British North Borneo, 4).

Remarks.—It has been customary to recognize two closely related species in this section of the genus *Pericrocotus*: *solaris*, with a number of subspecies, occurring from the eastern Himalayas to the island of Taiwan, south to Tenasserim, northern Siam, and southern Annam; and *montanus*, with two subspecies, occurring in Sumatra, the southern third of the Malay Peninsula, and in Borneo. As the new subspecies might with equal reason be considered a race of either *solaris* or *montanus*, there is no alternative but to consider all of the forms races of a single species, under the name *solaris*.

In consideration of the provenance of *nassovicus*, one might expect it to be more nearly related to the form *montanus*, of Malaya, than to the geographically more remote *cinereigula* of Borneo, but in the series available to me, such is apparently not the case. At most, however, the two Malaysian races are but slightly differentiated from each other. I am unable to distinguish between Formosan specimens and those from the Chinese mainland (for which the name *mandarinus* has been proposed) and accordingly call all East Chinese birds *griseigularis*.

The new form is named in honor of Princeton University, in allusion to the bird's orange and black plumage.

The second new form, a flycatcher-warbler, may be called:

***Abroscopus albogularis hugonis* subsp. nov.**

Type.—Adult male, United States National Museum no. 330869; collected at Pang Me Ton, northern Siam, May 2, 1931, by Dr. Hugh M. Smith.

Diagnosis.—Crown pale rufous brown without olive wash, as in *Abroscopus albogularis albogularis* of the Himalayas; sides of head pale chestnut, rather less vivid than in *albogularis*; upper parts dark olive green, exactly as in *Abroscopus albogularis fulvifacies* of China, *not* bright golden olive as in the typical race; below, with a broad and distinct bright-yellow breast-band, as in *albogularis*.

Measurements: as in the related forms.

Distribution.—The only specimens known of this apparently rare bird come from the complex of high mountains on the Chiengmai-Chiengrai provincial boundary, northern Siam (south of Wieng Pa Pao). The author has, however, twice seen it alive, once on Doi Angka, and once on Doi Sutep, each time in the evergreen forest-belt at about 4500 feet.

Specimens examined.—*A. a. albogularis*: 5 (eastern Himalayas, 1; Upper Assam, 4). *A. a. hugonis*: 2 (northern Siam, 2). *A. a. fulvifacies*: 10 (Szechuan, 2; Fukien, 4; Taiwan, 4).

The new subspecies is named in honor of its discoverer, Dr. Hugh McCormick Smith, of Washington, *olim* of the Royal Siamese Department of Fisheries.

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