

## GENERAL NOTES

A new race of bearded bulbul from the Belgian Congo.—When Count Nils Gyldenstolpe (Bull. Brit. Orn. Club, 43: 131, 1923) described *Trichophorus swainsoni bannermani* from Lesse in the Semliki Valley, he believed that another very similar species with thicker bill, *T. calurus* Cassin, lived in the same area. Subsequent field studies have shown this not to be the case. Most Semliki Valley specimens are strikingly slender-billed; and so—Mr. Hermann Grote kindly informs me—is the type of *Criniger verreauxi ndussumensis* Reichenow, still preserved in the Berlin Museum. The type locality of *ndussumensis* is Kinyawanga, close to the present post of Beni, and within 40 kilometers of Lesse. It was a camp of Dr. F. Stuhlmann, but not situated in the Ndussuma area near Irumu, as Reichenow thought.

The name *bannermani* is thus synonymous with *ndussumensis* Reichenow (Die Vögel Afrikas, 3: 383, 1904), and the thicker-billed birds with rather greenish tails which occupy most of the Upper Congo Forest and many wooded areas in Uganda are in need of a new name. They have long been confused with *ndussumensis*.

Since Emin Pasha is known to have collected such a bird at Bellima in the Uelle District before 1888, I propose to name the race as follows:

**Criniger calurus emini**, new subspecies

**TYPE:** Adult male, Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. no. 296914, Lukolela, middle Congo River, August 16, 1930.

**DIAGNOSIS:** In color and size *emini* is similar to nominate *calurus* of the Lower Congo, Gaboon, and Cameroon, save that tail and upper tail-coverts are less rufous, more washed with green. It differs in much the same way from *C. c. ndussumensis*, and also by its thicker bill.

**MEASUREMENTS OF THE TYPE:** Wing, 95 mm.; tail, 87; culmen to base, 21; tarsus, 20. Some specimens of *emini* from the Ituri have the tail a little more rufous than those of Uganda or of the region near Lukolela, although their bills are not so slender as in *ndussumensis*.

**RANGE:** From the middle Congo River and Luebo in the Kasai District eastward and northeastward to the Manyema, Ituri, and Uelle districts of the eastern Congo, and to forest patches in Uganda, from Bugoma and Budongo to the base of Mount Elgon.

The range of the slender-billed *ndussumensis* is much more restricted, and includes the forested lowlands in and near the Semliki Valley and on the eastern side of the Rutshuru Valley. In the latter area, Dr. Moriz Sassi writes me, Rudolf Grauer collected two females with small bills for the Vienna Museum. Intergradation between *ndussumensis* and *emini* is evident in specimens taken 46 kilometers south of Irumu and at Angumu, 190 kilometers west of Lake Edward. Moreover, the pronounced variation in thickness of bill at Angumu is paralleled by similar variation among specimens of *C. c. calurus* from forested lowlands in southern Cameroon. An acquaintance of thirty-eight years with this common white-bearded bulbul, its behavior, and its voice, convinces me that neither the shape of the bill nor the color of the tail is a specific character.—JAMES P. CHAPIN, *American Museum of Natural History, New York, N. Y.*

A new stone sparrow from Persia.—It might be useful to have the description of this new sparrow available before the final reports of my 1940 Iran collections can be published. I therefore describe it as: