

The Occurrence of *Pandion haliaetus* in Surinam.—In Surinam, the Fish-hawk is a regular migrant from the north. It frequents the mouths of the big rivers, the muddy coastal sea, and the lagoons behind the coast line; it also follows the rivers far upstream. It is difficult to state when it arrives in this country on its autumn migration and when it leaves again for its summer haunts, as I have records from all months of the year. I presume that the birds I observed at several widely separated localities during the northern summer were immatures.

My records of these wandering birds are: April 13, 1949, Armina Rapids, Maroni River (about 150 kms. from its mouth); April 20, 1953, mouth of the Nickerie River; May 5, 1953, coast at Coronie; May 16 and 24, 1953, mouth of the Coppename River; June 15, 1953, coast near Nickerie; July 10 and 11, 1947, mouth of the Coppename River; July 30, 1947, Republiek; August 17, 1947, lagoons near Nickerie; August 20, 1952, Republiek; August 22, 1953, Corentyne River.

From September until April, the Fish Hawk is a regular visitor. I have seen it on all our big rivers, and nearly every year I watch it fishing on the Surinam River in front of my home near Paramaribo. Sometimes several birds fish together in favorable localities: September 10, 1947, two on the Saramacca River; November 2, 1952, two near Coronie; November 30, 1947, one on the Commewijne River, and several birds on the lagoons near Matapica Creek in the same district; December 20 and 21, 1946, three at the lagoons near Nickerie; March 15, 1947, three at the mouth of the Coppename River and one on the Saramacca River.—F. HAVER-SCHMIDT, P. O. Box 644, Paramaribo, Surinam.

***Rhytipterna immunda* (Sclater and Salvin) in Surinam.**—Hellmayr (Catalogue of birds of the Americas. Field Mus. Nat. Hist. Zool. Vol. 13, pt. 6, 1929, p. 154) stated that *Rhytipterna immunda* was known only from the two original specimens in the British Museum, supposed to have been collected at Oyapock, Cayenne. The locality is, according to this authority, perhaps open to doubt, though arguments for this opinion are not given.

Zimmer (Studies on Peruvian birds No. 23. Amer. Mus. Nov. No. 893, 1936: 12–13) had only six specimens at hand, four from Yavanari, Rio Negro, Brazil, one from Santarem on the south bank of the Amazon, Brazil, and one from the Rio Huaynia, junction of the Cassiquiare, Venezuela.

Furthermore, Gyldenstolpe (The bird fauna of Rio Juruá in Western Brazil. Kungl. Svenska Vetensk. Akad. Handl. 22, 1945: 210) mentions two specimens, one from Igarapex Aniba on the north side of the Middle Amazon and one from Manáos. A search in the Zoological Record revealed no other records of this rare bird.

Zimmer (*loc. cit.*) further remarks that the extreme rarity of this species and the fact that its supposed locality of origin is open to some doubt, makes the discovery of this bird in a new region of particular interest. With reference to this remark I am glad to be able to report that *Rhytipterna immunda* also occurs in Surinam (Dutch Guiana), where I collected three specimens. On August 31, 1952, I collected a bird of undeterminable sex (coll. No. 1147) near Zanderij (about 50 kms. due south of Paramaribo) and on September 7, 1952, a male (coll. No. 1160) in the same locality. Both specimens were identified by Zimmer and are now in the American Museum of Natural History at New York. A third specimen, a male with greatly enlarged testes, was taken September 17, 1953, at the same locality. It is now in the University of Michigan Museum of Zoology.

The habitat where I found these birds is a large sandy savanna, dotted over by rather large bushes and surrounded on all sides by forest. My attention to the

bird shot on August 31 was drawn to it by its rather finch-like note, which I did not know. The first two specimens were shot at a distance of about two kilometers from each other. Now that *Rhytipterna immunda* has been found in Surinam, the doubt about its locality of origin in Cayenne seems considerably lessened.—F. HAVERSCHMIDT, P. O. Box 644, Paramaribo, Surinam.

The Occurrence of *Muscivora tyrannus* in Surinam.—In Surinam, the Fork-tailed Flycatcher is one of the most striking migrants from the south. Though common, and even numerous in certain periods of the year, its movements are erratic and are difficult to understand, as the birds suddenly appear either singly or in flocks at a certain spot, staying one or a few days, to disappear again. Then it may take weeks before other birds arrive. They never seem to remain for a long time at a single locality, so I am not sure whether true "wintering" occurs or whether all birds seen are only passing through.

According to Zimmer (Studies on Peruvian birds XXVII. American Museum Novitates No. 962, 1937, p. 3), these birds breed in Argentina and Paraguay in the summer (from November to January). The population then migrates northward, probably beginning in January and continuing through February, while the southern movement appears to be in full swing from the northernmost localities in September and October.

In Surinam, my first record of its arrival from the south is February 26, 1948. I have only a single record from March: March 6, 1949. Even in April, the birds are still scarce (4 records): April 7, 1946; April 24, 1949; April 26 and 27, 1947. In May, the birds become more numerous (7 records): May 7, 1953; May 8, 1951; May 9, 1952; May 14, 16, 17, and 21, 1946. From June onwards, observations are more frequent, reaching their maximum in July, August, and September when sometimes flocks are seen: June 14, 1947, 50; August 3, 1952, 35; August 10, 1947, 100; September 15, 1948, 23; September 18, 1952, 30.

In October, there is a sharp drop in numbers, and from then on, only a few stragglers are observed. I have six records from October: October 8, 1953; October 12, 1947; October 21, 1953; October 22, 1948; October 28, 1947; and October 29, 1950. There are three records from November: November 2, 1952; November 6, 1953; and November 12, 1946. My latest dates are December 17, 1953, and December 18, 1951.

I have records from all months of the year except January. It is difficult to state when the northward migration stops and the southward movement starts again, but I should say that southward migration may start in July and is in full swing in August and September as the following observations suggest. From August 13 to 22, 1947, I daily observed in the late afternoon, starting at about 5:30 p.m., a number of birds crossing the Nickerie River at Nieuw Nickerie in a southeasterly direction in small groups of 50 to 100 birds. However, it may be possible that these birds were only on their way to a communal evening roost, though the next morning a return movement in the opposite direction was never seen. On the other hand, in the same period of the year on August 12 and 16, 1948, small groups were seen crossing the Surinam River at Paramaribo in the afternoon flying in the opposite direction to the north-northwest.

My observations agree well with those of Young (Ibis, 1929, pp. 230–233) from the neighboring coast of British Guiana, who even mentions one record from January 1924 (at the end of the month), and who states that in July the return migration begins, is most marked in August, and ceases in September.—F. HAVERSCHMIDT, P. O. Box 644, Paramaribo, Surinam.