

**Notes on rare and previously unreported birds from Ecuador.**—Professional collectors in Ecuador continue to secure scientifically noteworthy specimens, but many of these tend to escape notice because of their sale and distribution to far-flung institutions and individuals. In an attempt to consolidate some of this information, we report here on the analysis and status of specimens from six separate collections, relevant to 22 species of little-known Ecuadorian birds. Most of these specimens are now deposited in the Museum of Comparative Zoology (MCZ) where they were taken for study, and where they supplement Ecuadorian collections made by MCZ expeditions in 1963–1965. Other specimens were returned to one of three institutions in Quito: Colegio Mejía, Universidad Central, or Escuela Politecnica Nacional—as noted below. We also include here specimens now in two European collections: Naturhistorisches Museum Basel (NMB) and the Museum Alexander Koenig Bonn (MAK).

*Butorides virescens* (subsp.), Green Heron.—♀ imm.; e. Ecuador, Napo, Concepción; 25 December 1929; R. Olalla; Univ. Central. ♂ imm.; e. Ecuador, Napo, El Edén; 7 December 1964; M. Olalla; MCZ. The specific identification of these immature specimens is indicated by the reddish brown plumage of the nape and auriculars, distinguishing these from a series of *B. striatus*, and by similarities of pattern to immature *virescens* of Central America. The species is shown to winter farther south than its previously known limits (Caribbean Colombia and the Guianas).

*Ixobrychus exilis limoncochae* Norton, Least Bittern.—♂ imm.; e. Ecuador, Río Arajuño; 10 January 1965; R. Olalla; MCZ. The present specimen is a fledgling, and documents the breeding of the species in eastern Ecuador, as Norton (1965) hypothesized.

*Phimosus infuscatus* (subsp.), Bare-faced Ibis.—♀; e. Ecuador, Napo, El Edén; 17 December 1964; M. Olalla; MCZ. This ibis was previously unknown from Ecuador. We have not seen adequate material to determine the subspecific identity of the Ecuadorian specimen.

*Sarkidiornis melanotos sylvicola* (Ihering and Ihering), Comb Duck.—♀; n. central Ecuador, Prov. Cayambe, Hda. Guachalá; 5 February 1952; L. de Ascásubi; MCZ. The species has apparently not been recorded previously from Ecuador. We regard its occurrence there as typically rare and local for the species. The collector made a special effort to secure this specimen and another (February 1951) when they appeared at his hacienda. These ducks have not been observed there since the winters of 1951 and 1952 (Ascásubi, pers. comm.).

*Vanellus chilensis* (subsp.), Southern Lapwing.—This wide-ranging lapwing has not been recorded previously from Ecuador. We examined two mounted, unlabelled specimens, one at the Colegio Mejía and the other at the Colegio Bolívar in Ambato. We believe that the specimens were collected locally by Indians of the Sierra in Cotopaxi and Pichincha Provinces. The species should therefore tentatively be added to the avifauna of Ecuador.

*Touit purpurata* (subsp.), Sapphire-rumped Parrotlet.—♂; imm.; e. Ecuador, Río Rutuno; 11 March 1951; T. Mena; MCZ. The present record represents an extension of the known range of this species south from eastern Colombia.

*Leucippus chlorocercus* Gould, Olive-spotted Hummingbird.—♀; e. Ecuador, Napo, Misaguallí; 14 July 1959; O. Olalla; MCZ. ♂; e. Ecuador, Napo, Misaguallí; 14 July 1959; O. Olalla; NMB. The specimens were taken well within the present boundaries of Ecuador, and document the occurrence of the species farther west than stated by Meyer de Schauensee (1966: 173).

*Trogon rufus sulphureus* Spix, Black-throated Trogon.—2 ♂; e. Ecuador, Montalvo; 12 and 27 April 1964; R. Olalla; MCZ. ♂; e. Ecuador, Río Conambo; 20 June 1955; R. Olalla; NMB. ♀; e. Ecuador, Río Curary; 13 September 1961; T. Mena; NMB. Norton (1965) has already reported on two specimens of this race collected in 1964. The species, so long of uncertain status in Ecuador, appears to be increasingly easy to collect. This impression cannot be explained as an increase in collecting activity, because Ramón Olalla resided for years in Montalvo, periodically selling local bird specimens to curators in Ecuador and elsewhere.

*Galbula dea brunneiceps* (Todd), Paradise Jacamar.—♂; e. Ecuador, Montalvo; 5 September 1958; A. Proaño; MCZ. ♂; e. Ecuador, Morete; 27 October 1958; R. Olalla; NMB. The MCZ specimen agrees well in coloration and measurements with *brunneiceps* from eastern Peru and the south bank of the upper Amazon. This is the first documentation of Ecuadorian specimens.

*Jacamerops aurea* (subsp.), Great Jacamar.—♂; w. Ecuador, Esmeraldas, Río Palaví; 4 July 1963; M. Olalla. MCZ. Our specimen is not referable to *J. a. penardi* Banks and Barbour, of Central America to western Colombia, from which it is distinguished by its darker dorsum and larger size. The Esmeraldas specimen resembles a series labeled *J. a. isidori* Deville, (= *J. a. aurea*?) of eastern Ecuador in size, but differs from 13 specimens of *isidori* by its darker coppery red dorsum, and by the extent of this dark dorsal color caudad to the upper tail coverts, and ventrad to the lateral margins of the white throat patch. Berlioz (1937) reported a specimen of this species taken in Esmeraldas, and likewise found it atypical of *penardi*, citing its longer culmen (see Table 1). His observations, added to ours, suggest that there is a racially distinct population of the species in western Ecuador, a formal description of which awaits further material.

TABLE 1  
MEASUREMENTS OF *JACAMEROPS AUREA*

	Flat wing (mm)	Tail (mm)	Culmen from base (mm)
Panama, <i>penardi</i> 6 ♂	108–117 (111.2 ± 1.3) <sup>1</sup>	127–149 (134.2 ± 2.9)	53–56 (54.7 ± 0.4)
E. Ecuador, <i>isidori</i> 6 ♂	111–126 (117.2 ± 1.9)	121–144 (133.0 ± 3.5)	55–60 (57.5 ± 0.8)
W. Ecuador, Esmeraldas (subsp.) ♂	117	134	58

<sup>1</sup> Mean ± standard error of the mean.

*Selenidera spectabilis* Cassin, Yellow-eared Toucanet.—2 ♂, both imm.; w. Ecuador, Esmeraldas, La Boca; 27 March 1962; M. Olalla; Escuela Politécnica. This species has not been reported previously from Ecuador, where its occurrence was to be expected. Our specimens agree in coloration with six young males from Obaldía, Panama.

*Celeus spectabilis spectabilis* Sclater and Salvin, Rufous-headed Woodpecker.—♂, e. Ecuador, Sarayacu; January 1964; coll. "Zoila"; Colegio Mejía. ♀; e. Ecuador, Montalvo; 22 July 1959; R. Olalla; Escuela Politécnica. ♀; e. Ecuador, Río Conambo; 2 November 1960; R. Olalla; MCZ. This species is known from very few specimens. We have examined five, and these demonstrate considerable

TABLE 2  
MEASUREMENTS OF *CELEUS SPECTABILIS SPECTABILIS*

	Flat wing (mm)	Tail (mm)	Culmen from base (mm)
Sarayacu ♂	143	91	30
Montalvo ♀	146	97	29
Río Conambo ♀	145	100	30

variation in the characters discussed by Traylor (1958: 114). The two females at hand differ from Hargitt's drawing of the type (Hargitt, 1890; pl. 10) in being more broadly banded black dorsally and in having the head and wings darker rufous. The male from Sarayacu has the red of the sides of the head extending over the eye, as in *C. s. exsul* Bond and de Schauensee. All five specimens are at least as heavily marked below as Hargitt's drawing. The brown rufous of the head extends to the neck in females only, but this color does not extend as far down the neck of our female specimens as indicated in Hargitt's plate (variation in such a character may result from preparation of the specimen). Measurements of these specimens are summarized in Table 2.

*Veniliornis cassini chocoensis* Todd, Golden-collared Woodpecker.—♀; w. Ecuador, Esmeraldas, La Boca; 27 March 1962; M. Olalla; MCZ. Our specimen fits the description and measurements cited by Todd (1919). This female resembles specimens of *V. c. cassini* (Malherbe) from upper Amazonia, however, in that the tips of the pileum feathers are red. The species was previously unknown from Ecuador.

*Xenops milleri* (Chapman), Rufous-tailed Xenops.—♂; e. Ecuador, Morete; 3 October 1958; R. Olalla; MCZ. ♀; e. Ecuador, Montalvo; 18 September 1959; T. Mena; MCZ. ♂; e. Ecuador, Río Capaguari; 11 December 1957; T. Mena; NMB. This xenops was previously unknown from Ecuador, where its occurrence was to be expected. We find nothing to distinguish our specimens from a series of Brazilian and eastern Colombian specimens.

*Thamnophilus murinus canipennis* Todd, Mouse-colored Antshrike.—♂; e. Ecuador, Río Pucuyacu; 31 July 1960; R. Olalla; MCZ. ♂; e. Ecuador, Bovera; 9 August 1959; R. Olalla; MCZ. 2 ♂; e. Ecuador, Río Pucuyacu; 12 and 25 July 1960; R. Olalla; NMB. ♂; e. Ecuador, Morete; 20 October 1958; R. Olalla; NMB. ♂; e. Ecuador, Morete; 10 October 1958; R. Olalla; MAK. ♀; e. Ecuador, Morete; 19 October 1958; R. Olalla; NMB. ♀; e. Ecuador, Río Pucuyacu; 16 July 1960; R. Olalla; MAK. This species has been recorded previously from Ecuador (Meyer de Schauensee, 1966: 271), but seems to be uncommon and spotty in distribution, having been omitted from Chapman's (1926) list of Ecuadorian birds, and not collected by Norton in either 1963 or 1964. Both of the MCZ specimens are typical of *T. m. canipennis* males of northeastern Peru, in having gray wing coverts, rather than the brown coverts typical of *T. m. murinus* Sclater and Salvin, of Venezuela and the Guianas.

*Megastictus margaritatus* (Sclater), Pearly Antshrike.—♂; e. Ecuador, Montalvo; 3 April 1964; R. Olalla; MCZ. ♂; e. Ecuador, Río Conambo; 16 November 1960; R. Olalla; NMB. These are probably the first specimens reliably reported from within the present boundaries of Ecuador, where this antshrike's occurrence was suspected (Peters, 1951: 179; Meyer de Schauensee, 1966: 273).

*Phlegopsis nigromaculata nigromaculata* (d'Orbigny and Lafresnaye), Black-spotted

Bare-eye.—♂, e. Ecuador, Río San Miguel, Puerto Libre; 10 February 1963; M. Olalla; MCZ. The species is rare in Ecuadorian collections. We mention it here to confirm the subspecific identification of the present specimen, found to be inseparable from a series of six eastern Peruvian and western Brazilian examples.

*Laniisoma elegans buckleyi* (Slater and Salvin), Shrike-like Cotinga.—♂; e. Ecuador, Mt. Sumaco, head of Río Guataraco; 2 August 1964; D. Norton; MCZ. ♂; imm.; e. Ecuador, Río Conambo; 20 January 1962; R. Olalla; Escuela Politécnica. ♀; e. Ecuador, Mt. Sumaco, head of Río Guataraco; 4 August 1964; D. Norton; MCZ. The hitherto unknown male of this cotinga resolves the question of the identity of Ecuadorian specimens, as it confirms Meyer de Schauensee's (1966: 309) proposed inclusion of *L. buckleyi* in this species.

DESCRIPTION OF ADULT MALE.—Similar to nominate *L. elegans* (Thunberg), but smaller, underparts clearer, barred narrowly on flanks, a few traces of black on the tips of otherwise clear yellow throat feathers, and irregular black bars only on center of breast; above, feathers of dorsum narrowly blackshafted, and bearing faint yellowish tinge distally.

IMMATURE MALE.—Similar to adult male, but underparts extensively barred, bars narrower than those in either females or immature males of the nominate race; two irregular cinnamon wingbars, differing from those of nominate *elegans* in being composed of black-tipped rather than black-margined wing coverts; primaries (I-IV) similar to adult females in lacking the distal attenuation peculiar to primaries of adult males.

FEMALE.—Agrees in detail both with the drawing by Slater and Salvin (1880, pl. 16) and description by Hellmayr (1929: 96).

The type of *Ptilochloris remigialis* Lafresnaye (1838) (MCZ 77,362) currently considered a synonym of nominate *L. elegans* is similar to our adult male in size and lack of barring on the underparts. It is larger than *L. e. venezuelensis* Phelps and Gilliard specimens measured by Blake (1961: 35). We suggest, therefore, that the Lafresnaye specimen (no locality stated) was collected in western Amazonia, and further that it be referred to *L. e. buckleyi*. The name *remigialis* is barred by the 50-year statute of limitations as it has not been used for over a century, and then only by Lafresnaye. Measurements of this species are given in Table 3.

*Empidonax griseipectus* Lawrence, Gray-breasted Flycatcher.—♂; w. Ecuador, Esmeraldas, Río Verde; 16 July 1951; M. Olalla; MCZ. The range of *griseipectus*

TABLE 3  
MEASUREMENTS OF *LANIISOMA ELEGANS*

	Flat wing (mm)	Tail (mm)	Culmen from base (mm)
<i>L. e. buckleyi</i> ad. ♂	95	53	20
<i>L. e. buckleyi</i> imm. ♂	98	57	18
<i>L. e. buckleyi</i> ad. ♀	101	60	20
" <i>Ptilochloris remigialis</i> " (Lafresnaye type) [ad. ♂]	100	59	20
<i>L. e. elegans</i> 5 ad. ♂	105-107	64-68	20-21
	(105.8 ± 0.3) <sup>1</sup>	(65.0 ± 0.7)	(20.8 ± 0.2)
<i>L. e. elegans</i> 1 ad. ♀	104	62	21

<sup>1</sup> Mean ± standard error of the mean.

centers on arid tropical southwestern Ecuador and northwestern Peru, but presumed wanderers, such as this individual, evidently occur in the humid tropics of northwestern Ecuador.

*Todirostrum chrysocrotaphum guttatum* Pelzeln, Painted Tody-Flycatcher.—♂; e. Ecuador, Loreto (e. of Sumaco); (no date); "hijos Olalla"; MCZ. ♂; e. Ecuador, Cotapino; 13 July 1964; D. Norton; MCZ. ♂; e. Ecuador, Río Conambo; 6 March 1952; R. Olalla; NMB. ♂; e. Ecuador, Montalvo; 21 June 1955; R. Olalla; NMB. This flycatcher, of northwestern Brazil, eastern Colombia, and northeastern Peru, was to be expected in Ecuador, where it has not been recorded previously.

*Diglossa caerulescens* (subsp.), Bluish Flower-piercer.—♀; sw. Ecuador, Prov. Loja, Portete Imbana; (no date); L. Pérez; MCZ. Although Meyer de Schauensee (1951: 8) referred the first Ecuadorian specimens of the species to *media* Bond, the present specimen is not typical of that Peruvian race. The dorsum and upper breast are darker blue, and the central abdomen darker gray, than any of a series of six Peruvian *media* we examined, although these characteristics are not as pronounced as in *D. c. saturata* (Todd) of Colombia. The specimen represents a transitional form between Peruvian and Colombian populations. The species is very rare in the Ecuadorian Sierra, however, and the Ecuadorian population does not, in our opinion, warrant subspecific recognition.

*Leistes militaris militaris* (Linnaeus), Red-breasted Blackbird.—♀; e. Ecuador, Napo, Limoncocha; 30 July 1963; D. Norton; MCZ. This record constitutes a small range extension of the species from northeastern Peru to eastern Ecuador, where its occurrence was to be expected.

*Saltator albicollis* (subsp.), Streaked Saltator.—2 ♂, 2 ♀; nw. Ecuador, Prov. Imbabura, Valle de Chota, October 1963, August 1965; M. Olalla; MCZ. Two

TABLE 4  
GAZETTEER FOR ECUADORIAN COLLECTING LOCALITIES CITED

	Lat.	Long.
N. central Ecuador, Prov. Cayambe, Hda. Guachalá	00° 03' N, 78° 05' W	
" " " " Imbabura, Valle Chota	00° 29' N, 78° 04' W	
E. Ecuador, Prov. Napo, Concepción [= Cotapino]	00° 48' S, 77° 25' W	
" " " " El Edén	00° 30' S, 76° 06' W	
" " " " Limoncocha	00° 25' S, 76° 38' W	
" " " " Sumaco, Río Guataraco	00° 40' S, 77° 35' W	
" " " " Río San Miguel, Puerto Libre	00° 08' N, 75° 51' W	
" " " " Misagualli	01° 02' S, 77° 41' W	
" " Bovera	unknown	
" " Montalvo	02° 05' S, 76° 57' W	
" " Morete	unknown	
" " Río Arajuno	01° 14' S, 77° 41' W	
" " Río Capaguari	02° 00' S, 77° 15' W	
" " Río Conambo	01° 52' S, 76° 49' W	
" " Río Curaray	01° 15' S, 77° 30' W	
" " Río Pucuyacu	02° 03' S, 76° 58' W	
" " Río Rutuno	01° 55' S, 77° 14' W	
" " Sarayacu	01° 44' S, 77° 29' W	
S. central Ecuador, Prov. Loja, Portete Imbana	03° 38' S, 79° 04' W	
W. Ecuador, Prov. Esmeraldas, La Boca	01° 00' N, 79° 40' W	
" " " " Río Verde	01° 05' N, 79° 30' W	

distinct forms of this species occur in Ecuador. Adult specimens of *S. a. flavidicollis* Sclater from Loja, southwestern Ecuador, have unstreaked yellow breasts. The four specimens from the Valle de Chota, by contrast, are grayer above, white below, and have gray streaks on the breasts, resembling the streaking typical of immature *S. a. flavidicollis*. Hellmayr (1938: 42) cites the gray streaked form, based also on a series of specimens from the Valle de Chota. We disagree with Hellmayr's conclusion that the Chota population is merely an intergrade between *flavidicollis* of southern Ecuador and *S. a. striatipectus* Lafresnaye of Colombia, because Chota birds lack entirely the yellow breasts characteristic of both those races. Further investigation is needed on the relative distribution of these forms to determine whether the Chota birds represent a race endemic to the dry valley, or (if *flavidicollis* and this form co-exist) constitute a polymorph or xeric phase of the species.

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