

feeding specialization that evolved as the species shifted its food niche to exploit the ephemeral abundance of marine life in the mud of brackish lagoons. Because feeding structures are subject to particularly rapid evolutionary modification (e.g. Amadon 1950) the bill of *Cochlearius* and the associated changes in skull morphology should probably be given little weight taxonomically, and assigning the species to a monotypic family obscures rather than clarifies its phylogenetic relationships.

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New avifaunal records from Eniwetok.—We visited Eniwetok Atoll, Marshall Islands, in northeastern Micronesia (approximately 11° N, 162° E) during July 1973. Coincident to fieldwork dealing with the reproductive biology of shorebirds, we obtained three new records for the atoll. The specimens are in the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution (USNM). Each islet of the atoll has an original native name plus a military designation (Woodbury 1962). In the discussion below, military names are included parenthetically.

BLACK-WINGED PETREL, *Pterodroma hypoleuca nigripennis* (USNM 536588). This species, heretofore unrecorded either at sea or on land in the Marshall Islands, has been observed only as a migrant at sea in the Gilbert Islands (Amerson 1969). It breeds on island groups off the coast of New Zealand and migrates to the north central Pacific during the nonbreeding season (King 1967). Our specimen was found dead on 6 July along a road on Eniwetok (Fred) islet. Apparently

the bird had collided with overhead wires. As the carcass was partially decomposed the actual date of death was uncertain and the specimen is prepared as a flat mummy.

RUFIOUS-NECKED SANDPIPER, *Calidris ruficollis* (USNM 536587). Amerson's (1969) avifaunal treatment of the Marshall and Gilbert Islands contains no record of this species, but Child (1960) stated that he had observed *C. ruficollis* in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands (exact locations and dates unspecified). Baker (1951) reported the bird as *Erolia minuta ruficollis* during fall migration in western Micronesia (Mariana, Palau, and Caroline Islands). It breeds in Siberia and the Cape Wales district of Alaska, and winters considerably to the west of Micronesia along an arc from southeastern China to New Zealand (Vaurie 1965). Our specimen was shot on 10 July at Aomon (Sally) islet near the northern end of the atoll. Based upon breeding chronology in the Arctic (Gladkov 1957), the bird was not an early migrant from the north but instead was summering on the winter range. The bird, a female in nonbreeding plumage, was alone. A bursa of Fabricius was present, the animal was extremely fat, and the reproductive organs inactive (the largest ovarian follicles ranged from 0.6 to 0.9 mm in diameter). It is noteworthy that the bursa of Fabricius remained well-developed in a bird that had to be at least 1 year of age when collected. The bursa was also found to be an unreliable age criterion in several other shorebird species (Johnson 1973).

SHORT-EARED OWL, *Asio flammeus flammeus* (USNM 536586). Amerson (1969) noted the absence of strigiforms from either the Marshall or Gilbert Islands. While the race *A. f. ponapensis* is resident in the Caroline and Mariana Islands (Vaurie 1965), records of migratory *A. f. flammeus* in Micronesia appear limited to Pagan and Tinian in the Mariana Islands (Baker 1951). Fosberg (1966) saw hermit crabs chewing "what looked like two owl pellets" at Jemo Island (about 500 miles east of Eniwetok) in December 1951. Short-eared Owls have been reported at Kure, Midway, and French Frigate Shoals in the leeward Hawaiian Islands (Amerson 1971, Woodward 1972). To what extent these birds represent the Hawaiian race (*A. f. sandwichensis*), which is resident on the main islands, is unclear. Based upon its measurements, a single specimen collected at Kure Atoll was considered tentatively as *A. f. flammeus* (Clapp and Woodward 1968). Also, Woodward (1972) pointed out that the temporal distribution of sightings at Kure (mostly fall and winter) suggest birds of the *flammeus* race migrating from the north. The foregoing, plus records of this race as a straggler on various islands (Vaurie 1965), emphasize considerable overwater mobility; and it seems likely that the bird has wandered into eastern Micronesia before. Our specimen (a female) was shot on 7 July at Eniwetok (Fred) islet when it flushed from the concealment of small bushes along the seaward edge of the runway. Reproductive organs were quiescent with the largest ovarian follicles ranging from 1.0 to 1.8 mm in diameter. Subcutaneous and abdominal fat deposits were extremely well-developed; no bursa of Fabricius could be found. The digestive tract was empty except for traces of rodent hair.

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Territoriality in a nectar feeding Northern Oriole in Costa Rica.—Nectar feeding by orioles is well-known and has been described for the Northern Oriole (*Icterus galbula*) at *Combretum* in Costa Rica (Timken 1970, Wilson Bull. 82: 184) and *Ochroma limonensis* in Panama (Fisk 1974, Auk 91: 162), but in neither case was the maintenance of a defended area mentioned. Activities of a wintering male Northern Oriole in Guanacaste National Park, Santa Rosa, Costa Rica from 16-23 February 1973 indicated that it was actively defending nectar resources at *Combretum farinosum*, a canopy-supported liana. This appears to be the first instance of feeding territoriality recorded for a member of the genus *Icterus*.

Territoriality in nectar feeding orioles is probably rare and to be expected only at an economically defendable nectar source. Flowers of *Combretum* grow symmetrically in multiple rows on large inflorescences. Thus the oriole could feed efficiently at all ($\bar{x} \cong 58$) flowers on an inflorescence from a single perch and did not have to fly between inflorescences.

During the observation period the oriole defended a cube 4 m on a side containing 8-12 nectar-producing inflorescences. Although insects were abundant on the liana, the oriole appeared to feed solely on nectar, as it consistently dipped slowly into successive flowers on an inflorescence without the erratic search and pursuit activity associated with insect catching. Aggressive encounters were brief