

us (in litt., 9 December 1974) that the specimen in question (British Museum of Natural History number S G 1887.1.1.118) was collected by C. Buckley and that Sclater and Salvin (1880) stated: "The greater part of [Buckley's collection] was formed on the upper branches of the Rio Pastaza, and on the spurs lying between this stream and its affluent the Bobonaza, Mr. Buckley's headquarters having been during the greater part of the time the village of Sarayacu on the latter stream, *which must be carefully distinguished from the place of the same name on the Ucayali*" (italics ours). Thus, the San Juan specimen reported here does seem to be the first for Peru.

We are very grateful to I. C. J. Galbraith and R. Meyer de Schauensee for their significant assistance, to Lewis Armstrong, Curator of the outstanding map collection at the University of Kansas, who located several important maps of Ecuador for us, and to Thomas H. Swearingen who prepared our figure.

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***Aimophila strigiceps* new to Paraguay.**—Some specimens obtained by the American Museum of Natural History from the collection of Jacob Unger include two Stripe-capped Sparrows (*Aimophila strigiceps*) recently taken near Lichtenau in the Paraguayan Chaco. This species presently is considered endemic to Argentina (Meyer de Schauensee 1966, The species of birds of South America and their distribution, Narberth, Pennsylvania, Livingston Publ. Co., p. 527). One specimen (AMNH No. 811,153), which is molting the primaries, rectrices, and some body feathers, is a female with ovary somewhat enlarged, taken 29 March 1974. Its molting condition, enlarged ovary, and the very early fall date suggest that the bird had bred locally; the species is not known to migrate. The other, a male (AMNH No. 811,155) in worn plumage, was collected 31 January 1974. Incidentally, Mr. Unger and his family recently emigrated to Canada, ending several generations of collecting in Paraguay by the Ungers.

The distribution of the Stripe-capped Sparrow is not clarified fully in the pertinent literature (Meyer de Schauensee, loc. cit.; Olrog 1963, *Opera Lilloana* 9: 326; Navas 1965, *El Hornero* 10: 215). Meyer de Schauensee listed it as found "from Jujuy, Salta and Formosa south to Córdoba, Santa Fe and Entre Ríos," Argentina, implying

a continuous range. Olrog cited *A. s. strigiceps* as occurring in Entre Ríos, Santa Fe, and Córdoba, and *A. s. dabbenei* in Jujuy, Salta, and Tucumán. Actually, the two well-differentiated subspecies are isolated geographically, as suggested in the map presented by Navas (loc. cit.). That author gave localities in western Entre Ríos, northern Santa Fe, northern Córdoba, southern Chaco, and scattered about Santiago del Estero for *A. s. strigiceps*, and localities in Tucumán, western Salta, and Jujuy for *dabbenei*. *A. s. strigiceps*, the much smaller (no overlap in measurements) eastern form with especially small feet and bill, has less black on the lores and no black under the eyes, and is browner and less rusty dorsally. Its Argentine range extends from Lavalle (possibly winter visitor there), and Monte Quemado, Santiago del Estero, and Avia Terai and General Pinedo, Chaco, south to central Córdoba and central Santa Fe, and southeast to Entre Ríos (data from literature and specimens in AMNH). *A. s. dabbenei* is found in the "monte" scrub zone of the lower Andean slopes from Tucumán and western Salta to Jujuy. I am not certain of the basis for Formosa being ascribed to the range of the species, but it probably occurs there, and the subspecies involved is certain to represent the eastern lowland form, *A. s. strigiceps*. Representatives of the two forms have been taken in the breeding season (October to December) from localities as close as 190 km (Río del Valle, Salta, and Monte Quemado, Santiago del Estero) apart, but specimens I have examined show no indication of intermediacy.

The Paraguayan specimens reported herein are typical of *A. s. strigiceps* in all respects, and hence extend the range of that subspecies northward through central and eastern Formosa to the central Paraguayan Chaco (Lichtenau is approximately 170 km north of the Pilcomayo River, and 180 km west of Puerto Pinasco on the Paraguay River, see map 4, Steinbacher 1962, Abhandl. Seneckenberg. Naturforsch. Ges. 502: 12). This northward extension of the range of *A. strigiceps* is noteworthy in regard to the presumed dispersal of its ancestor into the region from the north. A xeric brushland-adapted species, its nearest relatives are the Peruvian *Aimophila* (*Rynchospiza*) *stolzmanni*, and Middle American *A. sumichrasti* (Short, 1975, Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. 154: 319). This distribution finds a parallel in that of South American scrubland *Picoides* (*Dendrocoptes*) *mixtus* (and its Patagonian forest ally, *P. lignarius*) and in that woodpecker's probable relationship to Middle and North American *P. scalaris*, suggesting formerly more continuous xeric scrub connections (through arid Bolivian and Peruvian valleys, and west-coastal South America) between the Chaco region and Middle America.—LESTER L. SHORT, *American Museum of Natural History*, and *City University of New York, New York, New York 10024*. Accepted 3 Jan. 75.

Variation in Oldsquaw rectrix numbers.—While preparing Oldsquaw (*Clangula hyemalis*) carcasses for pesticide analysis, I noted considerable variation in the number of rectrices. The specimens were obtained from Lake Michigan commercial fishermen, who found them drowned in gill nets.

I fanned and counted the rectrices on each specimen, then carefully examined the base of the tail for broken or missing tail feathers. In the few instances where a rectrix had been removed or broken, even in the outermost quill, the absence was readily apparent from the empty space or the uneven length of opposite rectrices. Molt was not a problem in the Lake Michigan birds because the specimens were all taken during the winter and spring, and immatures retain their notched juvenile