

Notes on the Sickle-winged Guan in Colombia.—Little is known about many cracid species because of their scarcity in most accessible regions. Delacour and Amadon (1973, *Currassows and related birds*, New York, Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., pp. 164–165) summarize the very sketchy information available on the Sickle-winged Guan (*Chamaepetes goudotii*), much of which comes from Carriker's reports (*in* Todd and Carriker, 1922, *Birds of the Santa Marta Region, Colombia*, Ann. Carnegie Mus. 14, pp. 170–171).

During the course of fieldwork in the Santa Marta Mountains, Department of Magdalena (Johnson) and the Anchicayá Valley, Department of Valle, Colombia (Hilty) in 1972–73, we saw Sickle-winged Guans fairly often. One male (TBJ No. 166, 11 April 1973; wing 245 mm; tail 258 mm; exposed culmen 30 mm; weight 550 g; testis 20 × 40 mm) collected by Johnson represents the race *C. g. sanctaemarthae*, and is deposited in the Inderena Museum, Bogotá. The Anchicayá Valley birds presumably represent the race *C. g. goudotii*.

We suggest that this species may be more arboreal than Todd and Carriker (*op. cit.*) reported. In the Anchicayá Valley, single individuals or pairs were on the ground only 5 times in 28 recorded sightings. When alarmed, they normally fled by a series of hopping and flying leaps as they rapidly ascended to the safety of higher branches or of a dense thicket. Only once did a bird escape by half-running, half-flying on the ground. In Santa Marta, all foraging birds were in trees. They were frequently noted crossing roads, paths, or other open areas on the ground. If disturbed, such birds usually flew downhill, then climbed up through the vegetation in hops and leaps. If allowed to progress undisturbed, the guans crossed the open ground and then invariably climbed up into the vegetation. Birds foraging or moving through the treetops, when disturbed by humans, crept stealthily away if allowed enough time, often stopping to peer back while hidden behind foliage (often bromeliads in Santa Marta). If greatly disturbed, they went crashing through the treetops, but never descended to the ground to escape.

The Sickle-winged Guan forages extensively on ripening fruits, taken before they fall. In the Anchicayá Valley, birds were seen taking ripe fruits of *Ficus* sp., *Blakea* sp., and an unidentified tree. Two birds in a large *Miconia* sp., heavy with ripe berries, were frightened before observations could be made. In the Santa Marta Mountains, they were seen feeding on ripe *Ficus* sp. and *Podocarpus* sp. fruits. No birds were seen to eat animal matter, nor was any found in three collected (see below).

The Santa Marta population apparently undergoes a marked altitudinal migration. On the Cuchillo de San Lorenzo, 25 km southeast of Santa Marta, at an elevation of 1980–2800 m, peak numbers were encountered in the latter part of the dry season (March–May) and the early wet season (June–July). During this period the wing rattle display and vocalizations were most conspicuous, especially in the early morning. The wing rattle appears to be similar to that described for the related Black Guan (*C. unicolor*) by Skutch (*in* Delacour and Amadon, *op. cit.*, pp. 162–164). Seven times this rattle was given during short flights in trees, but once, apparently, on the ground. In the latter case, after hearing a wing rattle, Johnson investigated and saw three birds on the ground in courtship display. The surprised birds all fled, the male (collected, TBJ No. 166) directly toward Johnson, flapping its wings and calling. The other two were also shot for stomach contents analysis; both were females. During the peak of the rainy season (August–October), the birds were most abundant in the coffee zone (1000–1700 m) and were much less common higher up, though never entirely absent.

In contrast in the Anchicayá Valley at 1000–1250 m, Sickle-winged Guans were apparently resident throughout the year. Individuals were seen in all months except March. No information is available on possible seasonal movements at higher elevations in the Western Andes.

These differences between the Anchicayá Valley and Santa Marta populations need not seem unusual when the strikingly different climates of these regions are compared. The north and west facing slopes of the Santa Marta Mountains are markedly seasonal, with as much as 82% of the total annual precipitation (3000 mm) falling from June through November. In the Anchicayá Valley, the very heavy annual rainfall (6000 mm) falls throughout the year, with no month receiving less than 5% of the total amount. As suggested by these climatic data, levels of plant foods are probably more uniformly distributed throughout the year (Hilty MS) than in the very seasonal Santa Marta region, where food shortages or dietary shifts must be inevitable during portions of the year.

We thank S. M. Russell and Dean Amadon for comments on the manuscript. Field studies were supported by El Instituto del Desarrollo de los Recursos Naturales Renovables (Inderena), Corporación Autónoma del Valle del Cauca (CVC), and a joint Peace Corps-University of Arizona program.—TERRY B. JOHNSON and STEVEN HILTY, *Department of Biological Sciences, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona 85721*. Accepted 23 Jan. 75.

Juvenile Little Blue Herons try to secure food from adult Louisiana Herons.—In a heronry on Grand Island, Barataria Bay, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, fledged juvenile Little Blue Herons (*Florida caerulea*) approached or chased adult Louisiana Herons (*Hydranassa tricolor*) in an attempt to get food. The adult Louisiana Herons were returning to the heronry to feed their own young when the juvenile Little Blue Herons approached them. The Louisiana Herons ignored or threatened and chased but never fed the Little Blue Herons.

Once two fledged juvenile Little Blue Herons pursued a single Louisiana Heron. Seven other times only one Little Blue approached one Louisiana. One juvenile was seen to approach an adult Louisiana several times. The aggressiveness of the Little Blues varied. Sometimes they called loudly and flapped their wings rapidly while approaching, but stopped after being threatened. At other times, the Little Blue Herons persisted in their attempts and joined the young Louisiana Herons in chasing and flying after the adult for several hundred meters.

The estimated number of herons and egrets breeding on Grand Island during 1972 and 1973 was: Louisiana Heron 5000 pairs, Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*) 3000 pairs, Great Egret (*Casmerodius albus*) 800 pairs, and Little Blue Heron 300 pairs. During 550 h of observation no other species of juvenile ardeid tried to elicit food from any other species of herons.—JAMES A. RODGERS, JR., *Museum of Zoology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803*. Present address: *Department of Biology, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida 33620*. Accepted 24 Jan. 75.

A Washington record of the Boreal Owl.—The Boreal Owl (*Aegolius funereus*) is resident in the coniferous forests of Canada and Alaska and drifts southward into the contiguous United States in small numbers in winter (A.O.U. 1957). In the western states this species has been reported only infrequently and most of the records are quite old. The only record for Washington is a bird collected