

## FROM FIELD AND STUDY

**Central American Races of *Cyanolyca mitrata*.**—The Hooded Jay, *Cyanolyca mitrata*, inhabits subtropical montane forests of Central America, chiefly those of the Caribbean slopes, and occurs from the southeastern corner of the Mexican plateau southward to western Panamá. Within this range, but two forms have been recognized heretofore, *mitrata* of Veracruz, Oaxaca, Chiapas, Guatemala, and Honduras, and *cucullata* of Costa Rica and Panamá (Hellmayr, Cat. Birds Amer., part 7, 1934:46-48). In the course of studies at eastern museums in the fall of 1949, examination of available specimens of this species revealed that two additional races may be recognized, one in Honduras, called to my attention by Ludlow Griscom and J. L. Peters at the Museum of Comparative Zoology, and another in Chiapas and Guatemala.

Before description of these unnamed races is undertaken, brief comment is required concerning the relationships of *Cyanolyca mitrata* as just delimited and *Cyanolyca pulchra* of southwestern Colombia and Ecuador. Currently the two are considered to be conspecific. This view is based on the statements of Hellmayr (*loc. cit.*), who compared *C. pulchra* with the geographically nearest form of *C. mitrata* and, encouraged by the geography of the situation, minimized the significance of certain differences between them in plumage pattern and body proportions. For reasons to be presented fully as part of a revision of the genus *Cyanolyca*, I do not consider *C. pulchra* necessarily more closely related to *C. mitrata* than to *C. viridi-cyana*, a widely distributed South American species whose range overlaps the restricted distribution of *C. pulchra*.

The specific name *mitrata* Ridgway replaces the first describer's name, *ornata* Lesson, as it is preoccupied; but the type of *ornata* is also the type of *mitrata* since Ridgway did no more than to provide a new name (see synonymy, Hellmayr, Cat. Birds Amer., part 7, 1934:47). Hellmayr states that the type is in the "collection of M. Abeillé, Bordeaux." This was so in 1839 when Lesson described *Pica ornata* (Rev. Zool., 2:41) and probably later also, but its location today is unknown. At any rate, the type came from "Mexico" at a time when specimens flowing from that country into European collections came for the most part from the region about Mexico City and eastward to Veracruz. On the basis of the route used by early travelers together with the known distribution of the species, the application of the name *mitrata* is restricted to the population of the mountains near Jalapa, Veracruz.

The two unnamed races occurring between the nominate race, *sensu stricto*, and *cucullata* may be described as follows:

### *Cyanolyca mitrata guatemalae*, new subspecies

*Type*.—Adult male, no. 121154 Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, collected near San José, 28 mi. ESE Comitán, 4900 feet, Chiapas, Mexico, on April 14, 1950, by F. A. Pitelka, original number 1175.

*Racial characters*.—Compared with *C. m. mitrata* of Veracruz and Oaxaca, occipital patch more purplish (less blue and, in adult males, closest to Pale Violet Blue of Ridgway); lower back, rump, and posterior under parts darker and more purplish (belly Dusky Blue in adult males); size similar (see table).

In addition to differences parallel to those of adults, juveniles of *guatemalae* and *mitrata* differ in that the former have less white bordering the occipital patch; either there is less white laterally or it is confined to the postauricular angle of the occipital patch.

*Geographic distribution*.—Caribbean slopes of the mountains of interior Chiapas (Tumbala; Yaxholob, 1200 m., near Ocosingo; San José, 28 mi. ESE Comitán) and Guatemala (Barrillos, Coban).

*Remarks*.—Specimens from northern interior Chiapas approach *mitrata* in that average coloration is not so purplish as that of specimens from southern Chiapas and Guatemala, but they are clearly assignable to *guatemalae*. It seems probable that between the extremes represented by the nominate race in southeastern San Luis Potosí and Veracruz and *guatemalae*, color variation may be clinal; the available specimens suggest, however, that the logical taxonomic separation of these populations falls at the Isthmus of Tehuantepec.

### *Cyanolyca mitrata hondurensis*, new subspecies

*Type*.—Adult male, no. 158487 Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, collected at Las Peinitas (4 mi. W San Pedro Sula), Honduras, on February 22, 1933, by C. F. Underwood.

*Racial characters.*—Compared with *C. m. guatemalae*, occipital patch more blue (less purplish, nearest Light Cadet Blue–Yale Blue in adult males); anterior margin of occipital patch less white; lower back, wings, tail, and posterior under parts less purplish (belly Dark Cadet Blue in adult males); size similar (see table).

Compared with *C. m. cucullata*, occipital patch more blue, more white anteriorly, and margined conspicuously with white laterally (margins lacking in *cucullata*); lower back, wings, tail, and posterior under parts less purplish; wings, tail, and tarsus significantly longer, bill deeper (see table).

*Geographic distribution.*—Caribbean slopes of the mountains of western Honduras (Cerro Pucca, Merendón, Muin, Las Peinitas).

Measurements of Adult Males of <i>Cyanolyca mitrata</i> in Millimeters					
Dimension	Population	Number of specimens	Range	Mean with standard error	Standard deviation*
Wing	Panamá–Costa Rica	23	116–127	121.9 ± 0.8	3.2
	Honduras	8	132–142	136.4 ± 1.4	3.9
	Guatemala–Chiapas	7	133–143	137.0 ± 1.3	3.3
	Oaxaca	4	131–138	135.5	
	Veracruz–San Luis Potosí	10	132–142	137.9 ± 1.0	3.3
Tail	Panamá–Costa Rica	19	127–140	133.1 ± 1.0	4.4
	Honduras	8	136–152	143.9 ± 2.2	6.1
	Guatemala–Chiapas	7	141–153	145.7 ± 1.4	3.8
	Oaxaca	3	142–145	143.7	
	Veracruz–San Luis Potosí	9	140–151	145.6 ± 1.3	4.0
Bill length	Panamá–Costa Rica	23	18.0–20.7	19.20 ± 0.16	0.79
	Honduras	8	18.9–19.9	19.60 ± 0.16	0.45
	Guatemala–Chiapas	7	18.8–21.4	20.37 ± 0.33	0.87
	Oaxaca	4	19.0–20.8	20.07	
	Veracruz–San Luis Potosí	9	17.7–19.9	19.13 ± 0.29	0.81
Bill depth	Panamá–Costa Rica	23	10.5–11.9	11.23 ± 0.08	0.38
	Honduras	7	11.5–12.8	12.22 ± 0.16	0.42
	Guatemala–Chiapas	7	11.6–12.2	11.96 ± 0.11	0.28
	Oaxaca	4	11.4–12.0	11.67	
	Veracruz–San Luis Potosí	11	10.7–12.0	11.27 ± 0.16	0.50
Tarsus	Panamá–Costa Rica	23	34.8–39.9	37.55 ± 0.29	1.37
	Honduras	8	39.1–43.0	41.31 ± 0.50	1.41
	Guatemala–Chiapas	7	41.7–42.7	42.09 ± 0.16	0.41
	Oaxaca	4	39.4–42.4	41.05	
	Veracruz–San Luis Potosí	10	39.9–43.4	41.76 ± 0.36	1.13

\* N–1 used throughout.

A total of 140 specimens of *C. mitrata* has been examined. For kind permission to use specimens, I am indebted to the curators and owners of the following collections: Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia; American Museum of Natural History; British Museum; Carnegie Museum; Chicago Natural History Museum; Cornell University; Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C.; H. O. Havemeyer; Los Angeles County Museum; Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University; Museum of Zoology, Louisiana State University; Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology; United States National Museum; and University of Florida. The studies reported here were supported in part by a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship.—FRANK A. PITELKA, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, November 27, 1950.*

**White-faced Glossy Ibis and Long-billed Curlew in Western Colorado.**—A White-faced Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis guarauna*) was collected at Gunnison, Colorado, on April 23, 1950. A second individual was seen April 28, and on April 30 a student brought one in and a flock of five more was reported from near Gunnison along the Gunnison River. A single individual was seen occasionally through June in marshy lands south of town but no mate or nest could be located.

Two Long-billed Curlews (*Numenius americanus*), both females, were collected from marshes