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NEW DISTRIBUTIONAL RECORDS FOR ECUADORIAN BIRDS

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This report presents new distributional information on the birds of Ecuador obtained between 1987 to 1991 by the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology (WFVZ). These data include the first report of three species for Ecuador, range extensions for 12 species, and the confirmation, with voucher specimens, of several other species previously known only from sight records. Most specimens on which we base this report are deposited at the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology (WFVZ), the Museo Ecuatoriano de Ciencias Naturales (MECN), or the Academy of Natural Sciences (ANSP). Species nomenclature and sequence follow at most Meyer de Schauensee (1982).

The localities most frequently mentioned in the text include: Prov. Morona-Santiago: 54 km SE Macas, Tayuntza, 600 m, (02°42'S, 77°55'W); Prov. Zamora-Chinchipe: Valle de Nangaritza, ca. 35 km ESE Zamora, Pachicutza, 1000 m, (04°10'S, 78°39'W); and Upper Río Nangaritza, ca. 43 km SE Zamora, Shaime, 1000 m, (04°18'S, 78°40'W); Prov. Manabí: Montañas de Chindul, ca. 47 km NW of El Carmen, Filo de Monos, 460 m, (00°05'S, 79°50'W).

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

Greater Yellow-headed Vulture *Cathartes melambrotus*

This species was observed intermittenthy from 23 July to 8 August 1989 at Pachicutza and in the Valle de Nangaritza. On 2 August 1989 MM and J. Schmitt collected two females, an immature (WFVZ # 46842) and an adult; the latter was prepared as a skeleton and deposited at the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History (LACMNH # 105651). Both birds had a body mass of 1500 g, and they were taken from a loose flock of 8 to 10 birds. On 22 November 1991, E. Alvarez and MM photographed an adult and an immature Greater Yellow-headed Vulture on the Narupa-Loreto road near the Río Guanami, 1300 m, Prov. Napo. They were among a group of 10 Black Vultures feeding on a dead dog on the road. The Greater Yellow-headed Vultures stayed on the periphery of the Black Vulture feeding flock. The next day only Black Vultures were observed at the site feeding on the carcass. Blake (1977) mentioned no records of Greater Yellow-headed Vulture for Ecuador. Although this species is included in the two major check lists of Ecuadorian birds (Butler 1979, Ortiz-Crespo *et al.* 1990), its inclusion is apparently based only on sight records. Meyer de Schauensee (1982; appendix) mentioned only sight records for eastern Ecuador. Apparently, its inclusion on Ecuador list was based on sight records at Limoncocha (Pearson *et al.* 1977) and near Cueva de los Tayos, Prov. Morona-Santiago (Albuja & De Vries 1977).

Tiny Hawk *Accipiter superciliosus*

While at Filo de Monos on 14 July 1988, MM collected a female (WFVZ # 45001) from the upper canopy of a solitary dead tree at the edge of a remnant wet forest. Its body mass was 134 g, the ovary was granular, and the stomach

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contained small rodent remains. The Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia obtained a male (ANSP # 178076) on 9 August 1986 in San José de Tambo, 200 m, Prov. Bolivar. Based on a specimen from the southwest corner of Colombia (Barbocoa), Chapman (1926) suspected that this species occurred farther south in Ecuador. Blake (1977) reported a specimen from Mindo, Prov. Pichincha. An immature female was collected by JMC in July 1984 (MECN # 110) at Pedro Vicente Maldonado, 500 m, Prov. Pichincha (Carrión 1986). These are the specimen records reported for western Ecuador. The specimen from Prov. Bolivar extends the known distribution about 210 km to the south, and the bird from Prov. Manabí is the first record from the Cordillera de la Costa.

Wattled Guan *Aburria aburri*

A specimen collected by G. Onore in the mountains near Alluriquín, ca. 25 km SE Santo Domingo de Los Colorados, Prov. Pichincha, was received by JMC on 23 December 1989. The specimen, an immature male, was molting heavily and, had a body mass of 1450 g. The bird was deposited in the collection of Universidad Católica de Quito (QCAZ # 1100). Delacour & Amadon (1973), Blake (1977), and Ortiz-Crespo *et al.* (1990) gave this species, distribution as only in the foothills and lower mountains of the eastern slope of the Ecuadorian Andes and stated that it was absent from the western slope. Formerly, the southernmost localities for this species on the western slopes of the Andes were from the vicinity of Cerro Munchique, Dpto. Cauca, Colombia (Chapman 1917, Meyer de Schauensee 1949), about 400 km north of Montañas de Alluriquín.

Pale-rumped Swift *Chaetura egregia*

A male was collected by MM on 18 August 1987 at Tayuntza (WFVZ # 42,472) over an open bog from a flock of about 30 birds mixed with Gray-rumped Swifts *Chaetura cinereiventris*. We observed these species almost daily from 29 July to 23 August 1987 in ratios of 5:1 to 7:1 (*cinereiventris* to *egregia*). At times Chestnut-collared Swifts *Streptoprocne rutilus* were observed in the same feeding flocks. The bird collected at Tayuntza had testes of 15 x 5 mm, suggesting local breeding, and the 10th primary was almost fully grown. Four male *cinereiventris* were collected in the same area. They had testes averaging 4x2 mm and all had complete wing and some body molt. On 4 and 6 August 1989 at Pachicutza we observed clearly 2 and 3 *egregia*, respectively, among flocks > 20 *cinereiventris*, but none were collected. On 8 August 1989 lower down in the Valle de Nangaritza at Bellavista, 920 m, near Paquisha ca. 40 km ESE of Zamora, MM and J. Schmitt collected two males and a female *C. egregia* (LACMNH # 105662, WFVZ # 46886 and 46889). Both males had fresh primaries and the largest testis was 12.5 x 6 mm. The female was 75% finished with the molt of its primaries. These birds were obtained from a flock of 45—50 birds composed mainly of *cinereiventris* in a ratio to *egregia* of 7:3. A few Chestnut-collared Swifts were present in the flock, and one was collected (WFVZ # 46882). The *cinereiventris* collected in the area were not in breeding condition (largest testis 7.5 x 4 mm). On 22 July 1990 at ca. 5 km SE of Gualaquiza, 850 m, Prov. Zamora-Chinchipe, several *egregia* were observed in a mixed-species flock with *cinereiventris* in a ratio to *egregia* of 8:3. We observed the latter species on several occasions in the Zamora-Nangaritza valleys. The average body mass of our Ecuadorian specimens was 22.6 g (21.0—25.2; SD = 1.87; n = 4). Our specimens of both species had rather large testes, but judging by the molt stage of the remiges, which was almost completed, the birds were probably at the end of the breeding season (Marín, unpublished, also cf. Marín & Stiles 1992). We found *egregia* to be predominantly associated with *cinereiventris* in mixed-species flocks. Occasionally, a few *S. rutilus* and Lesser Swallow-tailed Swifts *Panyptila cayennensis* accompanied the flock. Field identification of *egregia* is usually difficult, but this species has a well-defined, broad, pale-gray to whitish rump band and often does quick maneuvers that flash the pale rump. The band becomes distinctive at once, especially when the bird is viewed from above or laterally. Previously, the nearest record for this species was collected E of Moyobamba, Dept. San Martín, NE Peru (Davis 1986), about 300 km SE of the southermost Ecuadorian locality. As with previous reports of the species in Peru and Bolivia (e.g., O'Neill 1969, Davis 1986, Par-

ker & Remsen 1987) we found that it was associated with, but in lower numbers than *cinereiventris*. We compared our series with several specimens from Peru and Bolivia and found no significant differences in body mass (m) or flat wing length (wl) (Student's $t_m = 1.28$, $t_{wl} = 0.99$, d.f. = 10, $P > 0.1$). We agree with Parker & Remsen (1987) that *agregia* should not be treated as a subspecies of *cinereiventris*, as proposed by Peters (1940) and that *egregia* should be tentatively treated as a full species. A taxonomic revision of the group is under way by Marín.

Band-rumped Swift *Chaetura spinicauda*

We are aware of only one specimen of this species from Ecuador, a bird taken by Stolzmann and Siemiradski in 1882 at Puente de Chimbo, Yaguachi (Viejo), Prov. Guayaquil, and reported by Berlepsch & Taczanowski (1883) *in* Chapman (1926). During a survey by personnel from the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia at El Placer, 670 m, Prov. Esmeraldas in August 1987, G.S. Glenn collected seven birds (ANSP # 180253-8 and MECN # 811). A female (16.7 g; WFVZ # 45,090) was collected by MM on 16 July 1988 at Filo de Monos in the Montañas de Chindul. The bird was collected from a loose mixed-species flock of *Chaetura cinereiventris* and *C. spinicauda* at a forest edge on the mountain ridge. We observed this species almost daily from 8 to 17 July 1988 at Filo de Monos, sometimes as solitary individuals or in small flocks of three to five birds, but most frequently in mixed-species flocks with *cinereiventris* in a ratio of *spinicauda* to *cinereiventris* of about 1:4 birds. A single-species flock of four individuals was observed by MM on 11 June 1989 in the lower portion of the old Quito-Santo Domingo road at about 1300—1400 m. On 9 July 1989 from a ridge near Marianita, ca. 1500 m, Nanegalito, Prov. Pichincha, MM and J. Schmitt observed about 10 birds of this species flying above the forest. On 21 Aug 1990 MM and R. Corado observed this species near San Marcos, 650 m, NE of La Mana, Prov. Cotopaxi, flying over a small ridge at the forest edge in a mixed-species flock with *cinereiventris* in a ratio of *spinicauda* to *cinereiventris* of 1:9. On 24 Aug 1990 MM and R. Corado observed eight birds in a single-species scattered flock over a forest-pasture edge on a mountain ridge at Pueblo Nuevo, 1500 m, N of Mindo, Prov. Pichincha. In western Ecuador, *C. spinicauda* occurs in relatively more forested areas than its sympatric species *C. cinereiventris*. The latter species is primarily observed in large semi-open areas and forest edge. At lower elevations, *C. spinicauda* is present in small numbers in mixed-species flocks, primarily associated with *C. cinereiventris*, but at higher elevations, seems to occur in single-species flocks. As with other species of *Chaetura*, C. spinicauda is difficult to identify in the field, but it has a well-defined, narrow, white rump bar, which is very distinctive when viewed from above or when the birds make quick maneuvers. The sympatric *C. cinereiventris* has a dark, almost blackish rump.

White-tipped Swift *Aeronautes montivagus*

From 1989 to 1991 we found this species to be common in the Arid Temperate Zone along the Río Guayllabamba, north of Quito, Prov. Pichincha Prov. In this area we collected and observed birds from 1900 to 2700 m elev., although most were observed and collected at elevations near 2000 m (WFVZ # 46892-96, 48081-89, 48639-40, 49398-402, MECN # 814-5, 3920). Their body mass averaged 19.62 g (17.2—22.9) (SD = 1.33, n = 26). This species obviously occurs along the Andes in Ecuador, because it has been collected in the adjacent countries of Colombia and Peru; it is included in several lists of Ecuadorian birds (e.g., Butler 1979, Ortiz *et al.* 1990). However, Chapman (1926) did not mention it, and we believe that its inclusion in the recent lists is based on sight records, because we are unaware of any published specimen records from Ecuador. Most of our observations on this species are in small single-species flocks, ranging from 3 to 20 birds and usually flying low over the steep slopes of canyons covered with small, compact shrubs. Our northernmost sight record was on 8 January 1991, when several birds were observed flying in a mixed-species flock with Chestnut-collared Swifts *Streptoprocne rutilus* along the Valle de Chota, ca. 6 km of Chota, 1500 m, on the border of Carchi and Imbabura Provinces. Three of six individuals collected during Nov—Dec 1991 in the Valle de Guayllabamba were in breeding condition: a male with testes 13.2 x 7.6 and two females with ovarian

follicles 4 and 3 mm in diameter, respectively. However, three adult birds collected at the same time and three taken in January 1991 had reposed gonads, which suggests asynchronous breeding within the Guayllabamba population with some, but not all, birds apparently initiating breeding in the months of November–December.

Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift *Panyptila cayennensis*

Despite its widespread distribution, this species seems to be somewhat uncommon and local throughout its range. Although widely recorded east of the Andes in many South American countries, in eastern Ecuador it has been recorded only at Limoncocha (Pearson *et al.* 1977). While at Tayuntza on the eastern slopes of the Cordillera de Cutucú, on 18 August 1987 MM collected a female (WFVZ # 42476) from a mixed-species flock of > 30 birds that included *Chaetura cinereiventris* and *Streptoprocne rutilus* flying over an open bog at the edge of secondary forest. On 23 November 1991 MM and E. Alvarez observed three birds in a mixed-species flock, including *Chaetura brachyura* and *C. cinereiventris*, near Río Payamino, ca. 5 km NW of Coca, Prov. Napo. Our specimen constitutes the first specimen collected east of the Ecuadorian Andes and is only the second specimen reported for the country. This species is present west of the Andes of Ecuador, mainly in the lowlands and foothills. Its published distribution is based mainly on sight records, with the only specimen reported for Ecuador from "Guayaquil" (Berlepsch & Taczanowski 1883 *in* Chapman 1926). The southernmost (sight) record west of the Andes is at El Caucho, Depto. Tumbes, NW Peru (Schulenberg & Parker 1981). On 17 and 21 August 1989 T. Maxwell and M. Robbins collected two birds (MECN # 817 and ANSP # 181577); along the Río Catamayo, 700 m, SE Celica, Prov. Loja. These are the southernmost specimens for the species and the third and fourth specimens for the Ecuador. On 9 July 1989 near Nanegalito, 1500 m, Prov. Pichincha, MM observed a flock of three birds of this species among a large flock of *Streptoprocne rutilus*. This is the highest elevation at which we have recorded this species in the country, but it has been reported from similar elevations in western Colombia (Hilty & Brown 1986).

Fork-tailed Palm-Swift *Reinarda squamata*

While at Pachicutza (1000 m) from 23 July to 8 August 1989 and on 7 August 1990, we observed almost daily small, single-species flocks of this species, ranging from 3–10 birds, usually flying low over a clearing and over a boggy area covered with scattered palms (*Mauritia* ? or similar genus). During our stay several birds were collected (MECN # 816, WFVZ # 47168-75). The birds were at different stages in the molt of their remiges. Their mean body mass was 11.7 (10.5–13.6) (SD = 0.88; n = 10). On 23 Nov 1991, MM observed a single specimen at the edge of the Río Napo, near the town of Coca, Prov. Napo. The inclusion of this species for Ecuador probably was based on published sight records at Limoncocha (Pearson 1975) and Cuyabeno (Paz y Miño 1989). The species is widely distributed in tropical South America but is always found locally and in small groups. Its seems to be frequently associated with *Mauritia* palms (Belcher & Smooker 1936, Gyldenstolpe 1945, Sick 1948, and Hilty & Brown 1986) and occurs in lowlands up to 500 m (Hilty & Brown 1986). Our specimens represent the first for Ecuador and are from the highest elevation reported for the species.

Giant Hummingbird *Patagonas gigas*

Chapman (1926) gave the northern limit of this species in Ecuador as Pomasqui, about 25 km N of Quito, and he thought that this species did not cross the Valle de Guayllabamba. Subsequently, Ortiz-Crespo (1974) reported a sight record about 50 km N of Quito, at Laguna Cuicocha, Prov. Imbabura, and Ortiz-Crespo & Bleiweiss (1982) reported another sight record 20 km NNW from the 1974 record, on the west slopes of Mtn. Yana-Urco, above Piñan, Prov. Imbabura. A bird hovering over a river between the entrance of a large cave and a stand of eucalyptus trees was observed by JMC and MM on 8 Jan 1991 at Gruta de la Paz, 2500 m, ca. 8 km NE Bolivar, Prov. Carchi. Our record is 52 km ENE from the northernmost limit given for Ecuador. The Gruta de la Paz is in the northeastern corner of the Valle de Chota and ca. 30 km south of the

Colombian border. Hilty & Brown (1986) reported a sight record from April 1978 at Ipiales, Nariño, Colombia, an area only 42 km north of our record.

Lanceolated Monklet *Micromonacha lanceolata*

A group of four birds was encountered by MM in the middle stratum of a disturbed wet forest on 8 July 1988 at Filo de Monos. Three were collected, one male and two females (WFVZ # 45057-58, MECN # 1435, respectively). The body masses were, 19.0, 19.4 and 19.0 g, (respectively), and the stomachs contained insect remains. The male had small testes, the largest 2.3 x 1.6 mm. Chapman (1926) first reported this species only from eastern Ecuador, but its presence was suspected by Chapman in western Ecuador, based on specimens from nearby southwestern Colombia. We are unaware of any previous report of this species from western Ecuador.

Cinnamon Manakin *Neopipo cinnamomea*

While at Pachicutza on 25 July 1989, we netted a female (WFVZ # 47099) in second-growth. Its body mass was 7.4 g, the ovary was granular, and the stomach contained fruits and insect remains. Chapman (1926) mentioned one specimen from Río Suno, upper Río Napo, Prov. Napo, but there are no recent records for this species from Ecuador. This specimen represents a southern range extension within Ecuador and is also from a higher elevation (1000 m) than previously reported. In Colombia it is known to occur only up to 300 m (Hilty & Brown 1986).

Cliff Flycatcher *Hirundinea ferruginea*

Lloyd Kiff collected a female (WFVZ # 42911) on 17 October 1987 on the Narupa-Loreto Road, 1300 m, 23 km NE of Archidona, Prov. Napo. Its body mass was 28.8 g. On 22 Nov 1991, near where Kiff obtained the previous specimen, but at 1400 m, MM and E. Alvarez collected a male and a female (32, and 30.5 g; MECN # 6028 and WFVZ # 49414). All three were collected on steep road banks in the upper tropical forest. Previously, this species was known from Ecuador only from two sight records: below Sabanilla, Prov. Zamora-Chinchipe, and ca. 15 km W of Coca Falls, Prov. Napo (Ridgely 1980).

Large-headed Flatbill *Ramphotrigon megacephala*

Three females of this species were collected by FS 10 km SE of Archidona, Prov. Napo (12.7, 11.0, and 13.7 g; WFVZ # 45813-15; one and two birds on 25 and 28 October 1988, respectively). All three specimens were netted in an area of pasture that had regrown with dense brushy vegetation 2—3 m tall. These birds represent the first specimens for Ecuador. Previously, Ridgely (1980) observed two birds of this species in a bamboo stand near Paquisha, Prov. Zamora-Chinchipe. Our specimens are ca. 340 km northeast of that locality.

Buff-throated Tody-Tyrant *Hemitricus rufigularе*

On 27 July 1989, at Pachicutza MM collected a male of this species (9.8 g; largest testis 7 x 3 mm; WFVZ # 48167) in the upper canopy of disturbed wet forest. Formerly, the northernmost locality for this species was from northern Peru, about 15 km of NE Jarillo on the trail to Balsapuerto, Dpto. San Martín, where M. Sánchez and T. Davis found it to be uncommon from 1,350 to 1,450 m (Davis 1986). Our specimen extends its range north about 400 km.

Rufous-winged Tyrannulet *Mecocerculus calopterus*

Formerly, the northernmost limit of this species was considered to be Chimbo, Prov. Guayas, ca. 2 °S (Chapman 1926, Meyer de Schauensee 1982). However, P. Greenfield saw this species at San Miguel de los Bancos, and at Tinalandia, both Prov. Pichincha, and ca. 200 and 240 km N of Chimbo, respectively (*fide* Ridgely 1980). On 22, 23 and 28 June 1988, at Maquipucuna, 1500 m, 40 km NW of Quito, Prov. Pichincha, three males of this species were netted at the edge of secondary forest and a pasture (6.7, 6.2, and 8.0 g; WFVZ # 44,960-961, MECN # 3406). The gonads of the three birds were reposed, with the largest testis 2 mm in diam. Our specimens were taken ca. 30 km ENE from San Miguel de los Bancos and 260 km NNE of Chimbo.

Pale-footed Swallow *Notiochelidon flavipes*

During September—October 1989, FCS collected two males and two females (10.5, 10.8,

10.6, and 11.1 g; MECN # 3558, WFVZ # 47705-07) ca. 2 km SW of Cerro Pan de Azucar 2900 m, ca. 15 km ESE of Borja, Prov. Napo, between 29 September and 11 October 1989. The specimens were collected over a forested area and were seen in pairs or small flocks of 3—5 birds. They were not in breeding condition; both females had ova < 1 mm, and the largest testis of the males was 4 x 3 mm. The small groups of swallows were always found feeding in the same area. One pair was observed in the same area for over 2 weeks, always following a similar circular movement patterns within an area no more than 200 m in diameter. When one member of the pair was collected, the other continued to occupy the area for the rest of our stay (another week). A group of 3—5 birds was normally found just below our camp foraging in a similarly small area. Unlike the first pair, the number of individuals in the flock varied, and sometimes no birds were present. These two groups were the only birds in an area of cloud forest about 2 x 1/2 km that we covered daily. Another pair was found at about 2500 m and in the course of a half-hour of observation never traveled more than 100 m away from the area. At about one minute intervals a bird would fly up into the moss on the underside of a large branch and remain out of sight for some 10 seconds; this was presumably a nest-site. This pair was not there two days later. A fourth pair was seen for two days by FCS at the summit of Cerro Pan de Azucar (3500 m). Dense fog prevented any extended observations. This species has been reported from scattered localities along the eastern slopes of the Andes from Venezuela south to Bolivia, between elevations of 2000—3000 m (Fjeldså & Krabbe 1990). There were previously only sight records for Ecuador, all from October at Sangay National Park, Prov. Morona-Santiago (Ridgely 1980, Ridgely & Tudor 1989).

Fulvous-vented Euphonia *Euphonia fulvicrissa*

A female (10.5 g; WFVZ # 45182) of this species was collected by MM on 12 July 1988 in secondary growth at the edge of a wet forest at Filo de Monos. Previously, this species was known in Ecuador only from a few specimens from Pambilar and San Javier, NW Ecuador, Prov. Esmeraldas (Hellmayr 1936). Our record extends its distribution toward the coastal cordillera ca. 180 km S of San Javier.

Gray-and-Gold Tanager *Tangara palmeri*

At Filo de Monos, MM collected two males (32.2 and 35.5 g; WFVZ # 45200-201) on 15 July 1988. The birds were not in breeding condition, and the largest testes measured 5 x 4 mm. Both were taken from a flock of 8—10 birds at mid-level at the edge of a patch of disturbed wet forest. The stomachs contained vegetable and insect remains. Isler & Isler (1987) and Ridgely & Tudor (1989) indicated that this species occurs south to Prov. Pichincha in NW Ecuador. Our specimens are the first records for the coastal cordillera.

Orange-throated Tanager *Wetmorethraupis sterrhopteron*

In mature forest on Shaime, on 24 July 1990, MM observed a single-species flock of six birds moving in the upper stratum (ca. 20 m) among epiphytes. Two were observed moving along the thick horizontal branches flaking off bits of moss and small bromeliads. On 27 July, MM encountered a flock of three birds moving in mid-stratum in disturbed forest, and one male was collected (43.6 g, largest testis 3 x 1.5 mm; WFVZ # 48,214). The stomach contained mainly vegetable matter and some insect remains. On 1 August another flock of three birds was observed high in the upper canopy of mature forest, and on 3 August MM and R. Corado encountered a flock of five birds at middle canopy in a tree full of epiphytes. Two males and a female were collected (45.5, 47.5 and 49.5 g; MECN # 5019, WFVZ # 48212-13). All the stomachs contained vegetable matter, and insect larvae and remains, mainly Coleoptera, and one stomach contained several curculionids. One bird had bromeliad flowers on its beak and crushed pieces of flowers in its esophagus. Although its occurrence was suspected in SE Ecuador, this species was previously reported only from NE Peru, mainly along the drainage of the Río Marañon (Isler & Isler 1987, Ridgely & Tudor 1989).

Black-and-White Tanager *Conothraupis speculigera*

An immature male (WFVZ # 43481) was netted on 3 August 1987 at Tayuntza, in a shrubby second-growth area. The specimen body mass was 24.0 g, had light fat, testes 2 x 1 mm, and the stomach contained insect remains. Prior to our specimen, this species has been reported only from the western Ecuador and Peru, and east of the Andes in eastern Peru (Isler & Isler 1987, Ridgely & Tudor 1989) and western Brazil (Stotz 1990). However, this represents the first specimen from eastern Ecuador.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*

Several individuals were observed on 17 July 1988 by MM and D. Gardner at El Carmen, Prov. Manabí. On 22 July 1989 MM, JMC, and N.J. Schmitt observed an adult male in the main square of the town of Zamora, ca. 950 m, Prov. Zamora-Chinchipe. No others were seen. On 22 Aug 1990, MM and R. Corado observed a large colony of over 60 birds actively nesting in a large warehouse across from the Hotel Zaracay in the outskirts of Santo Domingo de Los Colorados, Prov. Pichincha. This was probably the same place where Ortiz-Crespo (1977) observed about a dozen individuals in February 1969. The House Sparrow reached Ecuador in about 1967—1968, coming from the south, and moved along the coastal towns, reaching the town of Esmeraldas, Prov. Esmeraldas, by 1977 (Ortiz-Crespo 1977). Ortiz-Crespo (1977) also mentioned sight records for this species in Guayaquil, Prov. Guayas, and Cuenca, Prov. Azuay, by June 1969. In addition, Ridgely & Tudor (1989) reported its presence in the coastal towns and at the inland town of Quevedo, Prov. Los Rios. However, no sighting or specimen of this species had been reported from eastern Ecuador. Fjeldså & Krabbe (1990) mentioned its presence in some towns in eastern Peru, including Tingo María, Dept. Huánuco. Unless it was an escaped cage bird, the occurrence of this individual in Zamora, might well indicate the beginning of a trans-Andean dispersal of the species in Ecuador. If so, the most likely place of origin would be the town of Vilcabamba, 25 km S of Loja, Prov. Loja, where an adult male was collected on 8 May 1974 (Ortiz-Crespo 1977). Another possible place of origin would be the Andean town of Loja, but there are no reports of this species from that city.

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