

THE ALLEGED OCCURRENCE OF NUTTING'S FLYCATCHER IN BAJA CALIFORNIA

In a recent editorial comment (Calif. Birds 1:80, 1970), I uncritically repeated the Baja California record of a Nutting's Flycatcher *Myiarchus nuttingi inquietus* from Catavina on 6 October 1930, quoted both by the North American check-list (A.O.U. Check-list of North American birds, 1957) and the Mexican check-list (Miller in Miller et al., A distributional check-list of the birds of Mexico, Part II, 1957). The bird was originally reported by Huey (Auk 48:429-430, 1931).

I have now examined the specimen, San Diego Natural History Museum no. 13652, "male"; it is unquestionably an Ash-throated Flycatcher *M. cinerascens*. The tail pattern corresponds to the "typical *M. cinerascens* pattern," category I.A, of Lanyon's key (Condor 63:424-426, 1961). In all other plumage characters, pale underparts, whitish edges of secondaries, nuchal band, and gray color of auriculars, it is typical of *cinerascens*. The measurements (wing 88, tail 86.7, exposed culmen 13 mm) fall outside the range of male Ash-throated Flycatchers but inside the range of female Ash-throated Flycatchers, as well as of Nutting's Flycatchers. The wing formula is inconclusive.

Dr. Wesley E. Lanyon kindly examined the specimen and confirmed (*in litt.*) its identification as *cinerascens*, presumably mis-sexed. This record of Nutting's Flycatcher was the only one for Baja California, and to my knowledge, the only truly extralimital record of *M. nuttingi inquietus*. Indeed, in my opinion southern Arizona is within a normal area of wandering and/or expansion for Sonoran species, and I do not consider the record from there as extralimital. *Pierre Devillers, 11 av. de l'Oiseau bleu, 1150 Bruxelles, Belgium.*

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