

Might it not be the same with *Ægilops triticoides* when it is fertile? Dr. Godron was desirous of making certain of this by the experimental method; and for this purpose it was necessary to produce this *Ægilops* anew at Nancy, as he had previously done at Montpellier. He obtained several plants of it, some of which were fecundated with wheat in the summer of 1857. This new fecundation by the male type afforded nine seeds, which germinated perfectly. They were sown in autumn, and protected from excessive cold in a frame. These plants flowered, and produced *Ægilops speltæformis*, resembling that which Dr. Godron had cultivated for four years, and which was derived from seed from the Paris Garden. Dr. Godron compared the two plants in a fresh state: they were sown at the same time, but separately; they flowered in the same week, and he could not detect any difference between them. Finally, he adds that the ovaries of this *Ægilops speltæformis* obtained artificially have already (June 29th) acquired their normal size, and appear well developed: he has reason to think that they will furnish fertile seeds, like the *Ægilops speltæformis* cultivated by M. Fabre.

Ægilops speltæformis is, then, a new hybrid plant resulting from the fecundation of *Ægilops triticoides* by *Triticum vulgare*; it is a true *quadroon*, if we may use here a term by which is designated one of the degrees of crossing between the Negro and the Caucasian race.

The author anxiously invites botanists interested in this question to repeat his new experiments; and they will be convinced. This same year, however, experiments similar to the above, the results of which are as yet unknown to him, will serve to check the author's. They have been made by MM. Vilmorin and Grœnland. Lastly, M. J. Gay brought from Beziers last year a seed of the wild *Ægilops triticoides*, which has germinated. This learned botanist will doubtless make known the result which it will produce.—*Comptes Rendus*, July 19, 1858.

On a new species of Platyrhynchus from the Rio Napo, in the Republic of Ecuador. By PHILIP LUTLEY SCLATER, M.A.

PLATYRHYNCHUS CORONATUS, Verreaux, MS.

Brunnescenti-olivaceus, alis caudaque fuscis, pilei cristati parte mediali flavissima laterali utrinque castanea; linea superciliari et altera a rictu descendente nigris; loris et corpore subtus cum tectricibus subalaribus sordide flavicantibus; rostro superiore nigro, inferiore albicante; pedibus pallide fuscis.

Long. tota 3·8, alæ 2·4, caudæ 1·2, rostri a rictu ·55, tarsi ·55.

This is a typical species of the genus *Platyrhynchus* with the bill nearly of the same breadth and shape as in *P. cancruma*, and of the general size and form of that species; but it is easily recognizable by its bright yellow crest being broadly margined with deep chestnut, and by the shorter and more slender tarsi. These two birds and *Platyrhynchus rostratus* are the only members of the group with which I am acquainted.—*Proc. Zool. Soc.* Jan. 26, 1858.



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