

WHITE-FACED SCOPS OWL *OTUS LEUCOTIS* BREEDING AT MAKERERE, UGANDA

Between 7 and 9 February 1984, two young White-faced Scops Owls were found in a clump of trees at Makerere University, about 4 km from the centre of Kampala. They were brought to the Department of Zoology, where one was kept for a few days by JG, but unfortunately it died, apparently of pneumonia. The other was returned to the place where it had been found. The dead bird was skinned and its identity checked by comparison with skins in the National Museum, Nairobi.

The birds had presumably left the nest, although their flight feathers were still sheathed at their bases, and the tail was only about half-grown. Both had bright orange-red eyes and ()-shaped black marks at the edge of the face, which had already developed white feathers. (The 'horns', however, had not grown out.) Brown & Britton (1980) list only one confirmed breeding record for East Africa, and the only previous Ugandan records are from the north and east (Britton 1980). A search was made for the nest in the tall old trees where the young had been found, but it was not seen, neither did evening visits lead to the discovery of the parent birds. However, we feel certain that the nest was there; the people who brought the birds showed us where they had been found. There is no reason to believe that the birds had been brought from afar in the hope of financial reward.

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## NOTES ON THE RANGES OF THREE SPECIES IN NORTHERN AND EASTERN KENYA

The following extensions or clarifications of range have been revealed by researches associated with the Kenya bird atlas scheme (Lewis & Pomeroy in prep.), and supplement information given in Britton (1980) and other sources.

Star-spotted Nightjar *Caprimulgus stellatus*

Britton (1980) describes this species as a rare inhabitant of the arid areas of northern Kenya and lists localities that are mostly north of 2°N; he also notes its occurrence on the northern edge of the central Kenya highlands at the Lekundu River (0°29'N, 37°39'E) and at Kongeli (1°28'N, 35°01'E).

The following records, all of single birds unless otherwise stated and all supported by the examination of corpses, are from the area between Kongeli and the Lekundu River, and suggest that the species may be more frequent there than hitherto thought.

July 1968, Lokori (1°57'N, 36°01'E), National Museum collection

17 June 1970, Lokori; 2, including a male in breeding condition, National  
Museum collection

25 June 1970, Lokori, National Museum collection

24 October 1980, Colcheccio (0°36'N, 36°49'E), road kill, J.M.S. & R. Cald-  
well in litt.)

20 January 1982, Kapedo (1°10'N, 36°06'E), road kill, T Stevenson (pers.  
comm.)

6 August 1982, El Karama Ranch (0°08'N, 36°54'E), killed by domestic cat  
L.V.J. Grant in litt.)

Mrs Grant also has a sight record of two further individuals of this species at El Karama Ranch on 7 September 1982. The El Karama records are the southernmost of this species for Kenya and, just to the northwest of Nanyuki, demonstrate its occurrence south to the northern edge of the highlands.





Goodman, George J. and Pomeroy, D. 1984. "White-faced scops owl *Otus leucotis* breeding at Makerere, Uganda." *Scopus* 8, 27-27.

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