

## A substitute name for *Serinus estherae orientalis* Chasen

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The Mountain Serin *Serinus estherae* occurs as a series of widely disjunct high-altitude isolates from the Greater Sundas to Sulawesi and the Philippines. Chasen (1940) gave the name *Serinus estherae orientalis* to the east Javan form, type locality Goenoeng Ajekajek, Tengger Mountains (08°02'S, 112°55'E), of a montane serin first discovered in western Java, which species had then very recently been discovered in northern Sumatra (Chasen 1939, Meyer de Schauensee 1939). Mees (1996) confirmed the distinctiveness of the east Javan bird from that in west Java. The relationship of Philippine *Serinus estherae mindanensis* Ripley & Rabor, 1961, to the east Javan form now merits reinvestigation.

Unfortunately, Chasen's name is a primary homonym, being preoccupied by *Serinus orientalis* Brehm, 1831, from Austria, a point overlooked for 68 years. Although Brehm's name is currently treated as a synonym of European Serin *Serinus serinus* (after Hartert 1903: 83), it is still an available name and invalidates Chasen's name under Arts. 52.2 and 57.2 of the *International code of zoological nomenclature* (ICZN 1999), as modified by Art. 23.9. We have examined Art. 23.9, which, according to Art. 57.2.1, may be used to validate in-use junior homonyms over disused senior homonyms, and have concluded that the conditions set by Art. 23.9.1.2 ('reversal of precedence') cannot be met, there being too few usages of *S. e. orientalis* Chasen in the period 1958–2007. Thus, we propose to replace it by:

### *Serinus estherae chaseni*, nom. nov.

The new name honours Frederick Nutter Chasen (1897–1942), Director of the Raffles Museum, Singapore, from 1932 until his death, and proposer of the name we replace. The name we propose is the masculine genitive form of his name (ICZN 1999, Art. 3.1.1.2). Because *S. e. chaseni* Kinzelbach, Dickinson & Somadikarta is a replacement name for *S. e. orientalis* Chasen, its type material is the same as that for *S. e. orientalis* Chasen.

#### Acknowledgements

We are grateful to Mathew Louis for drawing this instance of homonymy to our attention, and to Mary LeCroy for responding to our queries about the existence of type material for Brehm's name, for kindly checking his original description and for locating at least one syntype in the American Museum of Natural History (New York). Richard Schodde kindly advised us on the need to provide a new name, despite the fact that Brehm's name has not been used as valid since perhaps before 1899, and he and David Wells provided helpful comments on our original submission.

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