RHIPIDURA HAMADRYAS, *Scater.*

RHIPIDURA HAMADRYAS, *Sclater*.

Rufous-backed Fantail Flycatcher.

Rhipidura hamadryas, Sclater, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1883, p. 54.

THIS species belongs to the section of the genus *Rhipidura* with the rump and upper tail-coverts rufous or cinnamon-coloured. Its nearest allies would appear to be *R. semicollaris* from Eastern Timor and *R. dryas* from Northern Australia; but from both of these it is distinguished by the mantle being rufous like the rest of the back, and by the ashy tips to the tail-feathers.

The only specimens known were procured in Larat by Mr. H. O. Forbes during his first expedition to the Tenimber group; and I am indebted to Dr. Sclater for lending me the type specimen from which the accompanying description has been drawn up.

Adult female. General colour above dark ferruginous or cinnamon-rufous; lesser wing-coverts brown, with a slight wash of rufous; median and greater coverts, bastard-wing, primary-coverts and quills dusky brown, narrowly margined with ashy rufous, a little clearer rufous on the inner greater coverts and the secondaries; upper tail-coverts like the back; tail-feathers ashy brown, all but the centre ones with a broad tip of greyish white to the inner web, before which is a shade of black, the outer feathers also shaded with ashy whitish at the end of both webs; the bases of all the tail-feathers edged with ferruginous; forehead bright ferruginous, extending backwards to above the eye; remainder of the crown and hind neck dusky brown; lores and feathers below the eye blackish; ear-coverts sooty brown; cheeks and throat white, with a large spot of black on the lower part of the latter; remainder of under surface creamy buff; the sides of the upper breast ashy olive; sides of body and flanks a little deeper fulvous, as also the thighs; under tail-coverts fulvous white; under wing-coverts and axillaries ashy fulvous, the latter with whitish edgings; quills below dusky; inner edge of quills ashy; "legs and feet black; iris dark brown or black" (*H. O. Forbes*). Total length 5.6 inches, culmen 0.5, wing 2.4, tail 3, tarsus 0.8.

The Plate represents an adult female of this species, of the natural size, in two positions.

[R. B. S.]

Gould, John and Sharpe, Richard Bowdler. 1883. "Rhipidura hamadryas, Rufous-backed Fantail Flycatcher [Pl. 30]." *The birds of New Guinea and the adjacent Papuan islands : including many new species recently discovered in Australia* 2(XV), –. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.322685>.

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