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The Collared Turtle Dove *Streptopelia decaocto* in Egypt by Steven M. Goodman & Patrick F. Houlihan

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On 8 February 1979, while on a roof-top of a six-storey building at Talaat Harb Square in downtown Cairo, Egypt, we observed 3 Collared Turtle Doves *Streptopelia decaocto*. Two doves were perched approximately 4 m from one another on a wire, and were singing the characteristic tri-syllabic "coo-coooo-cuh" call. After several minutes of observation, a third bird

appeared, and landed between the 2 singing birds. Upon our approach to within 10–15 m of the birds, all 3 flew away. These observations appear to be the first reported for this species in Egypt in a free state.

Next day SMG returned to the same roof-top and found there a single vocalizing Collared Turtle Dove. The bird was collected, but not identified as to subspecies, and prepared as a skeletal specimen which is now deposited in the University of Michigan Museum of Zoology (201, 255). Some plumage notes were recorded before the feathers were removed: there was little wear, and no damage from cage battering was noted, nor were there any signs that the bird had recently been held in captivity (e.g. no wear of scales on one leg, no ring). The grey under tail-coverts, the small terminal tail spots and the dark wing-tips, combined with the distinctive call distinguished the collected bird from either the Pink-headed Turtle Dove *S. roseogrisea* or the domestic Barbary Dove *S. "risoria"* (Vaurie 1961). The bird proved to be a male with swollen testes: wing (chord) 163 mm; tail 124 mm; weight 133 gm; left testes 17 x 2 mm, right 18 x 3 mm.

The western range expansion of this species across Europe has been well documented (Stresemann & Nowak 1958), but in several cases it has not been possible to determine if the colonizers were wild, or escaped cage birds (e.g. May & Fisher 1953). At the time the above specimen was collected, a pet shop in the downtown area of Cairo, and only 4 city blocks from Talaat Harb Square, had collared Turtle Doves for sale. These captive birds were kept in cages within an open-air court at the back of the shop. Before removing the feathers from the specimen collected at Talaat Harb Square it was compared to these captive doves, and they matched in plumage colour and general feather condition. Upon inquiry, it was learned from the shop-owner that he had kept and sold Collared Turtle Doves for at least 2 years, during which time several had escaped (no estimate was made as to how many). The owner did not disclose from where his stock came. Based on these facts, it appears that the birds on the roof-top at Talaat Harb Square were probably escaped cage birds from this pet shop (or perhaps another?) which had adapted to the local environs, and were not wild colonizers.

This species is a common resident in Israel (Meinertzhagen 1920, Arnold 1962), and it is plausible that range expansion into Egypt could take place from this population, but to our knowledge there is no evidence that this has occurred, and based upon the above evidence it is best to consider the Collared Turtle Doves from Talaat Harb Square as feral cage birds. The population appears to be very localized, since we did not observe these doves in other areas of Cairo, nor in the country; nor have other workers (Haensel 1975, 1980, Meininger & Dielissen 1979) found them present recently. The species' range has increased elsewhere due to its introduction by man, so we may perhaps see a similar pattern develop in Egypt, with subsequent colonization of other portions of northeast Africa.

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Atlas of speciation in African non-passerine birds — *Addenda and Corrigenda 2*

by D. W. Snow and M. Louette

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The following items complete the list of *Addenda* and *Corrigenda* that have come to our notice since the publication of the *Atlas* in August 1978. An earlier list was published in *Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl.* 99: 66-68 (1979).

We should make it clear that we are dealing only with records or references which were available at the time when the *Atlas* was being prepared. Hence, when these additions and corrections have been made, together with those given in the earlier paper, the *Atlas* should give a comprehensive and reasonably detailed picture of the known distributions of African non-passerines at the end of 1976 (the cut-off date for incorporation of published records). It may be noted that an exception was made of the distributional synthesis of the Cameroun avifauna which appeared in 1977 (Louette 1977, *De avifauna van Kameroon*, Doctorate thesis, Univ. Antwerp), since it contained a considerable number of new records for that country.

Map 2. See remark under Map 4.

Map 4. *Podiceps cristatus*. Delete the Gabon breeding record. It is based on a chick in the Paris Museum which is in fact *Tachybaptus ruficollis* (Louette, *op. cit.*). (To be transferred to Map 2.)

Map 25. *Ardea purpurea*. Found breeding south of Bomboma (c. 2°N, 19°E) by Vrijdagh (1954, *Gerfaut* 44: 300-302).

Map 56. *Anas sparsa*. The easternmost record in Cameroun should be a star, as ducklings were collected (Louette, *op. cit.*).

Map 61. *Anas smithii* species-group. The record for *A. smithii* in Shaba is erroneous. It was mentioned by Verheyen (1941, *Bull. Mus. Hist. Nat. Bel.* 17 (23): 3), but corrected by Chapin (1954, *Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.* 75B: 624). The specimen, in the Brussels Museum, turns out to be *Netta erythrophthalma*.

Map 66. *Torgos tracheliotus*. Insert a second breeding record for the area south of Lake Chad: Waza, Cameroun, 11° 25' N, 14° 34' E (Louette, *op. cit.*). Salvan (1968, *Oiseau* 38: 54-55) mentions breeding in Chad (in Ouadai, near 13° N, 21° E).

Map 83. *Accipiter nisus* superspecies. Of the records from between 10° and 23° S only the following are correct: the 3 from the NW side of Lake Malawi (Nyika and Vitya Plateaux) and the one from near Melssetter southeasternmost. The record from Sa da Bandeira, Angola, must be considered suspect as no details are given (Rosa Pinto 1970, *Mem.*



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