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DESCRIPTIONS OF FIVE NEW BIRDS FROM THE
WEST COAST OF SUMATRA.

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The following descriptions of supposed new subspecies from islands off the west coast of Sumatra have been in manuscript for several years. They are based chiefly upon collections made by Dr. W. L. Abbott in 1903 and 1904, the first collection received from Dr. Abbott having been reported upon in 1903 (Proc. U. S. Nat. Museum, XXVI, pp. 485-524).

Muscadivores consobrina babiensis subsp. nov.

Type, No. 179,057, U. S. Nat. Mus., adult male, Pulo Babi, northwest coast of Sumatra, January 13, 1902; Dr. W. L. Abbott.

Closely related to *M. c. consobrina* (Salvadori), but somewhat larger. Length (in flesh), 432; wing, 245; tail, 149; tarsus, 35; culmen, 24 mm. A female measures: Length, 419; wing, 234; tail, 139; tarsus, 33; culmen, 26. An adult male from the neighboring island of Lasia is even larger than the type: Length, 445; wing, 246; tail, 147; tarsus, 35.5; culmen, 25.

Five specimens of this subspecies were obtained by Dr. Abbott on Babi and Lasia. They have been compared with over forty good examples of *M. c. consobrina* from Simalur, Nias, Batu and Pagi islands, and are larger than any of the latter. The measurements of *M. c. consobrina* vary as follows: Length (in flesh), males, 390-430; females, 385-410; wing, males, 218-241; females, 215-231; tail, males, 118-140; females, 120-129 mm.

The two little islets, Babi and Lasia, off the southeast coast of Simalur, are also the home of *Palxornis major*, a large form of *P. fasciatus*, and *Hypothymis abbotti*, one of the largest species of its genus.

***Thriponax javensis büttikoferi* subsp. nov.**

Type, No. 179,685, U. S. Nat. Mus., adult male, Siaba Bay, Nias Island, March 18, 1903; W. L. Abbott and C. B. Kloss.

Similar to *T. j. javensis* (Horsfield), but with the thighs and flanks uniform buff, without blackish bars or spots. Length (in flesh), 462; wing, 228; tail, 167; tarsus, 38.5; culmen, 57 mm.

Three adults only were collected, but Dr. Abbott notes it as "common" on Nias, and Dr. Büttikofer has already recorded* presumably the same form from the island under the name *T. javensis*.

***Dicaeum sumatranum batuense* subsp. nov.**

Type, No. 180,073, U. S. Nat. Mus., adult male, Pulo Pinie, Batu Islands, west coast of Sumatra, March 3, 1903; W. L. Abbott and C. B. Kloss.

Near *Dicaeum s. sumatranum* Cabanis, but bill smaller; center of chin, throat and chest buffy white, as in *D. cruentatum* (but the light area not so broad); sides of head, neck and body slightly darker than in *D. s. sumatranum*. Length (in flesh), 90; wing, 48; tail, 25; tarsus, 11; culmen, 12 mm. The female is similar to *D. cruentatum*, but the white median line on the underparts is narrower. Both *D. s. sumatranum* and the new form differ from *D. cruentatum* in having the red of the upperparts lighter, with the sides of the neck, body and flanks smoky gray instead of blackish; the scapulars have a greenish (instead of bluish) gloss, and the forehead is black.

***Alcedo meninting proxima* subsp. nov.**

Type, No. 179,777, U. S. Nat. Mus., adult male, North Pagi Island, west coast of Sumatra, January 4, 1903; Dr. W. L. Abbott.

Differs from *Alcedo m. meninting* Horsfield, in having a greenish tinge to the feathers of the crown (present in some specimens of the latter, however), and a generally lighter and more greenish shade to the blue colors of the upper surface (scapulars, wing-coverts, outer webs of secondaries, etc.). The spots on the wing-coverts are more pronounced, and lighter in color. Length (in flesh), 169; wing, 71; tail, 28; tarsus, 9.5; culmen, 47 mm.

Five specimens were procured, and Dr. Abbott noted the form as "common" on the Pagis.

No direct comparison has been made with *A. m. rufigastra* Walden,† but judging from the descriptions alone it appears to be not the same, and the Pagi Islands are considerably beyond the known range of *A. m. rufigastra*.

* Notes Leyden Museum, XVIII, 1896, 170.

† *Alcedo beavani* Walden is simply a substitute name for *A. rufigastra*.

Copsychus saularis pagiensis subsp. nov.

Type, No. 180,077, U. S. Nat. Mus., adult male, North Pagi Island, west coast of Sumatra, December 22, 1902; Dr. W. L. Abbott.

Colors nearly as in *C. saularis musicus* (Horsfield), but the areas of glossy black are more inclined to greenish, and the sides of the body are washed with gray, paler than in *C. s. musicus*. Size considerably larger than in the latter. Length (in flesh), 252; wing, 113; tail, 100; tarsus, 32.5; culmen, 29.5 (bill, from gape, 33.5) mm. The female measures: Length (in flesh), 243; wing, 111; tail, 97.5; tarsus, 31; culmen, 27.5 mm. A male of *C. s. musicus*, from Loh Sidoh Bay, west Sumatra, measures: Length (in flesh), 235; wing, 106; tail, 93; tarsus, 32.5; culmen, 24 (bill, from gape, 27.5) mm.

Only one pair collected, and Dr. Abbott refers to it as "not common, a few about the clearings."



Richmond, Charles Wallace. 1912. "Descriptions of five new birds from the west coast of Sumatra." *Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington* 25, 103–105.

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