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FROM SIAM

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H. G. DEIGNAN

Associate Curator, Division of Birds
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I

Study of fresh-plumaged (September–February) adult golden-hooded leafbirds from Siam has shown that the form of the Peninsula is a well-marked intermediate between *cochinchinensis* of Siam proper and *moluccensis* of Pattani and the Malay States. I suggest that it be called

CHLOROPSIS COCHINCHINENSIS SERI-THAI, new subspecies

Type.—U.S.N.M. No. 330477, adult male, collected at Ban Tha Lo, southwest of Surat Thani or Ban Don (ca. lat. 9° 5' N., long. 99° 15' E.), Peninsular Siam, on September 23, 1931, by Hugh M. Smith (original number 5000).

Diagnosis.—The adult male may be known by its having the greens of the plumage somewhat deeper than those of *cochinchinensis*, but paler than those of *moluccensis*; by having the golden suffusion over the occiput and nape stronger than in *cochinchinensis* and distinctly invading the upper back as in *moluccensis*; by having the golden gorget of the upper breast obsolescent, scarcely differentiated from the clear yellow of the lower throat and the green of the lower breast (in *moluccensis* the gorget is verditer green, wholly free of golden suffusion); and by having the bill slightly larger than that of *cochinchinensis*, slightly smaller than that of *moluccensis*.

The adult female has the greens of the plumage and the size of the bill intermediate between those of *cochinchinensis* and *moluccensis* and the golden suffusion over occiput and nape as strong and almost as extensive as in the male (this suffusion is hardly apparent in *cochinchinensis*).

Range.—Peninsular Siam, with the exception of Pattani Province, north at least as far as the Isthmus of Kra.

Fresh-plumaged adults examined.—*C. c. cochinchinensis*, 23 ♂♂ (including 5 topotypes), 14 ♀♀ (including 2 topotypes); *C. c. seri-*

thai, 8 ♂♂ (including 3 topotypes), 5 ♀♀ (including 2 topotypes); *C. c. moluccensis*, 6 ♂♂ (including 4 topotypes), 1 ♀; *C. c. icterocephala*, 2 ♂♂, 1 ♀.

Remarks.—The new race is named in honor of the Thai Resistance (Seri-Thai).

C. c. moluccensis has been synonymized with *icterocephala* of Sumatra, but is separable by having the verditer-green gorget of the upper breast obsolescent, scarcely differentiated from the clear yellow of the lower throat and the green of the lower breast (not strongly indicated as in *icterocephala*), and by having the yellow of front, forecrown, and sides of head and neck more greenish, less golden, less extensive posteriorly on the crown, and less clearly demarcated from the coppery gold of the occiput and nape.

The original reference for *moluccensis* will be:

Chloropsis Moluccensis J. E. GRAY, Zoological Miscellany, No. 1, pp. 3-4, 1831 ("Molucca"; type locality here corrected to Malacca).

II

The orange-fronted leafbird of northern Siam and the adjacent parts of Burma is not *aurifrons*, as all authors have hitherto recorded it, but a well-defined intermediate between *aurifrons* (Cachar, by restriction) and *inornata* (eastern Siam). I propose to name it

CHLOROPSIS AURIFRONS PRIDII, new subspecies

Type.—U.S.N.M. No. 311538, adult male, collected on the lower slopes of Doi Ang Ka or Doi Inthanon (ca. lat. 18°35' N., long. 98°30' E.), northwestern Siam, on December 9, 1928, by Hugh M. Smith (original number 2752).

Diagnosis.—The adult of either sex may be known by its having the gorget bordering the black throat patch only about half as broad as the gorget of *aurifrons*, by having it of a more yellow, less orange, color, and by having almost no golden suffusion adjacent to the black on the sides of the head and neck. *C. a. inornata* in turn differs from *pridii* by its complete lack both of the gorget and of the golden suffusion on the sides of head and neck.

Range.—Northern Siam, in the west, south to Muang Tak (Rahaeng); Karenni; southern Burma, south in Tenasserim to Amherst.

Adults examined.—*C. a. hodgsoni*, 3; *C. a. aurifrons*, 9 (including 5 topotypes); *C. a. pridii*, 15 (including 1 topotype); *C. a. inornata*, 23 (including the type and one other topotype).

Remarks.—This form is named in honor of Pridī Bhanomyong (Luang Pradit Manudharm), leader of the Thai Resistance.

Hume and Davison (*Stray Feathers*, vol. 6, pp. 326-327, 1878) have completely described this bird from Tenasserim, but failed to name it because immature birds were "scarcely separable" from those of the Himalayas. The birds from Hill Tipperah that appeared to them to be "intermediate between Tenasserim and Himalayan specimens" were probably true *aurifrons*.

Himalayan examples seem to belong to a recognizable race, distinguished from *aurifrons* by having both bill and wing rather longer and perhaps by having a slightly more extensive orange frontal patch. They must be called *hodgsoni*, for which the original reference will be:

Phyllornis hodgsoni GOULD, *The Birds of Asia*, vol. 3, pt. 13, pl. 15 and text, May 1861 (Northern India, Himalayas, etc.; type locality here restricted to Nepal).

For the loan of comparative material of this species, I am indebted to Dr. Ernst Mayr and the authorities of the American Museum of Natural History.