

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
NEW ENGLAND ZOÖLOGICAL CLUB

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A NEW HONEY CREEPER FROM SAN MIGUEL  
ISLAND, PANAMA.

BY OUTRAM BANGS.

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WHEN I wrote the list of birds collected by W. W. Brown, Jr., in San Miguel Island, Archipelago de las Perlas, in the Bay of Panama, one species—the yellow honey creeper—was not compared with sufficient care with related forms, and I discovered, much to my regret, too late to incorporate it in my paper, which appeared in the *Auk* for January, 1901, that this bird is a strongly characterized island species. Dr. Robert Ridgway, when at work on the genus *Cœreba* for his great book on American birds, compared the San Miguel Island specimens carefully with *C. luteola* and *C. mexicana*, and at once detected the differences. He most kindly wrote me about the matter, and gave me a chance to correct my mistake. Strangely enough, the affinities of the species lie much more closely with *C. luteola* of Venezuela, Trinidad, and northeastern Colombia, than with *C. mexicana* of the neighboring coasts of Panama and western Colombia.

The *Cœreba* of San Miguel Island, which in my paper on the birds of that island (*Auk*, Jan., 1901, p. 30) appears as *Cœreba mexicana columbiana* should instead be known as

***Cœreba cerinoclunis*<sup>1</sup> sp. nov.**

*Type*, from San Miguel Island, Bay of Panama, ♂ adult, no. 4962, coll. of E. A. and O. Bangs, collected April 29, 1900, by W. W. Brown, Jr.

*Specific characters*.—Nearest to *C. luteola*; of about the size of that species or a trifle larger; back not such an intense black, but grayer and duller; rump patch much smaller and dull wax-yellow instead of bright gamboge-yellow; yellow of breast paler; gray of throat paler. From *C. mexicana* the new species differs in larger size; in grayish black, instead of olivaceous gray, back; in clear pale yellow, instead of greenish yellow, breast.

*Color*.—Type<sup>2</sup>: crown and sides of head black; broad superciliary streak white; back, wings and upper tail coverts dark grayish black; small rump patch wax-yellow; throat cinereous; breast and middle of belly canary-yellow (a little darker and brighter in some much worn specimens); sides and flanks dull olivaceous; under tail coverts soiled white; tail grayish black, two outer rectrices white-tipped on inner webs; bend of wing pale yellow; lining of wing white; white wing spots about as in *C. luteola*. Female similar to the male, but a trifle smaller.

*Measurements*.—Type, adult ♂: wing, 58.; tail, 35.; tarsus, 17.; culmen, 13.2 mm.

No. 4965, adult ♀, topotype: wing, 57.; tail, 33.; tarsus, 17.2; culmen, 13. mm.

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<sup>1</sup> *Cerinus* — of the color of wax, and *clunis* — rump.

<sup>2</sup> The type and one or two others are in unworn plumage, with clear yellow breasts; many specimens have the plumage much abraded, and some are irregularly marked with deep orange on the yellow of the breast. This, I am inclined to think, is an artificial stain, got no doubt from the pollen of some flower.