

A NEW SUBSPECIES OF THE GENUS *DRYOBATES.*

BY A. W. ANTHONY.

SOME time since in looking over a series of western *Dryobates* of the *harrisi-hyloscopus* group, my attention was attracted by a number of specimens that seemed to belong to none of the recognized geographical races of *villosus*, and the difference was such as to warrant the supposition that a third western race eventually would have to be separated from *hyloscopus*, to which form it seems to have been very generally assigned. In order to ascertain how constant the supposed characters might be, and to improve our somewhat unsatisfactory knowledge of the western Woodpeckers of this group, a series has been brought together representing nearly all of the important parts of the habitat of *hyloscopus*. About one hundred specimens have been examined, over half of which are in my own collection. The mountains of Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, and Utah are represented by a series kindly loaned me by Dr. C. Hart Merriam. Unfortunately I have been unable to secure any specimens from Nevada, but other parts of the West and Southwest are represented in most cases by a good series. As long ago as 1888 Mr. William Brewster called attention to a difference in size between northern and southern specimens of *hyloscopus* (Auk, Vol. V, p. 252) and suggested that it might in time seem advisable to separate them. The types of *hyloscopus* were taken at San José, Cal., so it is from that part of the coast that we must look for specimens on which to base our investigations. I can see no constant difference in size between a series from this region and skins from Lower California (San Pedro Martir) or the northern part of the range of the subspecies. There is considerable individual variation both as to size and to purity of the white of the lower parts, and the series from the peninsula averages a little smaller than my skins from the central part of the State. There is one character, however, that seems to be rather constant in the series from Lower California that is not found in the northern skins to any extent. Ten of the twelve skins before me from San Pedro Martir have the lores black, the white superciliary stripe being separated from the smoky white nasal tufts by the

black of the crown. Two show whitish lores, a character belonging to *hyloscopus* and *harrisi*. Only one of my skins from central California shows blackish lores. I would not, however, attempt to separate the southern bird upon this rather unstable character.

The series from the Rocky Mountain region is quite easily separated from California specimens and constitutes a well-defined geographical race for which I can find no name available, and propose to separate from *hyloscopus*, to which race it has heretofore been assigned, to be known as

***Dryobates villosus montanus*, subsp. nov. ROCKY MOUNTAIN
WOODPECKER.**

Subsp. Char.—Differing from *hyloscopus* by larger size, much more purely white lower parts, and in having the lores chiefly or entirely black as in *villosus*.

Description of type. No. 3625, coll. A. W. A. Boulder County, Colorado, December 27, 1892.—Above black, dorsal stripe pure white, outer webs of primaries spotted with white as in *harrisi* and *hyloscopus*; occiput with red patch common to the group; lores chiefly black, with white superciliary stripe, separated from the basal tufts by the glossy black of the pileum; nasals white lined with black; below pure white. Wing, 135; tail, 105; tarsus, 18; bill from nostril, 30; depth of bill, 8 mm.

Habitat. Rocky Mountains from New Mexico to Montana, West to Utah (Uintah Mountains).

From reference to the measurements it will be seen that the present race is fully the equal in size of *leucomelas*, and considerably larger than either *harrisi* or *hyloscopus*. It is distinguished from *leucomelas* at a glance by its usually unspotted wing-coverts and tertials. That it intergrades with *leucomelas* is shown by a specimen from Salmon River, Idaho, and one from Summit, Montana, both of which have the wing-coverts and tertials somewhat spotted and are intermediate between *montanus* and *leucomelas*. A specimen from Wind River Mts., Wyoming, Aug. 29, and one from Big Snowy Mts., Montana, Aug. 25, in the series from the Department of Agriculture, are directly referable to *leucomelas* and would indicate the race to be a resident in those localities. Only one of the skins from Colorado has the wing-coverts noticeably spotted and the measurements of this specimen place it with the eastern *villosus*.

MEASUREMENTS OF *Dryobates villosus harrisi*, *D. v. hyloscopus*, AND *D. v. montanus*.

	<i>Dryobates villosus harrisi.</i>						<i>Dryobates villosus hyloscopus.</i>						<i>Dryobates villosus montanus.</i>					
	6 males.			4 females.			15 males.			10 females.			10 males.			9 females.		
	Average.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Average.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Average.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Average.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Average.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Average.	Maximum.	Minimum.
Wing.	128.16 ¹	133	125	125.5	127	122	121.	129	120	121.5	126	115	132.2	136	129	128.45	135	124
Tail.	94.85	104	83	95.25	102	91	92.75	98	87	92.3	98	86	101.75	107	93	96.45	102	91
Tarsus.	23.66	25	23	21.5	23	20	21.66	24	18	21.	22	20	22.6	25	18	21.66	23	21
Bill from Nostril.	26.6	29	23	25.	25	25	24.03	29	23	22.7	23	21	28.35	30	27	24.40	26	23
Depth of Bill.	7.6	8	7	7.5	8	7	7.9	9	7	7.2	8	6.5	8.27	9	8	7.75	8	7

¹ All measurements in millimeters.

From the series of *hyloscopus* examined I would not consider that it is ever "pure white" below, though always much nearer white than *harrisi*. There is always a slight smoky brown or soiled appearance to the plumage of the breast and belly, quite noticeable in contrast with the Rocky Mountain race. I have never seen a specimen from California that I should call typical *harrisi*, though a few of the more northern skins are rather near that race, and a specimen from Lake County, California (Barrett Mt.) is much nearer *harrisi* than *hyloscopus*.

The habitats of the three western races might be mapped as follows:

Dryobates villosus harrisi.—From British Columbia south to northern California (Barrett Mt.).

D. villosus hyloscopus.—California south to San Pedro Martir Mts., Lower California, east to Chiricahua Mts., Arizona.

D. villosus montanus.—Northern New Mexico, north to Montana and Idaho. Utah (Uintah Mts.).

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW JAY FROM MEXICO.

BY GERRIT S. MILLER, JR.

AN undescribed Jay collected by Mr. W. B. Richardson in the mountains near Bolaños, Jalisco, Mexico, in February, 1889, differs in many ways from *Aphelocoma couchi* Baird, its nearest relative. It may be called

Aphelocoma gracilis, sp. nov.

Sp. Ch.—A little smaller than *Aphelocoma couchi* Baird and with disproportionately slender bill and weak feet; color throughout much grayer than in *A. couchi*.

Adult male (Type No. 5658, collection of Gerrit S. Miller, Jr., Sierra Bolaños, Jalisco, Mexico, February 26, 1889. W. B. Richardson collector): Back smoke gray faintly tinged with blue; rump, upper tail-coverts,