

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SUBSPECIES OF THE  
PAINTED BUNTING FROM THE INTERIOR  
OF TEXAS.

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The Nonpareil, or Painted Bunting, of western Texas proves to be an undescribed race which may be named—

***Passerina ciris pallidior*** subsp. nov.

PALE PAINTED BUNTING.

*Type-specimen*.—Adult male. Cat. No. 163673, U. S. N. M. Collected at Fort Clark, Kinney County, Texas, May 7, 1898, by Edgar A. Mearns. Original number, 11800.

*Characters*.—Larger than *Passerina ciris ciris*; adult male with under parts considerably paler vermilion red; rump and upper tail-coverts paler, more purplish red. Female paler throughout, with upper parts paler, grayer, less yellowish green, and under parts buffy instead of decidedly yellow.

*Measurements of type* (taken from the fresh specimen by the author).—Length, 155 mm.; alar expanse, 240; wing, 75; tail, 61; culmen (chord), 11.2; tarsus, 18.3; middle toe with claw, 18.3.

*Geographical range*.—Breeds in the interior of Texas, migrating to Arizona, Mazatlan, and the plains of Colima.

*Remarks*.—Topotypes of *Passerina ciris ciris* from Vera Cruz, eastern Mexico, are indistinguishable from specimens from the southeastern United States, and are probably migrants from the latter region. The breeding range of typical *ciris* extends westward from the South Atlantic States around the Gulf coast to Mexico.

A table of comparative measurements appears on following page.

TABLE OF COMPARATIVE MEASUREMENTS.

Nat. Mus. Original Number.	Locality.	Sex and age.	Date.	Wing.	Tail.	Culmen from base.	Tarsus.	Collector.
<i>Passerina ciris pallidior.</i>								
221697	Fort Clark, Kinney County, Texas	♂ ad.	May 5, 1898	72	57	11.2	19.5	Louis de Z. Mearns
153465	Albany, Texas	♂ ad.	April 29, 1889	74	59	11	19.5	E. M. Hasbrouck
134563	Fort Clark, Kinney County, Texas	♂ ad.	May 15, 1893	72	61	11	19	E. A. Mearns
11798	do	♂ ad.	April 28, 1898	73	61	11.4	19.7	do
11789	do	♂ ad.	May 2, 1898	75	60	11.7	19.5	do
11800	do	♂ ad.	May 7, 1898	75	61	11.2	19.5	do
163675	do	♂ ad.	do	72	58	11.2	19.2	do
163672	do	♂ ad.	do	72	59	11	20	do
163674	do	♂ ad.	do	73	60	11.1	19	do
163677	do	♂ ad.	do	74	62	11.2	19.6	do
<i>Passerina ciris ciris.</i>								
221944	Christchurch Parish, Charleston Co., S. C.	♂ ad.	May 11, 1911	69	54	10.6	18.6	E. J. Brown
222152	do	♂ ad.	April 28, 1911	67	54	10.8	18.7	E. A. Mearns
222154	do	♂ ad.	May 10, 1911	69	56	10.2	18.8	do
222557	do	♂ ad.	May 6, 1911	68	57	9	17	J. H. Riley
1884	do	♂ ad.	May 8, 1911	69	56	10	18	do
222558	do	♂ ad.	June 8, 1912	67	56	10.2	18	William Palmer
188275	Christchurch Parish, Charleston Co., S. C.	♂ ad.	May 2, 1811	67	57	10	18.5	E. A. Mearns
222153	Savannah, Georgia	♂ ad.	—	68	55	10	18	S. F. Baird
2411	St. Mary's, Georgia	♂ ad.	—	68	52	10.8	18	William Brewster
83770	Matanzas Inlet, Florida	♂ ad.	April 28, 1877	68	52	10.8	18	Wirt Robinson
133089	do	♂ ad.	—	69	57	10.9	18	do

*Passerina ciris pallidior*.—Average of ten breeding males from western Texas: wing, 73; tail, 59.8; culmen from base, 11.2; tarsus, 19.5.

*Passerina ciris ciris*.—Average of ten breeding males from South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida: wing, 68.1; tail, 55.4; culmen from base, 10.25; tarsus, 18.16.