

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

AN APPARENTLY NEW SPOROPHILA FROM ECUADOR.

BY J. H. RILEY.

[By permission of the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.]

In a small collection of birds from Ecuador presented to the U. S. National Museum by Mr. Otto Holstein, of San Antonio, Texas, there is an apparently unnamed *Sporophila*. It may be known as:

***Sporophila incerta* sp. nov.**

Type, U. S. National Museum, No. 236586 (unsexed but apparently a male), Gualia, Ecuador.

Characters.—Similar to *Sporophila grisea* Gmelin, but larger, darker above, and with the white below more restricted.

Description.—Above deep neutral gray, darker on the head and cheeks; throat, upper breast, and flanks neutral gray, much lighter on the chin; middle of the breast and belly white, the feathers gray at the base; under tail-coverts white with gray bases to the feathers, the longer ones with a buffy tinge at the tips; wings blackish, the feathers edged with deep neutral gray; fourth to eighth primaries white at the base of the outer web, forming a speculum; inner webs of the primaries and secondaries commencing with the third primary, bordered with white at the base; bend of the wing below deep neutral gray; under wing-coverts white; tail blackish. Wing, 66; tail, 44.5; culmen, 11.5; tarsus, 15.5; middle toe, 12 mm.

Remarks.—Five specimens of *Sporophila grisea* (mostly unsexed, but apparently males) from Venezuela (1), Trinidad (1), and Columbia (3), average as follows: wing, 57; tail, 45.6; culmen, 10.5; tarsus, 15.7; middle toe, 11.5 mm. I can find no record for *Sporophila grisea* from Ecuador and while the relationship of the above described specimen would probably be better expressed by a trinomial, I prefer for the present to use a binomial.