

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
NEW ENGLAND ZOÖLOGICAL CLUB

ON THE SUBSPECIES OF *MANACUS MANACUS*
(LINN.).

BY OUTRAM BANGS.

WHEN reporting on the birds collected by Mr. W. W. Brown, Jr., in the Santa Marta region of Colombia, I placed the manakin he took there with *Manacus manacus* (Linn.). This disposition of the bird, however, was made only provisionally, awaiting a better chance to study its relationship to the other forms of the *Manacus manacus* series.

Mr. Robert Ridgway and Dr. Charles W. Richmond have now, most kindly, forwarded to me, for study, all the skins of the *Manacus manacus* series contained in the collection of the United States National Museum. These, together with the Santa Marta series, form the material upon which the following notes are based.

The series before me numbers only thirty-two skins, yet in a scattering way it covers the greater part of the area occupied by the species. Of the females I have so small a number that I am unable to make proper comparison between the different forms.

The series brings out four well-characterized subspecies, two of which are already named and recognized, and two appear to be new.

Pipra manacus was named by Linnæus from the Black-capped Manakin of Edwards, plate 260, pp. 107-108. Edwards supposed his bird to be an inhabitant of Surinam. His excellent figure and

description leave no possibility of a doubt as to the subspecies of his bird — it belonged to the white-bellied form with gray under tail-coverts, which is most typical in Trinidad and the Guianas. The other named form is *Manacus gutturosus* (Desm.) of south-eastern Brazil, characterized by slate-gray belly and sides, smaller size, and longer tail.

Of the two new forms, one comes from Santarem (on the Amazon), Brazil, and is a strongly marked race, differing from all the others in having white under tail-coverts. The other is the bird found in Colombia, northwestern Venezuela, and probably thence westward and southwestward across the continent. In color it resembles most *M. gutturosus*, but is paler and more pearly gray below. It also, though the largest of the series, has the shortest tail, while *M. gutturosus*, the smallest of the series, has the longest tail. These four forms undoubtedly intergrade with one another, although my material is too limited to show this satisfactorily.

The four subspecies of *Manacus manacus* (Linn.)¹ here recognized may be briefly characterized as follows.

***Manacus manacus manacus* (Linn.).**

Pipra manacus Linn., ed. XII, Vol. I, p. 340, 1766 (based on the Black-capped Manakin of Edwards, pl. 260, pp. 107-108—page being erroneously given as '117' by Linnæus).

Manacus edwardsii Bp., Consp., I, p. 171, 1850 (a synonym proposed to avoid the repetition of the name).

Type locality.—"Surinam."

Geographic distribution.—Trinidad, southern and eastern Venezuela, the Guianas, probably thence west to Ecuador and Peru (the three skins before me from the two latter countries are not typical).

Color.—Adult male: Pileum, wings (except lesser coverts), interscapulars and tail, black; cheeks, a broad band across cervix, throat, breast, belly and lesser wing-coverts, white; flanks, lower sides, anal region, under and upper tail-coverts and lower rump, gray; the upper tail-coverts usually stronger gray (about gray, no. 6, of Ridgway), the under tail-coverts and flanks paler—more plumbeous or cinereous; axillars and bend of wing black; lining of wing whitish; bill black; feet and legs yellow.

¹ Of course I treat only of the forms in which the adult male is wholly black, white and gray, such birds as *M. candei*, *M. flaveola* and *M. vitellina* not being considered at all.

Adult female: Upper parts green (about between olive green and parrot green); primaries and inner webs of secondaries dusky; under parts pale green, inclining toward olive yellow on belly and under tail-coverts, and toward pea green on throat.

Size.—An adult male from Demerara, no. 55,160, U. S. National Museum coll.: wing, 51.4; tail, 30.8; tarsus, 21.6; exposed culmen, 9.4 mm. Six adult males range as follows: wing, 49.2–52.; tail, 29.6–31.8; tarsus, 20.–21.6; exposed culmen, 9.4–10.2 mm.

Remarks.—True *M. manacus* appears to reach the height of its development in Trinidad, birds from that island being constantly more different from the Colombian form than are birds from the Guianas. Two skins from Guyaquil, Ecuador, are rather more like true *M. manacus* than like *M. m. abditivus*. One skin from Pebas, Ecuador, is, however, perfectly typical of the latter race. These three specimens are all I have seen from the western part of the range of the species; they would appear to indicate that intergradation takes place somewhere in this vast general region.

***Manacus manacus abditivus*¹ subsp. nov.**

Type, from Santa Marta, Colombia, ♂ adult, no. 5310, coll. of E. A. and O. Bangs, collected Jan. 13, 1898, by W. W. Brown, Jr.

Geographic distribution.—Colombia—both the Santa Marta and the Bogota regions—and northwestern Venezuela, and thence westward. Exact limits of range unknown.

Subspecific characters.—Adult male, similar to *M. manacus manacus*, but abdomen and breast, ending in an even line at jugulum, always pale gray, varying in intensity from pearl gray to gray, no. 7, of Ridgway, these parts being white in *M. manacus manacus*. In size it averages rather larger, with a shorter tail, than *M. manacus manacus*.

Size.—Type, ♂ adult: wing, 53.8; tail, 29.8; tarsus, 21.; exposed culmen, 10.2 mm. Twelve adult males range as follows: wing, 49.4–53.8; tail, 27.6–30.; tarsus, 20.–21.8; exposed culmen, 9.8–10.2 mm.

Remarks.—The gray, instead of white, breast and belly of *M. m. abditivus*, and its slightly larger size and shorter tail, separate it from *M. m. manacus*. The darker examples of *M. m. abditivus* bear a close resemblance in color to the paler examples of *M. m.*

¹ *Abditivus* — separated from.

gutturerosus, although there is a considerable average difference in color between the two. *M. m. gutturosus* is, however, decidedly smaller, and has a longer tail. Though nearest alike in color, these two forms are the most widely separated geographically, and the region between their respective ranges is occupied by the two white-bellied forms — *M. m. manacus* and *M. m. purus*.

***Manacus manacus purus*¹ subsp. nov.**

Type, from Santarem, on the Amazon River, Brazil, ♂ adult, no. 120,904, coll. of United States National Museum, collected in May, 1883, by C. B. Riker.

Geographic distribution.—Probably the whole lower Amazon region in Brazil. Exact limits of range unknown.

Subspecific characters.—Adult male, similar to *M. m. manacus*, except that the under tail-coverts are pure white, the gray on under parts being restricted to a small patch on the lower side and flank. The under tail-coverts of *M. m. manacus* are gray. Size and proportions as in *M. m. manacus*.

Size.—Type, adult ♂: wing, 49.6; tail, 27.; tarsus, 20.; exposed culmen, 9.8 mm. Topotype, adult ♂, no. 120,903, coll. U. S. National Museum: wing, 50.2; tail, 29.8; tarsus, 19.4; exposed culmen, 9. mm.

Remarks.—*M. m. purus* presents the extreme of whiteness below, while *M. m. gutturosus* presents the extreme of grayness. These two Brazilian forms stand, as regards color, at the opposite ends of the series of four forms of *M. manacus* here recognized. The white under tail-coverts of *M. m. purus* distinguish it from any of the other three forms, all of which have gray under tail-coverts.

***Manacus manacus gutturosus* (Desm.).**

Pipra gutturosa Desm., Tanag. Manak. et Tod., livr. 6, fig. 58 (no plate or page number), 1805.

Manacus gutturosus Bp., Consp., I, p. 171, 1850.

Type locality.—Unknown.²

Geographic distribution.—Southeastern Brazil.

¹ *Purus* — Clean, unstained.

² Desmarest figured a bird of this form, but evidently knew nothing of its source.

Subspecific characters.— Size smaller, and tail longer, than in the other forms. Adult male, similar in color to *M. manacus manacus*, except that the belly and breast, ending in an even line at jugulum, are dark gray, varying from slate gray to gray, no. 6, of Ridgway. The belly and breast of *M. m. manacus* are white.

Size.— Five adult males from Bahia, Brazil, range as follows: wing, 46.–49.8; tail, 30.2–34.4; tarsus, 20.–20.6; exposed culmen, 9.2–10. mm.

Remarks.—The smaller size, longer tail, and very dark under parts of *M. m. gutturosus* distinguish it from the other forms. Strangely enough, it is most different in color from the form, *M. m. purus*, that comes the nearest to it geographically, and is most like the one, *M. m. abditivus*, that is the farthest away. I have seen no specimens from regions where *M. m. gutturosus* meets the range of any other form. It is quite possible that this little, long-tailed form, with its dark gray belly, may have already become specifically differentiated from the other members of the *Manacus manacus* series.



Bangs, Outram. 1899. "On the subspecies of *Manacus manacus* (Linn.)."
*Proceedings of the New England
Zoo
..
logical Club* 1, 33–37.

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