

# PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM,

1887.

---

### DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF COTINGA FROM THE PACIFIC COAST OF COSTA RICA.

BY ROBERT RIDGWAY

*Cotinga ridgwayi* ZELEDON MS.

SP. CHAR.—Similar in color to *C. amabilis*, but scapulars and inter-scapulars more extensively black centrally (producing a distinctly spotted appearance), a black line bordering the base of the upper mandible, from forehead to rictus, and a black space immediately in front of the eye; purple patch on breast smaller. In certain points of structure very different, the tail-coverts falling far short of the tip of the tail (the upper coverts by .80, the lower by .55. of an inch), instead of reaching quite to or even beyond the tip; fifth instead of second quill longest, the first two abruptly smaller and shorter than the rest (second about equal to sixth). *Female* and *young* unknown.

*Hab.*—Western Costa Rica (Poza Azul) and south to Colombia ("Bogota").

*Adult male* (type, No. 109813, U. S. Nat. Mus., Poza Azul, Costa Rica, September 8, 1886; José C. Zeledon): General color rich cerulean-blue, purest on head, elsewhere changing to bright yellowish emerald-green in certain lights; lesser and middle wing-coverts, scapulars, and inter-scapulars largely black centrally, producing a distinctly spotted appearance; wings (except lesser and middle coverts) and tail deep black, the greater coverts, secondaries, and rectrices edged narrowly with greenish blue; whole chin, throat, chest, and malar region rich pansy-purple, very abruptly defined, all round; a patch of lighter purple ("aster-purple" anteriorly, fading into pale mauve or violet posteriorly) occupying the middle of the breast and belly; a narrow line of black along lower edge of lores, from rictus to forehead, and a small space

of same immediately in front of eye. Length (skin) 6.80, wing 4.35, tail 2.85, exposed culmen .50, tarsus .80.

In addition to the points of distinction from *C. amabilis* noted above, are the following: (1) The general tone of the blue color is slightly but very appreciably more green throughout; (2) the feathers of the pileum are decidedly coarser and less blended; (3) the greenish or bluish edgings on wings are rather narrower.

There is apparently some resemblance to *C. cincta* (BODD.) from Brazil, but the latter is said to closely resemble *C. cayana* in having the upper parts black, spotted with bluish or greenish (only the tips of the feathers being of the latter color), and in having the inner webs of the primaries broadly edged with white, neither *C. ridgwayi* nor *C. amabilis* having a trace of white edging to the totally black inner webs of the primaries. Unfortunately, I am not able to make a direct comparison with *C. cincta*. (See plate.)

A "Bogota" specimen in the National Museum collection (No. 78138) agrees in all essential characters with the type, thus considerably extending the range of the new species. It formed part of a lot of "Bogota" birds, and has the unmistakable "make" characterizing specimens sent from that locality.

The new species was found in the same woods with *Carpodectes antoniae*, both being birds of the western *tierra caliente*, and representing on the Pacific side the eastern *Cotinga amabilis* and *Carpodectes nitidus*.