

DESCRIPTION OF THE ADULT FEMALE OF CARPODECTES ANTONIÆ ZELEDON; WITH CRITICAL REMARKS, NOTES ON HABITS, ETC., BY JOSÉ C. ZELEDON.

BY ROBERT RIDGWAY.

*Adult female* (No. 109814, U. S. Nat. Mus., Pirris, Costa Rica, Sept. 14, 1886; José C. Zeledon): Above plain slate-gray, with a slight brownish tinge; wings slate-black, the middle and greater coverts and secondaries broadly edged with white; tail plain dark slate; lower parts pale gray, deeper across chest and along sides, fading into white on lower belly, anal region, and under tail-coverts; axillars and under wing-coverts entirely pure white; bill dark brown, blackish on culmen, and fading into yellow on basal half of lower mandible and that portion of upper beneath lores; iris dark brown, eyelids black. Length (skin) 7.60, wing 4.90, tail 2.50, exposed culmen .62, tarsus .90.

Several specimens were obtained by Mr. Zeledon, who secured also additional examples of the male, and who sends the following observations on the species: "I was quite surprised to observe the great dissimilarity between the two sexes, a fact which I had not suspected, though it is almost the rule throughout the *Cotingida*, at least so far as the family is represented in Costa Rica. As I took particular pains in ascertaining the sex of all the specimens, and have now before me twenty-two males, differing in no respect whatever from the type, I think it is perfectly safe to say that this species never has the black tips of the wings seen in immature specimens of *C. nitidus*. One of my specimens shows a somewhat smaller and paler bill and a few scattered white feathers along the outside of the tarsi, no doubt indications of immaturity. I cannot detect the slightest difference between the five female specimens before me. . . . Judging from analogy, I am led to believe that the female of *C. nitidus* has not as yet been discovered, and when obtained will prove to be fully as different from the male as in the present case.

"The bird cannot be called common, and it was by mere accident that I came across a particular tree with ripe fruit for which it shows much partiality, and there I stationed a man to watch and shoot the birds as they arrived to feed. . . . I have not heard its song, nor has any one else, that I know of. The call-note resembles very much that of *Tityra personata*."