

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF WHIPPOORWILL FROM
COSTA RICA.

BY

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Antrostomus rufomaculatus, sp. nov.

SP. CHAR: Primaries black, uniform on inner webs, spotted with rusty on outer webs; tail black, banded with light rusty, the three outer feathers (in male) broadly tipped across both webs with white. Plumage in general black, spotted with light rusty, the spots usually of transverse form, and on the posterior under parts broader and paler; on the belly a few larger spots of buffy whitish. No white on throat. Length (skin), about 8.75; wing, 6; tail, 4.60.

HABITAT: Costa Rica (Volcan de Irazú).

Adult male (No. 120102,* U. S. National Museum, Volcan de Irazú, Costa Rica, April 11, 1891, Anastasio Alfaro): General color black, but this much variegated by numerous rather small spots, mostly transverse, of light rusty or cinnamon-rufous; the top of the head, however, with several broad irregularly serrated stripes of uniform black; four middle tail-feathers with about ten broad Λ -shaped bars of cinnamon-rufous, averaging narrower than the black interspaces, and themselves more or less broken by irregular small blotches of black; three outermost tail-feathers on each side, with the cinnamon-rufous bars much narrower, less broken, directly transverse, and becoming obsolete towards the ends of the feathers, which for the space of 0.65 (on the outermost) to 0.90 (on the third) are silky white entirely across both webs, including the shaft; the terminal margin of the white patch, however, tinged with ochraceous. Inner webs of all the remiges (except innermost secondaries) entirely black; outer webs marked with small spots of cinnamon-rufous, on secondaries along the margin only. Anterior half of lower parts black, each feather marked with a terminal pair of small spots of pale cinnamon-brown or russet; these, across lower part of throat larger, coalesce into a single ∇ -shaped bar on each feather, but not forming a distinct throat-patch; middle of breast with three transversely pandurate spots of dull buffy whitish, considerably larger than the other markings. A band or belt of similar large light colored spots

* No. 5401, Museo Nacional de Costa Rica.

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across the sides and middle of the belly, posterior to which the prevailing color is pale cinnamon-brown (more clay-colored or buffy on under tail-coverts), marked with transverse spots or irregular bars of blackish. Under wing-coverts dusky, indistinctly spotted on outer margin of wing with dark rusty; bill entirely black; feet blackish, becoming pale brownish (dull flesh color in life) on upper and posterior portion of tarsus. Length (skin), about 8.75; wing, 6.00; tail, 4.60; culmen, 0.35; tarsus, 0.62; middle toe, 0.60. Second and third quills longest; fourth longer than the first, but the latter very much longer than the fifth. Tail much rounded, the lateral feathers 0.70 shorter than the middle pair.

This very distinct species is a true *Antrostomus*, agreeing very closely with *A. vociferus* in size and proportions, but strikingly different in coloration. In the last mentioned respect it seems to come somewhat near *A. sericeo-caudatus* Cass.,* supposed to come from South America (Venezuela?), but the latter is much larger (length 11 instead of less 9.00, wing 7.25 instead of 6.00, tail 5.75 instead of 4.60), much paler or more rufescent in color, and has the tail-bars exactly the reverse in position, being V-, instead of A-shaped. No other species of the genus appear to resemble it at all closely.

For the privilege of describing and naming this fine new species, I am indebted to the courtesy of Señor Anastasio Alfaro, the accomplished director of the Costa Rica National Museum.

* Cf. Proc. Ac. Nat. Sci. Phila., iv, 1849, 238; Jour. Ac. Nat. Sci. Phila., ii, 1852, 121, Pl. 12