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## Avian body weights from the lower Rio Xingu, Brazil

by Gary R. Graves & Richard L. Zusi

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From 13 August to 30 September 1986, we surveyed the avifauna of the east bank of the lower Rio Xingu ( $3^{\circ}39'S$ ,  $52^{\circ}22'W$ ) from an encampment 52 km SSW of Altamira, Pará, Brazil, as part of a biological survey of the region sponsored by the Academia Brasileira de Ciências. The purpose of this paper is to present data on the body weights of birds sampled from populations at this locality. Some data of this type from eastern Amazonia are scattered among recent publications (e.g. Oren 1987), but most of these deal only with selected species. None of the older works on birds of the lower Rio Xingu mentions body weights (Snethlage 1913, Griscom & Greenway 1941).

Three major terrestrial habitats occur naturally along the lower Rio Xingu: (1) seasonally flooded forest; (2) terra firme forest; (3) successional island scrub. A fourth habitat type, agricultural clearing and man-caused secondary growth, was restricted to small scattered patches near the river

between Bahaman and continental samples, neither visually nor in the measurement length of hind claw. In my samples, Bahaman birds averaged slightly smaller than the supposedly larger continental birds—4 ♂♂ and 4 ♀♀ from the Bahamas, 19.7 and 20.4 mm, respectively; 7 ♂♂ and 5 ♀♀ from North Carolina, Louisiana, Alabama, and Florida (all LSUMZ and MCZ), 20.2 and 21.1 mm, respectively.

The Bahaman birds tend to be paler (on tail, wings, dorsum and border of facial disc), on the average, than do those from the continent. But among 8 ♂♂, 6 ♀♀ and 5 unsexed specimens from Florida (4 MCZ, 15 UMRC), at least 4 ♂♂ and one ♀ match extremely well 4 ♂♂, 4 ♀♀ and 2 unsexed specimens from the Bahamas (3 AS, 1 FMNH, 2 LSUMZ, 2 MCZ, 2 USNM). Two ♂♂ from Louisiana (LSUMZ 2404, 32233) are paler even than most of the specimens from the Bahamas. Also, Bangs (1900) reported that in a letter pertaining to the identification of 2 Barn-Owls taken on New Providence in 1897, Ridgway wrote "We can match your two Bahama specimens exactly with some in our [USNM] series from Washington, Arizona, etc.; we also have a Bahama skin very much resembling yours".

In the absence of any demonstrable mensural differences between the Bahaman and continental birds, and as the differences in coloration are slight and are not constant, I recommend merging *T. a. lucayana* Riley with *T. a. pratincola* (Bonaparte).

#### WEST-INDIAN RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER *Melanerpes superciliaris*

3 ♂♂ of *M. s. bahamensis* (Cory) were collected on Grand Bahama, 23 March 1934. Short (1982) claimed *M. s. nyeanus* (Ridgway) from San Salvador "are a trifle longer billed and a bit paler below, averaging less black on the head of the males but otherwise seem identical with Grand Bahama specimens, and the latter do not merit separate status nomenclaturally (as '*bahamensis*')". But among *M. superciliaris* in the MCZ collection, those I examined from San Salvador (3 ♂♂, 2 ♂♂?, 2 ♀♀) have more and brighter yellow on the venter, more white (less grey) on the head, and brighter red nasal tufts than do those from Grand Bahama (7 ♂♂, 1 ♂?, 4 ♀♀), and are eminently distinct from the Grand Bahama birds.

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on the east bank. We used mist-netting as well as straight observation, and collected some specimens. A network of trails (10+ km) radiating from the base camp was cut through virgin forest and secondary growth. Mist-nets (12 m) were set using standard techniques in selected sites in all 'mainland' habitat types. 12–30 mist-nets ( $\bar{x} = 22$ ) were maintained throughout the survey period, for a total of 1056 net-days. More than two-thirds of the field observation time (288 hrs) was spent in seasonally flooded and terre firme forest. 263 species were recorded during the survey. Based on the cumulative curve of species added over 48 survey days, we estimate that from 300–310 species were resident within 10 km of our base camp.

Below we present body weight data by sex for 750 individuals of 201 species. For reference, 62 species observed but not collected are listed in the Appendix. Voucher specimens were deposited in the National Museum of Natural History (Smithsonian Institution) and the Museum of Zoology, University of São Paulo. Weights of birds (including gut contents) were taken soon after death with Pesola spring scales for 5, 10, 30, 50, 100 and 300 g and with a 10 kg spring scale. Weights up to 10 g were rounded to the nearest 0.1 g, those from 10 to 300 g to the nearest 1.0 g, and those above 300 g to the nearest 5.0 g. Because our spring scales measure weights but read in grams (unit of mass), we use the familiar term 'weight' while presenting the figures in grams.

These weight data include species that have small geographic ranges (e.g. *Penelope pileata*, *Gypopsitta vulturina*, *Pyrrhura perlata*, *Neomorphus squamiger*, *Lophornis gouldii*) or are rare and poorly known (e.g. *Synallaxis cherriei*, *Simoxenops ucayalae*, *Hylopezu berlepschi*, *Conopophaga melanogaster*, *Taeniotriccus andrei*). Also noteworthy are data for large-bodied species that are rarely weighed in the field (e.g. *Phalacrocorax olivaceus*, *Cathartes melambrotos*, *Leucopternis schistacea*, *Psophia viridis*). Notes on the taxonomy and distribution of selected species will be published elsewhere.

Taxonomy of the species arrangement below follows Morony *et al.* (1975). Numbers in parentheses equal sample size for a particular weight class.<sup>a</sup> Collected on the east bank of the Rio Iriri near the confluence of the Rio Xingu and Rio Iriri (Iriri Camp, 85 km SW Altamira, 3°50'S, 52°40'W).

<i>Tinamus major</i> :	♂ 1050
<i>Crypturellus variegatus</i> :	♂♂ 310, 365
<i>Phalacrocorax olivaceus</i> :	♂♂ 1400, 1450
<i>Ardea cocoi</i> :	♀ 2100
<i>Cathartes melambrotos</i> :	♂ 1650
<i>Harpagus bidentatus</i> :	♂ 165
<i>Accipiter superciliosus</i> :	♂ 67
<i>Leucopternis schistacea</i> :	♀ 455
<i>Daptrius americanus</i> :	♂ 510
<i>Falco rufigularis</i> :	♂ 125
<i>Ornithodoros motmot</i> :	♂ 345
<i>Penelope pileata</i> :	♂ 1100; ♀ 1420 <sup>a</sup>
<i>Crax fasciolata</i> :	♀ 2280
<i>Odontophorus gujanensis</i> :	♂ 380
<i>Psophia viridis</i> :	♀ 1170 <sup>a</sup> , 1200 <sup>a</sup>
<i>Aramides cajanea</i> :	♂ 420; ♀ 350

- Vanellus cayanus*: ♂ 72, 73; ♀ 79  
*Phaetusa simplex*: ♀ 240  
*Columba plumbea*: ♂ 132; ♀ 126  
*Columbina passerina*: ♂♂ 24 (2); ♀ 28  
*Leptotila verreauxi*: ♂ 140  
*Leptotila rufaxilla*: ♂♂ 115, 135, 162, 167; ♀♀ 122, 128, 137, 145  
*Geotrygon montana*: ♂♂ 86, 105  
*Ara ararauna*: ♀ 995  
*Ara macao*: ♀ 1040  
*Ara severa*: ♀ 285  
*Aratinga leucophthalmus*: ♀♀ 145, 148  
*Aratinga aurea*: ♂ 94  
*Pyrrhura perlata*: ♂♂ 70, 80  
*Pyrrhura picta*: ♂♂ 46, 47, 51; ♀ 48  
*Brotogeris chrysopterus*: ♂♂ 68, 72; ♀♀ 58, 59  
*Gypsitta vulturina*: ♂♂ 138, 150; ♀ 142  
*Pionus menstruus*: ♂ 215  
*Amazona ochrocephala*: ♂ 535; ♀ 505  
*Piaya cayana*: ♂ 92  
*Crotophaga major*: ♂♂ 170, 200  
*Neomorphus squamiger*: ♂ 340<sup>a</sup>  
*Otus choliba*: ♂ 123; ♀ 125  
*Otus watsonii*: ♂♂ 115 (2), 116, 122; ♀♀ 127, 141  
*Cicceba virgata*: ♂ 240  
*Lurocalis semitorquatus*: ♂ 60  
*Nyctiprogne leucopyga*: ♂♂ 23, 24 (2), 27; ♀♀ 23 (2), 26  
*Nyctidromus albicollis*: ♂♂ 49, 53, 54  
*Nyctiphrynus ocellatus*: ♂ 35; ♀ 39  
*Caprimulgus uigrescens*: ♀♀ 33, 38, 40  
*Hydropsalis climacocerca*: ♂♂ 39, 41, 54, 55; ♀♀ 35, 47  
*Glaucis hirsuta*: ♂♂ 5.6, 6.0, 6.3, 6.5  
*Threnetes leucurus*: ♂♂ 4.8, 5.4  
*Phaethornis superciliosus*: ♂♂ 4.5, 4.6 (2), 4.8, 4.9, 5.0 (3), 5.5; ♀♀ 4.2, 4.5, 5.6  
*Phaethornis ruber*: ♂ 2.3; ♀ 2.3  
*Campylopterus largipennis*: ♀ 7.0  
*Lophornis gouldii*: ♀ 2.4  
*Thalurania furcata*: ♂♂ 4.0, 4.1 (2), 4.3; ♀♀ 3.3, 3.4, 3.8, 4.1, 4.2  
*Polyplaneta aurescens*: ♂ 6.0  
*Heliothryx aurita*: ♂ 4.5  
*Trogon viridis*: ♂ 81; ♀ 87  
*Chloroceryle amazona*: ♂ 116; ♀ 105  
*Chloroceryle americana*: ♂ 24  
*Chloroceryle inda*: ♂♂ 41, 51; ♀ 50  
*Chloroceryle aenea*: ♂ 11  
*Momotus momota*: ♂ 148  
*Galbulula albirostris*: ♂♂ 20, 21 (2), 23 (3), 24 (2); ♀♀ 21 (2), 22  
*Galbulula ruficauda*: ♂ 22 (2); ♀♀ 20, 22  
*Galbulula dea*: ♂♂ 30, 39  
*Jacamerops aurea*: ♂ 73  
*Notharchus tectus*: ♀ 30  
*Malacoptila rufa*: ♂♂ 39, 44; ♀♀ 40, 43  
*Monasa nigrifrons*: ♂♂ 68 (2), 71, 75; ♀♀ 75, 77  
*Monasa morphoeus*: ♂ 77; ♀ 87  
*Chelidoptera tenebrosa*: ♂♂ 34, 36  
*Pteroglossus bitorquatus*: ♀ 120  
*Pteroglossus aracari*: ♂♂ 237, 272  
*Ramphastos vitellinus*: ♀ 317  
*Ramphastos tucanus*: ♂♂ 555, 570  
*Picumnus aurifrons*: ♂ 9.1  
*Veniliornis affinis*: ♂ 30  
*Piculus flavigula*: ♂♂ 64, 68; ♀ 63  
*Celeus flavus*: ♂♂ 105, 114

- Dryocopuss lineatus*: ♂ 174  
*Campetherus rubricollis*: ♂ 207  
*Dendrocincla fuliginosa*: ♂♂ 37, 43 (3), 44 (3); ♀♀ 29, 35, 36  
*Dendrocincla merula*: ♂♂ 28, 31, 32 (2), 35, 36, 38, 43; ♀♀ 29, 33, 34  
*Deconychura stictolaema*: ♀ 13 (2)  
*Sittasomus griseicapillus*: ♂ 17; ♀ 11  
*Glyporhynchus spirurus*: ♂ 14, 15, 16 (2), 17 (4), 20; ♀♀ 13, 15, 21 (2)  
*Nasica longirostris*: unsexed 82  
*Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus*: ♂ 111; ♀ 102  
*Dendrocopos concolor*: ♂♂ 50, 52, 58, 62; ♀♀ 52 (2), 64, 66, 67  
*Dendrocopos picumnus*: ♂ 77  
*Xiphorhynchus picus*: ♂♂ 34, 35, 36; ♀♀ 34, 35, 38  
*Xiphorhynchus obsoletus*: ♂♂ 27, 30; ♀♀ 24, 26, 30 (2)  
*Xiphorhynchus spixii*: ♂♂ 30 (2); ♀♀ 30, 31, 32  
*Xiphorhynchus eytoni*: ♂♂ 61 (3), 64, 65; ♀♀ 45, 50, 53, 55  
*Campylorhamphus procurvoides*: ♀♀ 38 (2)  
*Furnarius figulus*: ♂ 28  
*Synallaxis gujanensis*: ♂ 19  
*Synallaxis rutilans*: ♂ 14; ♀♀ 17 (2), 19  
*Synallaxis cherriei*: ♂ 16  
*Simoxenops uayalae*: ♂ 39 (placed in *Philydor* by Morony et al. 1975)  
*Philydor erythrocercus*: ♂♂ 24 (2); ♀♀ 18, 20, 21 (2), 22  
*Philydor pyrrhodes*: ♂ 33; ♀ 24  
*Automolus infuscatus*: ♂♂ 35, 36, 37, 41; ♀♀ 32, 34  
*Automolus rufigularis*: ♂♂ 36, 38 (3); ♀ 31  
*Xenops minutus*: ♂ 9.3, 10.0 (2), 11 (2); ♀♀ 8.8, 9.0, 9.9  
*Sclerurus mexicanus*: ♂♂ 20, 21, 22 (2); ♀♀ 21, 27  
*Sclerurus caudacutus*: ♂♂ 34, 35; ♀ 35  
*Cymbilaimus lineatus*: ♂♂ 31, 36  
*Taraba major*: ♂ 57  
*Sakesphorus luctuosus*: ♂♂ 31, 34 (2); ♀♀ 28 (2), 32, 33  
*Thamnophilus schistaceus*: ♂♂ 19, 20; ♀ 21  
*Thamnophilus amazonicus*: ♂♂ 15, 19 (3), 22; ♀♀ 17 (2), 21  
*Pygiptila stellaris*: ♂♂ 19, 23; ♀♀ 21, 23, 24  
*Thamnomanes caesius*: ♂♂ 13 (4), 14, 15 (2), 16 (4); ♀♀ 13 (3), 14 (2), 15 (3), 18  
*Myrmotherula brachyura*: ♀ 7.5  
*Myrmotherula surinamensis*: ♂♂ 7.2, 8.0, 8.2; ♀♀ 7.8, 8.0  
*Myrmotherula hauxwelli*: ♂♂ 8.4 (3), 9.0, 9.5; ♀♀ 8.7, 9.2 (2), 9.6  
*Myrmotherula leucophthalma*: ♂ 9.6; ♀♀ 8.0, 10.2  
*Myrmotherula ornata*: ♂♂ 8.6, 9.0, 9.5 (2); ♀ 9.3  
*Myrmotherula axillaris*: ♂♂ 6.1, 6.6, 7.0, 7.2; ♀♀ 7.0, 7.3  
*Myrmotherula longipennis*: ♂ 8.0; ♀♀ 7.4, 8.4, 8.6  
*Myrmotherula menetriesii*: ♂♂ 8.6, 9.0; ♀ 9.0  
*Herpsilochmus rufimarginatus*: ♂ 10.0; ♀ 11  
*Cercococcyx nigrescens*: ♂♂ 15, 16 (5), 18, 19, 21; ♀♀ 14, 15, 16  
*Pyriglenia leuconota*: ♂♂ 26 (3), 29 (2), 30, 31, 34, 36; ♀♀ 24, 27 (2), 28 (2), 30  
*Myrmoborus leucophrys*: ♂♂ 18, 21; ♀ 17  
*Myrmoborus myotherinus*: ♂♂ 15 (2), 16, 18; ♀ 17  
*Hypocnemis cantator*: ♂♂ 10 (2), 11 (2), 12; ♀♀ 10, 11  
*Hypocnemoides maculicauda*: ♂♂ 11, 12 (4), 13; ♀ 12  
*Selateria naevia*: ♀ 22  
*Perenostola leucostigma*: ♂♂ 22, 24, 25 (2), 26; ♀♀ 21, 22, 23  
*Hylophylax naevia*: ♂♂ 9.5, 11 (4), 12; ♀♀ 10, 11, 13  
*Hylophylax punctulata*: ♂♂ 9.4, 9.8, 11; ♀♀ 12, 13  
*Hylophylax poecilonota*: ♂♂ 14, 16 (2); ♀♀ 14 (2), 15, 16 (2), 17  
*Phlegopsis nigrromaculata*: ♂♂ 40, 42, 46, 48, 49; ♀♀ 36 (2), 37, 41, 43 (2)  
*Formicarius colma*: ♂♂ 38, 39, 40 (2), 46, 47; ♀♀ 41, 44, 48  
*Formicarius analis*: ♂♂ 45, 50, 57; ♀ 54  
*Grallaria varia*: ♂ 121; ♀ 98  
*Hylopezus berlepschi*: ♀ 39  
*Conopophaga aurita*: ♂♂ 22, 25; ♀♀ 20, 24  
*Conopophaga melanogaster*: ♂ 42

- Lipaugus vociferans*: ♂♂ 68, 80; ♀♀ 75, 77  
*Pachyramphus marginatus*: ♂ 18  
*Pachyramphus minor*: ♀ 32  
*Cephalopterus ornatus*: ♂ 705; ♀♀ 380, 405  
*Pipra rubrocapilla*: ♀ 10  
*Piprafasciicauda*: ♂♂ 11, 12 (3), 13 (4), 14 (5), 15 (3), 16 (3), 17 (3); ♀♀ 11, 12 (3), 13 (5), 14 (5), 15 (7), 16 (4)  
*Heterocercus linteatus*: ♀♀ 16, 20  
*Knipolegus orenocensis*: ♂♂ 19, 21; ♀ 18  
*Megarhynchus pitangua*: ♂ 63  
*Myiarchus ferox*: ♂♂ 22, 24; ♀ 17  
*Attila spadiceus*: ♀ 33  
*Attila cinnamomeus*: ♂ 38; ♀ 35  
*Rhytipterna simplex*: ♀ 29  
*Empidonax euleri*: ♂ 12  
*Terenotriccus erythrurus*: ♂♂ 6.0, 6.3, 6.5  
*Onychorhynchus coronatus*: ♂♂ 12, 13 (2), 14 (2)  
*Platyrinchus platyrhynchos*: ♂♂ 11, 12; ♀ 11  
*Tolmomyias sulphurescens*: ♂ 11; ♀♀ 12, 13  
*Tolmomyias poliocephalus*: ♂♂ 10, 11  
*Tolmomyias flaviventris*: ♂♂ 9, 10, 11; ♀ 11  
*Rhynchoeculus olivaceus*: ♂♂ 21, 22; ♀♀ 18, 22  
*Todirostrum maculatum*: ♂ 6.8; ♀ 7.5  
*Snettistes minor*: ♂♂ 6.0, 6.9, 7.0, 7.6; ♀♀ 6.0, 6.8, 7.0  
*Taeniotriccus andrei*: ♂♂ 8.0, 8.6, 8.8, 9.6  
*Myiornis ecaudatus*: ♂ 4.3; ♀ 4.8  
*Capsiempis flaveola*: ♂ 8.0  
*Inezia subflava*: ♂♂ 6.0, 7.3; ♀ 7.0  
*Camptostoma obsoletum*: ♂ 7.5; ♀ 8.0  
*Tyranniscus gracilipes*: ♂ 8.0  
*Pipromorpha oleaginea*: ♂♂ 7.6, 8.5, 9.0, 9.5, 9.9; ♀♀ 7.1, 8.0, 8.3, 9.6  
*Pipromorpha macconnelli*: ♂♂ 11 (3), 12, 13 (2); ♀ 11  
*Corythopis torquata*: ♀ 13 (placed in Formicariidae by Morony et al. 1975)  
*Campylorhynchus turdinus*: unsexed 38  
*Thryothorus coraya*: ♂ 19; ♀ 19  
*Thryothorus leucotis*: ♂♂ 16 (2), 18, 19; ♀ 16  
*Microcerulus marginatus*: ♂ 17; ♀♀ 14, 17  
*Turdus fumigatus*: ♂♂ 60, 67; ♀♀ 53, 59, 72  
*Turdus albicollis*: ♂♂ 36, 39, 47; ♀♀ 39, 46  
*Ramphocaenus melanurus*: ♂ 7.6; ♀♀ 7.8, 8.4, 8.6  
*Poliopila plumbea*: ♀ 6.8  
*Oryzoborus angolensis*: ♂♂ 11 (2), 12; ♀ 10  
*Arremon taciturnus*: ♂♂ 21 (2), 22 (2), 23, 24, 25, 26; ♀♀ 18, 23, 25  
*Paroaria gularis*: ♂♂ 22, 23; ♀♀ 19, 25, 27  
*Saltator maximus*: ♂♂ 33, 38, 40, 41; ♀♀ 35, 41, 43, 45  
*Pitylus grossus*: ♂♂ 22, 23; ♀♀ 19, 25, 27  
*Passerina cyanocephala*: ♂♂ 21 (2), 22, 23 (4), 25 (2); ♀♀ 22, 24, 25, 26  
*Hemithraupis guira*: ♂♂ 11 (2), 12  
*Tachyphonus cristatus*: ♂ 23  
*Tachyphonus rufus*: ♀ 36  
*Habia rubica*: ♂ 32  
*Ramphocelus carbo*: ♂♂ 20, 21, 22, 24 (2), 25; ♀♀ 20, 22, 23, 25, 26  
*Thraupis palmarum*: ♂ 32  
*Euphonia violacea*: ♂ 14; ♀ 14  
*Tangara mexicana*: ♂ 21  
*Phaeothlypis rivularis*: unsexed 11  
*Granatellus pelzelni*: ♀ 11  
*Coereba flaveola*: ♀ 8.8  
*Hylophilus brunneiceps*: ♂♂ 8.0, 11; ♀ 8.0  
*Psarocolius decumanus*: ♂ 232  
*Gymnostinops yuracares neivae* × *G. bifasciatus*: ♂♂ 290, 385, 445; ♀♀ 184, 210, 215  
*Cacicus cela*: ♂ 98

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#### Appendix

Species recorded on the east bank of the Rio Xingu from 13 August to 30 September 1986 but not collected.

<i>Tinamus guttatus</i>	<i>Actitis macularia</i>	<i>Cotinga cayana</i>
<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>	<i>Sterna superciliaris</i>	<i>Tityra semifasciata</i>
<i>Butorides striatus</i>	<i>Rynchops niger</i>	<i>Tityra inquisitor</i>
<i>Egretta thula</i>	<i>Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus</i>	<i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>
<i>Pilherodius pileatus</i>	<i>Ara chloroptera</i>	<i>Myiozetetes similis</i>
<i>Mycteria americana</i>	<i>Graydidascalus brachyurus</i>	<i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i>
<i>Mesembrinibis cayennensis</i>	<i>Amazona farinosa</i>	<i>Pitangus lictor</i>
<i>Cairina moschata</i>	<i>Crotophaga ani</i>	<i>Myioobiussp.</i>
<i>Sarcoramphus papa</i>	<i>Pulsatrix perspicillata</i>	<i>Tachycineta albiventer</i>
<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	<i>Nyctibius grisens</i>	<i>Progne chalybea</i>
<i>Cathartes aura</i>	<i>Chaetura cinereiventris</i>	<i>Atticora melanoleuca</i>
<i>Elanoides forficatus</i>	<i>Panyptila cayennensis</i>	<i>Volatinia jacarina</i>
<i>Ictinia plumbea</i>	<i>Anthracothorax nigricollis</i>	<i>Dacnis cayana</i>
<i>Buteo magnirostris</i>	<i>Hylocharis cyanus</i>	<i>Dacnis flaviventer</i>
<i>Leucopternis albicollis</i>	<i>Trogon melanurus</i>	<i>Cyanerpes sp.</i>
<i>Buteogallus urubitinga</i>	<i>Trogon violaceus</i>	<i>Tachyphonus luctuosus</i>
<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	<i>Ceryle torquata</i>	<i>Thraupis episcopus</i>
<i>Daptrius ater</i>	<i>Bucco capensis</i>	<i>Cyclarhis gujanensis</i>
<i>Polyborus plancus</i>	<i>Piculus chrysochloros</i>	<i>Molothrus bonariensis</i>
<i>Mitu mitu</i>	<i>Campephilus melanoleucus</i>	<i>Icterus cayanensis</i>
<i>Heliornis fulica</i>	<i>Cranioleuca gutturalis</i>	

## Geographic variation in the Rufous-webbed Tyrant *Polioxolmis rufipennis*, with description of a new subspecies

by Jon Fjeldså

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The Rufous-webbed Tyrant *Polioxolmis rufipennis* (previously in *Myiotheretes* or *Xolmis*—see Smith & Vuilleumier 1971, Traylor 1977, Lanyon 1986) is a large and conspicuous tyrant flycatcher inhabiting the high Andes of Bolivia and Peru. Although recorded only from few and widely scattered localities, no geographic differentiation has been noted. Zimner (1937), in his review of Peruvian fluvicoline flycatchers, did not comment on this species, and it is currently recognized as monotypic (Traylor 1979).

In connection with a general study of the population structures of bird species associated with high-elevation remnant woodlands in Peru and Bolivia I examined the great majority of museum specimens of the Rufous-webbed Tyrant, and was surprised to find a clearcut geographic differentiation. This pattern is described here, together with a few biological data on this poorly known bird.

### Materials

This study is based on the field experience from travels together with Niels Krabbe and others in 1983/84 and 1987, and on studies of museum specimens by myself.

Examined specimens were birds collected in 1983, -87, -89 for the Zoological Museum, University of Copenhagen (ZMUC), and study skins from: the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia (ANSP); American Museum of Natural History, New York (AMNH); British Museum of Natural History, Tring (BMNH); Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh (CMP); Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago (FMNH); Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Bruxelles (IRSNB); Louisiana State University Museum of Zoology, Baton Rouge (LSUMZ); Musée de Histoire Naturelle, Paris (MHNP); Museo de Historia Natural de la UNMSM, "Javier Prado", Lima (MHNJP); and the Swedish Museum of Natural History, Stockholm (SMNH). (This species was lacking in some other institutions visited.) Altogether 74 specimens were examined. Measurements taken were exposed culmen, tarsus, wing length (cord), tail length and width of the dark distal tail-bar (measured from the narrowest point, parallel with the shaft, to the distal feather edge, and on the outer rectrix). The wing formula and outline of the dark pattern on the outer tail-feathers were recorded. Capitalized colour names refer to a direct comparison with the colour standards of Ridgway (1912).