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## DIAGNOSES OF SOME NEW GENERA OF BIRDS

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### OROÄTUS gen. nov. (Buteonidæ)

TYPE: *Falco isidori* Des Murs.

Similar to *Spizaëtus* Vieillot,<sup>1</sup> but rectrices much broader, the width of middle pair equal to about one-fourth their length (from point of insertion); feathers of legs longer, those of thighs plume-like; wing-tip relatively longer, the longest primary exceeding outermost (distal) secondary by more than one-fourth the length of wing; tip of tail truncate; occipital plumes shorter, subcuneate; adults with under parts striped, upper parts uniform black, and tail mottled grayish with a broad terminal band of black; size larger (wing more than 500 mm.).

(\**Opos*, mountain; *âerós*, eagle.)

SPECIES: *Oroaëtus isidori* (Des Murs).

The type and only known species of this genus has been referred by Sharpe and others to *Lophotriorchis* Sharpe (type, *Astur kienerii* Geoffroy-St. Hilaire), but it would be difficult to find two forms of this group (Spizaeti) more conspicuously different in structural details or even in appearance. *Lophotriorchis* differs in (1) the very broad cere, its width on top nearly if not quite equal to its length; (2) relatively very much smaller bill; (3) densely bristled loreal region; (4) five outer primaries with inner webs deeply and abruptly emarginated (instead of six obliquely sinuated); (5) very different relative length of anterior toes, the inner (without claw) not extending beyond the penultimate articulation of the middle toe, the outer very little longer, the middle toe (without claw) three-fourths as long as tarsus instead of only about two-thirds as long; (6) tip of tail distinctly rounded instead of truncate. In short, practically the only character, apart from those common to the whole group, possessed by the two genera consists in the unimportant ones of a similar crest and striped under parts of adults.

<sup>1</sup> With "*Falco mauduyti* Daudin" = *F. ornatus* Daudin as type (subsequent designation by Gray, 1840).

**PHÆOAËTUS** gen. nov. (Buteonidæ)

TYPE: *Falco limnaetus* Horsfield.<sup>1</sup>

Similar to *Lophotriorchis* in abrupt emargination of five outer primaries and densely bristled loreal region, but differing conspicuously in having the cere much narrower (across top); relatively much larger and more produced bill; in very different proportionate length of toes, the inner (without claw) extending to decidedly beyond penultimate articulation of middle toe; tail about three-fourths (instead of less than two-thirds) as long as wing; wing-tip shorter, the longest primary exceeding outermost (distal) secondary by less than one-third the length of wing; middle toe (without claw) less than half (instead of three-fourths) as long as tarsus; toes and claws much stouter, the latter relatively shorter and less acute, and uniform dusky coloration.

(Φαίός, brown, dusky; ἀετός, eagle.)

SPECIES: *Phæoaëtus limnaetus* (Horsfield).

**MORPHNARCHUS** gen. nov. (Buteonidæ)

TYPE: *Leucopternis princeps* Sclater.

Similar to *Leucopternis* Kaup but differing in relatively shorter and stouter tarsus (less than twice as long as middle toe without claw), circular nostril, cuneate feathers of head and neck, and very different coloration, the head, neck, chest and upper parts plain black, the under parts (posterior to chest) white narrowly barred with black; loreal and orbital regions nearly nude.

(Μόρφνος, dusky, dark; ἀρχός, a leader or chief.)

SPECIES: *Morphnarchus princeps* (Sclater).

**PERCNOHIERAX** gen. nov. (Buteonidæ)

TYPE: *Falco leucorrhous* Quoy and Gaimard.

Somewhat like *Rupornis* Kaup, but relative length of anterior toes very different, the outer toe (without claw) not longer than the inner and extending to barely beyond penultimate articulation of middle toe (instead of to beyond middle of penultimate phalanx); middle toe relatively longer (more, instead of less, than half as long as tarsus); tarsus less (instead of more) than one-fourth as

<sup>1</sup> This species is the type of *Limnaëtus* Vigors, which name is antedated by *Limnæus* Bowdich, the latter a synonym of *Buteo*.

long as wing, its upper portion more extensively feathered in front (for one-half instead of only one-third, or less, the length of tarsus), the naked portion of acrotarsium with much fewer (about 7 instead of 12-13) transverse scutellae; cere much narrower across top, and coloration radically different, the adults and young being conspicuously different, the former mostly plain brownish black or blackish brown, the latter with under parts buff or light ochraceous conspicuously striped with dusky.

Also resembling somewhat the smaller species of *Buteo*, especially *B. brachyurus* (which it resembles more in coloration than in structural details), but these differ in (1) having the wing-tip (distance from tip of distal secondary to that of longest primary) equal to much more than one-third the length of wing; (2) only three outer primaries with inner webs emarginated; (3) first (outermost) primary equal to eighth (instead of equal to tenth); (4) tarsus less than one-fourth as long as wing (instead of more than one-fourth as long), and also in possessing several of the characters distinguishing *Rupornis* from *Percnohierax*.

(Περκνός, dark-colored, dusky; Ίέραξ, a hawk.

SPECIES: *Percnohierax leucorrhous* (Quoy and Gaimard). (Monotypic.)

#### HAPALOCREX gen. nov. (Rallidæ)

TYPE: *Rallus flaviventris* Boddaert.

Very small Rallæ (wing about 66-69 mm.) with longest feather of alula falling short of tips of longest primary coverts; bill nearly as long as head; toes very long (the combined length of first two phalanges of middle toe as long as tarsus, the hallux, without claw, half as long as tarsus), and with a white superciliary stripe and black loreal stripe.

(\*Απαλός, delicate; κρέξι, a crane.)

SPECIES: *Hapalocrex flaviventris* (Boddaert). (Monotypic.)

#### LIMNOCREX gen. nov. (Rallidæ)

TYPE: *Porzana cinereiceps* Lawrence.

Small Rallæ (wing about 70-78 mm.) with longest feather of alula extending decidedly beyond tips of longest primary coverts; nostril narrowly elliptical; tarsus shorter than middle toe without claw (but longer than combined length of first two phalanges of middle toe); outermost primary as long as (sometimes longer than)

distal secondary; bill subcuneate (tapering) in lateral profile, the culmen elevated and more or less arched basally; and with sides, flanks, and under tail-coverts conspicuously barred black and white.

(Δίμυρη, a pool, marsh; κρέξι, a crake.)

SPECIES: *Limnocrex cinereiceps* (Lawrence); *Limnocrex albigularis* (Lawrence); *Limnocrex exilis* (Temminck).

(Possibly the following species, which I have not seen, may also be referable to this genus: *Porzana anops* Sclater and Salvin; *P. levraudi* Sclater and Salvin, and *Rallus leucopyrrhus* Vieillot.)

**THRYOCREX** gen. nov. (Rallidæ)

TYPE: *Corethrura rubra* Sclater and Salvin.

Small Rallæ (wing about 81-85 mm.) with bill not conspicuously deeper at base than at gonydeal angle, its width at posterior end of nostril equal to decidedly more than half its depth at same point; malar antia slightly anterior to the broadly rounded (convex) loreal antia; longest feather of alula extending beyond tips of longest primary coverts; outermost primary not projecting beyond tip of distal secondary; tarsus longer than middle toe without claw, and under parts plain cinnamon-rufous.

(Θρόνον, a rush; κρέξι, a crake.)

SPECIES: *Thryocrex rubra* (Sclater and Salvin). (Monotypic.)