

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

DESCRIPTIONS OF FOUR NEW BIRDS FROM MEXICO.

BY E. W. NELSON.

The birds described below were collected by Mr. E. A. Goldman during the spring and summer of 1904 while continuing the work of the Biological Survey in Mexico.

***Porzana goldmani* sp. nov.**

MEXICAN YELLOW RAIL.

*Type* No. 193,712, adult male, U. S. National Museum, Biological Survey Collection. From Lerma, Mexico. Collected July 11, 1904, by E. A. Goldman. Original No. 10,994.

*Geographic distribution*.—Known only from type locality in the Valley of Toluca, Mexico.

*Specific characters*.—Generally similar to *P. noveboracensis* but darker, the wings, flanks, and rump slaty blackish; white markings on back in the form of transverse spots; bill slenderer.

*Description of type*.—Superciliary stripe, sides of head and neck dark buffy mottled with narrow blackish edgings to feathers; top of head and nape blackish obscurely streaked with narrow dingy buffy edges of feathers; middle of shoulders streaked equally with black and rather dark buffy; sides of shoulders, scapulars and tertials mainly black edged with dark buffy; the black middle of feathers marked with transverse oblong white spots (usually two on each feather); rump blackish with small white spots; primaries dark slaty; secondaries dark grayish with white areas as in *noveboracensis*; wing coverts blackish with small rounded white spots; chin and throat pale dull buffy shading on lower neck and breast into dark dull buffy with feathers on sides of breast tipped with dusky; belly

dull whitish; sides of body, flanks, thighs, and crissum dull black with spots and bars of white.

One specimen examined.

***Empidonax fulvifrons fusciceps* subsp. nov.**

*Type* No. 193,713, adult male, U. S. National Museum, Biological Survey Collection. From Comitán, Chiapas, Mexico. Collected March 29, 1904, by E. A. Goldman. Original No. 10,625.

*Geographic distribution.*—Highlands of Chiapas and adjacent parts of Guatemala.

*Subspecific characters.*—In size and color of underparts like typical *fulvifrons*; upperparts darker; crown much darker and strongly contrasted with back.

Four specimens examined; from Comitán, Teopisca, and Tenejapa, Chiapas.

***Arremonops superciliosus chiapensis* subsp. nov.**

*Type* No. 193,714, adult male, U. S. National Museum, Biological Survey Collection. From San Bartolomé, Chiapas, Mexico. Collected March 15, 1904, by E. A. Goldman. Original No. 10,533.

*Geographic distribution.*—Valley of the Chiapas River, Chiapas.

*Subspecific characters.*—Much like *Arremonops s. sumichrasti* but top of head darker, the median stripe on crown darker and grayer; back dark green as in typical *superciliosus*; distribution of buffy on underparts as in *sumichrasti* but color of a deeper or more creamy shade; size as in *sumichrasti*.

Nine specimens examined.

***Telmatodytes palustris toluensis* subsp. nov.**

MEXICAN MARSH WREN.

*Type* No. 194,074, adult male, U. S. National Museum, Biological Survey Collection. From Lerma, Mexico. Collected July 5, 1904, by E. A. Goldman. Original No. 10,950.

*Geographic distribution.*—Known only from Toluca Valley, Mexico.

*Subspecific characters.*—Size less than in *palustris*; black dorsal area averages larger; rufous of back brighter; underparts much more reddish buffy.

*Description of type* (in worn breeding plumage).—Top of head blackish with traces of a brown median line; middle of back black with well defined white shaft streaks; rump and upper tail coverts rich reddish brown; middle tail feathers dull grayish brown mottled with darker and indistinctly barred with same basally; underparts dull dark reddish buffy (including pectoral area) becoming dingy whitish on chin and throat and middle of abdomen.

*Measurements of type.*—Wing, 51; tail, 40; culmen, 12; tarsus, 20.

Seven specimens examined, all from type locality.