

birds prove that in central western Peru the Killdeer breeds in December and January.

The localities in question are only about 450 miles apart. I know of no marked seasonal difference between them, and am quite at loss to account satisfactorily for this variation in nesting dates. Possibly the uniform climate, both as regards temperature and rainfall, prevailing on the coast of Peru, militates, among Killdeer, as it apparently does among the Cormorants and Pelicans of the Guano Islands off the coast,<sup>1</sup> against the establishment of a definite breeding season. Or we may have here a case similar to that of the Brown Pelicans in Florida which on the Gulf coast begin to nest in April and on the Atlantic coast in November. Further collections and field studies are required to settle this interesting question

*Amer. Muscum Nat. Hist., N. Y.*

---

## DESCRIPTIONS OF A NEW SPECIES AND SUBSPECIES OF TYRANNIDÆ.

BY CHARLES B. CORY.

### **Todirostrum beckeri** sp. nov.

*Type* from Base of Serra da Lua, near Boa Vista, Rio Branco, N. Brazil. Male, No. 49,347, Field Museum of Natural History. Collected by R. H. Becker, March 24, 1913.

*Description*.— Similar to *T. sylvia schistaceiceps* (Sclater) and *T. sylvia griscolum* Todd, but differs from either in the shorter wing, in having the black loreal stripe bordered below by a buffy streak, and above by a conspicuous buffy stripe extending from the base of the upper mandible to above the eye. Base of crown and nape olivaceous; greater wing coverts edged with buffy yellow or pale orange yellow; middle wing coverts tipped with same; lesser wing coverts edged with olive green.

*Measurements*.— Wing, 45; tail, 30; bill, 13 mm.

---

<sup>1</sup>Habits and Economic Relations of the Guano Birds of Peru, by Robert E. Coker, U. S. Bureau of Fisheries, Proc. U. S. N. M., 56, 1919, pp. 449-511.

*Remarks.*—I have dedicated this new form to Mr. Robert H. Becker who collected the type specimen.

***Euscarthmus impiger cearæ* subsp. nov.**

*Type* from Jua, near Iguatu, Ceara, N. E. Brazil. Adult female, No. 50,834, Field Museum of Natural History. Collected by R. H. Becker, August 20, 1913.

*Description.*—Allied to *E. impiger impiger* Sclater & Salvin and *E. i. inornatus* (Pelzeln), but nearer the latter. This form agrees very well with the description of *inornatus* (a form which I have not seen) as given by Pelzeln, except that Pelzeln describes the abdomen as “*flaviscente indutis*,” whereas in *cearæ* the abdomen is pure white. It is probable that on account of the very different environment of the two forms *cearæ* will show other differences in coloration. From *impiger impiger* the present form differs in having the upper parts dark grayish olive (not brownish), crown slightly darker than back; wing bands white; under parts more whitish; abdomen and under tail coverts much purer white, and wing shorter.

*Measurements.*—Wing, 43; tail, 37; tarsus, 19; exposed culmen, 12 mm.

*Remarks.*—It should be noted that all of the specimens I have seen from Venezuela (including two from Caracas) and which I assume are typical *impiger impiger* have the ends of the wing coverts (forming the wing bands) practically white, the yellowish tinge mentioned by Sclater being very faint and hardly noticeable. None of the specimens have the wing bands distinctly yellowish white and not at all tawny buff as shown in the original plate or in the plate given in the ‘Catalogue of Birds of the British Museum.’ *Field Museum Nat. Hist., Chicago.*