

Some New Additions to the Avifauna of Formosa and the Island of Botel Tobago.

By

Nagamichi Kuroda, Dr. Sc.

I have recently examined or known that the following even species and subspecies of birds were collected in Formosa and the Island of Botel Tabago near the former island by Messrs. Horikawa, Kazano, Sato, Sasaki, Hirata and Tashiro. These birds are apparently new additions to the avifauna of these islands. As the form of the scops owl from the Botel Tobago seems to me to be new to science, I venture to describe about it here under the name of *Otus sunia botelensis*.

To all above gentlemen my best thanks are due.

1. *Motacilla alba grandis* Sharpe.

Mr. Y. Horikawa collected an example of the wagtail at Shinten, Taihoku, N. Formosa, 17. x. 1924, and presented it to me. It is probably an adult male and measures as follows: Wing, 99; tail, 95.5; tarsus, 25.5; entire culmen, 18 mm. I can not find any difference between it and a series of the form from Japan. It distributes from Hokkaido, Hondo, Shikoku, Kiusiu, Seven Islands of Izu to South Korea where only twice obtained.

2. *Jynx torquilla ? japonica* Bonaparte.

Mr. T. Kazano informed me that Mr. R. Hirata obtained a specimen at the suburb of Tainan city, 21. iii. 1927, and presented it to the Tainan Museum. The specimen has recent-

ly examined by me and identified it to the above form with some doubt. For, it has a weaker bill and the coloration much paler and greyer. It measures as follows: Wing, 80.5; tail, 68; tarsus, 17; exposed culmen, 12.5; entire culmen, 16; bill from nostril, 10 mm.

3. *Upupa epops saturata* Lönnerberg.

Mr. G. Sato shot a specimen of this form at Shinten, Taihoku, N. Formosa, date not mentioned, and presented it to me. It belongs undoubtedly to *saturata*, instead of *orientalis*, which has much darker plumage. The Taihoku Museum keeps also an example from Giran, 5. ix. 1912, which has been reported by Dr. Ôshima and myself under the name of "*epops*." ("Dôbutsu. Zasshi," XXVIII, 1916, p. 290). The latter specimen seems to me to be the same form. Mr. Kazano also informed me that he obtained an example at Shinchiku, February, 1927.

4. *Otus sunia botelensis*, subsp. nov.

Diagnosis:—Near to *Otus sunia elegans* (Cassin) in red phase of Riu Kiu Islands, but it differs from the latter by having the coloration rather more darker throughout, especially on head and breast, which are much brighter rufous with a rather distinct dark brown band across the chest, a white line above the eye washed with buffy, the loreal bristles much more blacker, and in having the ear-coverts washed with rufous. The length of tail somewhat longer, 75 (♂?)—87.5 mm. (♀?) instead of 73—79 mm. and the wing also a trifle longer, 164 (♂?)—173 mm. (♀?) instead of 160—171 mm. as in *elegans*. It also differs from *O. sunia interpositus* Kuroda of Borodino Islands, by having the wing much longer and in having the coloration of body much darker. It further differs from *O.*

calayensis McGregor of Calayan in Northern Philippines, in having the chest with a rather distinct dark brown band and by having the wing somewhat longer, 164—173 mm. instead of 164—169 mm. (according to McGregor). It also differs from *O. cuyensis* McGregor of Cuyo, Middle Philippines, by having the upper tail-coverts dark brownish rufous like the back instead of clear rufous as in the latter, and in having the thighs and tarsi cinnamon with cross-lines of dark brown, instead of plain rufous brown as in *cuyensis*.

Type:—Adult (sex undetermined—♀?), Kōtōshō or Botel Tobago, S. Formosa, June, 1926. S. Sasaki coll. Presented to me by Mr. Y. Horikawa. N. Kuroda collection, no. 11220.

Measurements:—Wing, ♂? 164, ♀? 171, 173 (type); tail, ♂? 75, ♀? 87.5, 87.5 (type); tarsus, ♂? 29.5, ♀? 29.5, 30 (type); middle toe and claw, ♂? 28, ♀? 27 (type), 28.5; entire culmen, ♂? 23, ♀? 22 (type), 22.5; culmen without cere, ♂? 14.5, ♀? 14, 14.5 mm. (type).

Remarks:—A specimen (probably ♂) has its plumage paler on wing-coverts (with greyish tips to some of the coverts), scapulars and hind neck as also the under wing-coverts (pale buffy-white) and under-parts, but the mottlings are wholly equal to the two other specimens (probably ♀♀) including the type specimen. The male (?) specimen seems to be a pale phase of the same subspecies. The new form is probably an intermediate island form between *elegans* and *calayensis*. Mr. Horikawa has recently reported on these same examples under the name of "*Otus japonicus elegans*" (Trans. Nat. Hist. Soc. Formosa, XVII, Aug., 1927, p. 295).

5. *Cerchneis tinnunculus perpallidus* Clark.

An adult male belonging apparently to this form was shot