

## Measurements in mm:

	wing	tail	culmen	tarsus	middle toe with claw
<i>megarhynchus</i>					
Misool I.	86	60	16	16	16.5
Passim, Humboldt Bay (Gyldenstolpe specimen, 1955B)	94.5(2)	68, 70	22	17.5, 18	18, 19
(Reichenow specimen, 1915)	93		22	17	
Waigeu (type of <i>m. sanfordi</i> )	95	80(?)	23	17	
	99	76	(broken)	17	21

Soft parts: iris light brown, bill brown, gape light yellow, feet grayish brown. Weight 24 g.

It is unfortunate that I secured this single specimen of New Guinea's rarest cuckoo with no opportunity for observational or behavioral notes. It is obvious from examination that this genus belongs close to *Microdynamys* and *Eudynamys* in the construction of the base of the mandible. The mandibular rami are strong and arched making a V-shaped mental angle with ridged commissure or raphe, not a rounded angle with no trace of a commissure or raphe as in *Cuculus*, *Cacomantis* and *Chalcites*.

*Scythrops novae-hollandiae* Latham

A migrant, the Channel-billed Cuckoo was first seen flying into our area in early September. After September 7 on Halmahera, daily flights of these birds were observed. The first specimen seen in the Hollandia area was September 29, as was the first seen on Waigeu. A later date for the species was October 2 on Misool.

Wing ♂ 342 (2), ♀ (juv.) 346, (ad.) 370. A Halmahera specimen had a half-ingested mass of fruit in the stomach.

*Centropus menbeki menbeki* Lesson

Found in forest edges on Misool, round Lake Sentani and at Holtekong. These birds have a variety of gurgling, booming calls.

Wing ♂ 216, 221, ♀ 220. Bill ♂ 53, 55, ♀ 50.

Weight ♀ 505 g.

*Centropus bernsteinii bernsteinii* Schlegel

A pair were taken in long grass at Ifaar on Lake Sentani.

Wing ♂ 174, ♀ 172.

## TYTONIDAE, BARN OR GROUND OWLS

*Tyto tenebricosa arfaki* (Schlegel)

Two females (one smaller bird may be missexed) of this uncommon black barn owl were secured March and October in the Baliem Valley near Wamena and at Ibolim. Neither bird was in breeding condition. One bird has all white, or clear white, edged outer margins of three of the greater primary wing coverts on one side and slightly less clear white edges on two of the feathers of the other side with an additional edging to a lesser wing primary covert giving the effect of a white patch or band on the wing. This is an aberrant condition, perhaps a by-product of a very small inbred population.

Wing 254 (♀ = ♂ ?), 283; tail 116, 132; tarsus 60, 70; culmen (from cere) 24, 26.

*Tyto capensis baliem*, subsp. nov.

TYPE: ♂ ad. (YPM No. 74786), collected September 9, 1961, near Wamena, Baliem Valley, Netherlands, New Guinea, by Jusup Khakiaj.

DIAGNOSIS: from *c. papuensis* of the Australian part of New Guinea, this form differs by being much darker, deep fuscous, rather than smokey-brown spotted with isabelline of the former race. Here and there isabelline feathers appear, among the lesser primary

wing coverts, in basal patches of the lesser secondary wing coverts, and at the base of the rump. But these patches are reduced and show up relatively little against the overall dark fuscous effect of the upper parts which is carried down onto two dark patches on the sides of the neck, a feature that is absent from the two birds photographed at Kup by Gilliard (Mayr and Gilliard, 1954, p. 341 and pl. 17.)

It is unfortunate that Gilliard did not collect these birds as there is only a single specimen in the American Museum collection from the Huon Peninsula, although Gilliard (*ibid.* p. 341) reports the species as "common." It is an extremely irregular species in occurrence, confined in the tropics to patches of old highland grassland and can hardly be described throughout its range in the Oriental and Australasian regions as common. In any case, our specimen appears to be the first seen or collected in the western half of New Guinea.

SOFT PARTS: iris dark brown, bill white, feet grayish brown.

MEASUREMENTS: wing 330, tail 122, tarsus 70, culmen (from cere) 22.

RANGE: known only from the type specimen from the Baliem Valley, Netherlands New Guinea, 4500-5000 feet.

### STRIGIDAE, OWLS

#### *Ninox theomacha theomacha* (Bonaparte)

A single unsexed specimen from the Konda River, Swart Valley, taken by Dani hunters for Miss Denise O'Brien, in August, 1962, is our only specimen of this species. Wing 179.

#### *Ninox rufa humeralis* (Bonaparte)

A male was collected in heavy forest several miles back from the coast of Holtekong July 7. It attracted attention as it was being mobbed by drongos and other small birds.

Iris yellow, bill pale gray, cere yellow, feet yellow. Wing 332.

### PODARGIDAE, FROG-MOUTHS

#### *Podargus papuensis* Quoy and Gaimard

Found from sea level to 5000 feet and in all areas where we collected. Of the sixteen adults taken four of the females are in a rufescent state of plumage, especially noticeable on the neck and breast areas. One juvenile with patches of down feathers on the sides of the chest, flanks, belly and thighs was taken at Ifaar on Lake Sentani in mid-July. A largely downy young with juvenal feathers on the sides of the head, wings and tail and whitish nestling feathers on the crown, back and underparts was collected on Misool January third.

Soft parts: (juvenal) iris brown, bill grayish horn, feet grayish olive brown. Wing ♂ ♂ 267, 285, 300; ♀ ♀ 263-310 (286.4).

#### *Podargus ocellatus ocellatus* Quoy and Gaimard

A pair, the female with granular ovaries, were taken on Misool in heavy forest on November 21.

Wing ♂ 169.5, ♀ 182. Soft parts: iris brown, bill ♂ light brown, ♀ light horn, feet ♂ pale pinkish flesh, ♀ whitish flesh. Weight ♂ 137, ♀ 132 g.

### AEGOTHELIDAE, LITTLE FROG-MOUTHS

#### *Aegotheles archboldi* Rand

Junge (1953, p. 38) reports that *archboldi* and *albertisii salvadorii* were collected at the same locality northeast of the Wissel lakes. Our series from the Ilaga Valley all are typical of the coarse-barred *archboldi*.

Soft parts: iris brown, bill dark brown, feet flesh, nails dark brown. Wing ♂ ♂ 111-120 (117); ♀ 109-112; tail ♂ 95, 96, 97, 99; ♀ 90, 92; culmen ♂ 10, 11 (2), 11.5, 12; ♀ 11.5, 12. Weight ♂ ♂ 29, 30; ♀ 30 (3) g.