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A NEW FORM OF FRANCOLIN

BY RODOLPHE MEYER DE SCHAUENSEE.

While at Lake Ngami we collected seven specimens, three adult and four immature, of *Francolinus adspersus* which seem to differ from the typical form. For this new race I propose the name of:

Francolinus adspersus kalahari subsp. nov.

Type, adult ♂, ANSP, No. 93418, Lake Ngami, Bechuanaland Protectorate, August, 1930.

Subspecific characters: Similar to *Francolinus adspersus adspersus* but differing from it in the following respects: the throat lighter, the ground color of the lower parts clearer white, and the barring on the mantle more conspicuous, more black and white than in *F. a. adspersus*. The entire upper parts lighter and grayer, especially on the top of the head. Bill slightly smaller.

Measurements: Wing 190 mm., tail 99 mm., culmen (exposed) 27 mm., tarsus 51.

Range: The Lake Ngami district, and probably the northern Kalahari.

Remarks: This race was exceedingly common at Lake Ngami. Mr. Woosnam also reported it common there, but collected no specimens.¹

The three adult birds have been compared with eleven adult specimens of *Francolinus a. adspersus*, three from Damaraland, two marked "South Africa," and six from Mulando, southern Angola. The beaks of six males of the above series average 29 mm., and in five females 27 mm., as against one male from Lake Ngami 27, and two females from the same locality 25 and 25½. The most obvious differences between the typical form and this new race however lies in the grayness of the back and the more distinct barring of the mantle.

¹ Birds of Ngamiland, Ibis 1912, p. 404.