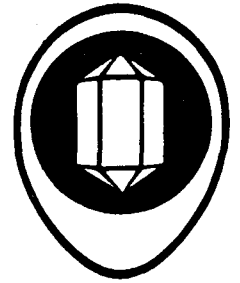


Lanioturdus torquatus
Drosselwürger

MITTEILUNGEN

ORNITHOLOGISCHE ARBEITSGRUPPE



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Bradfield's Swift

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In der Nr. 6 dieser Mitteilungen berichteten wir ueber einen Fund eines solchen Seglers durch Herrn zur Strassen und kuendigten weitere Nachrichten ueber den *Apus bradfieldi* an.

Ein Aufsatz aus Uebersee steht noch aus!

In etwa kommt mit dem Bericht von C.F. Clinning ein weiteres Glied in der Kette zustande:

"The recent finding of a fledgling Bradfield's Swift in a Windhoek street highlights how little is known of the biology of this endemix, particularly of its breeding biology.

Dean and Jensen (Ostrich 45 (1):44) record nests and eggs of Bradfields swift from the Arachadamab mountains in the fore Namib in April 1972. The birds are still known to breed at this site and at other inassessible sites on mountains in the fore Namib. Brooke (Ostrich 42 (1): 5-36) gives only three South West African and Angolan breeding records for the species.

Other than the typical cliff nesting sites referred to above, the Division of Nature Conservation and Tourism has on file one nest record card which refers to a half grown juvenile picked up beneath the palm trees in front of the Tintenpalast. Bradfield's Swifts have for years roosted in these palm trees and probably also bred there, along with an established colony of palm swifts. Both these species also roost (and breed ?) in palm trees in the Windhoek Showgrounds.

Brooke in his 1971 paper on breeding of African swifts mentions tree nesting of Apus barbatus in Kenya. Prior to this only Apus apus was known to nest in trees and then only in the USSR.

While sites in palm fronds differ from crades and holes in trees used by the other two Apus species, Bradfields swift can now be added to the list of tree nesting swifts.

It is to be expected that cliff sites are the birds first choice for nesting. However in towns such as Windhoek where few large cliffs are available the presence of tall palm trees provides attractive alternative nesting sites.

C.F. Clinning