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Clarification of the type-locality of Temminck's Courser *Cursorius temminckii* *damarensis* Reichenow, 1900

by W. R. J. Dean

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Temminck's Courser *Cursorius temminckii* Swainson, 1822, has been treated either as monotypic (White 1965, Urban *et al.* 1986, Dickinson 2003) or polytypic with one subspecies, *damarensis* Reichenow, 1900 (Sclater 1924), or two subspecies, *ruvanensis* Madarász, 1915, and *aridus* Clancey 1989 (Clancey 1989, Hockey *et al.* 2005). In his review, Clancey (1989) proposed that *damarensis* was a synonym of nominate *temminckii* and that as a result a new name was required for '*damarensis*' referred to by other authors, which he then provided, *C. t. aridus*.

The type-locality of *C. t. damarensis* is given as 'Damaraland' only, usually without Namibia (Sclater 1930: 137, Peters 1934: 300, White 1965: 135, Clancey 1980: 77, Clancey 1984) following the type-description (Reichenow 1900: 156). Reichenow (1900) conditionally named *C. t. damarensis* on the basis of a paler reddish-brown crown, and no other characters. No type-specimen was designated (Clancey 1989). Clancey mistakenly noted that no type appeared to exist, overlooking the holotype in the Museum für Naturkunde of the Humboldt-University of Berlin (ZMB). No type-locality was put forward by Reichenow, but 'Damaraland' by inference has been accepted as such. 'Damaraland' is an outdated name for that part of Namibia between 19°S and 23°S, and 14°E and 20°E. According to Clancey (1989), nominate *temminckii*, *ruvanensis* and *aridus* (*damarensis*) all occur in Namibia (*contra* Hockey *et al.* 2005), but do not all overlap in 'Damaraland.' Nevertheless, it is useful to clarify the type-locality, and to provide some details of the type.

The holotype of *C. t. damarensis*, an adult female, accession number ZMB 28717 was collected by A. W. Eriksson on 15 November 1890, with locality Ochimboro (Otjimboro), Namibia. There seems little doubt that the locality is correct. Eriksson was at Otjimboro from 16 October to 15 November 1890, before moving north to Angola where he remained until early December. Relevant specimens are held in Regionmuseum Vöstra Götaland, Sweden (formerly Älvsborgs Länsmuseum) (Lundevall & Ängemark 1989), the South African Museum, Cape Town, and ZMB. A specimen of Gabar Goshawk *Micronisus gabar* (ZMB 28702), also collected on 15 November 1890, is similarly labelled Ochimboro. The type-locality of *C. t. damarensis* Reichenow can therefore be precisely identified as Otjimboro (17°25'S, 18°20'E), Namibia.

Acknowledgements

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Is the bulbul *Phyllastrephus lorenzi* a good species?

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Sassi's Olive Greenbul *Phyllastrephus lorenzi* Sassi, 1914, is a poorly known bulbul (Pycnonotidae) of apparently limited distribution. Originally described from a specimen collected at Moera, near Beni, in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, the relatively few subsequent records have been confined to forests of this region, with one from adjacent western Uganda. Almost all records refer to collected material, such that virtually nothing is known of the bird in life. So far as I am aware, there are 44 specimens in museums (Table 1). In the course of preparing the bulbul family account for the *Handbook of the birds of the world* (Fishpool & Tobias 2005), I examined 40 of these. As a result, I have come to the conclusion that *P. lorenzi* is almost certainly not a valid species but is, rather, synonymous with the widespread Icterine Greenbul *P. icterinus*, of which it is possibly a melanic morph. I present here the morphological evidence that has led me to this conclusion together with distributional and other data consistent with such a view.