

SHORT NOTE

Miscellaneous notes on
South West African birds

by

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Since compiling the first short notes (Dixon 1970) a number of additional observations have been made.

1. ANOTHER RECORD OF THE
SIBERIAN RACE OF THE
WILLOW WARBLER FROM
SOUTH WEST AFRICA

Although the Willow Warbler is recorded as a common non-breeding migrant to Southern Africa records of the eastern *Phylloscopus trochilus yakutensis* Ticehurst from South West Africa are scarce. Winterbottom (1971) records it from Namutoni in the Etosha National Park while Clancey (1970) mentions it from the territory as well.

A specimen recently compared with material in the Durban Museum and attributable to *yakutensis* (Clancey pers. comm.) is held at the Namib Desert Research Station, Gobabeb. The specimen was taken by the writer on 29 October 1968 along the Omuhonga river in the Kaokoveld. This locality is some 400 km to the north west of Namutoni.

While this is then only the second specimen of this race to be taken it is probable that *yakutensis* enjoys a wider distribution in South West Africa than present records indicate.

2. PARADISE FLYCATCHER
TERSIPHONE VIRIDIS MULLER
FROM THE
NAMIB DESERT PARK

Winterbottom (1971) records the Paradise Flycatcher as far south as Dordabis. On 9 April 1971 an adult female of this species was observed in the Tumasberg region of the Namib Desert Park. This sighting is some 180 km to the west of the species known range. The bird was first seen at 18h30 fluttering and hawking around a small tree on a large boulder outcrop. This is the first record of this species from the Namib Desert Park where it may be considered a rare vagrant visitor.

REFERENCES

CLANCEY, P. A.

- 1970 On the races of *Phylloscopus trochilus* (Linnaeus) occurring in Southern Africa, with special reference to the status of *P. t. yakutensis* Ticehurst, 1935. *Durban Mus. Novitates* 8 (part 17): 331-334.

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WINTERBOTTOM, J. M.

- 1971 A preliminary check-list of the birds of South West Africa. *S.W.A. Scientific Society*, Windhoek.