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Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature: Opinions

In continuation of *Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl.* 97, 1977: 104, and by permission of the International Trust for Zoological Nomenclature, the following Rulings are quoted as extracts from Opinions published in *Bull. Zool. Nomencl.* affecting birds:

OPINION 1078

(*Bull. Zool. Nomencl.* 34(1), 1977: 14)

Anas punctata Burchell, 1822 (Aves): suppressed under the plenary powers.

(1) Under the plenary powers the specific name *punctata* Burchell, 1822, as published in the binomen *Anas punctata*, is hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy.

(2) The following specific names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers indicated:

(a) *hottentota* Eyton, 1838, as published in the binomen *Querquedula hottentota* (Name Number 2600);

(b) *maccoa* Eyton, 1838, as published in the binomen *Erismatura maccoa* (Name Number 2601).

(3) The specific name *punctata* Burchell, 1822, as published in the binomen *Anas punctata*, and as suppressed under the plenary powers, in (1) above, is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology with the Name Number 1018.

OPINION 1081

(*Bull. Zool. Nomencl.* 34(1), 1977: 25)

Addition of Family-Group Names based on *Alca* (Aves) and *Alces* (Mammalia) to the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology.

(1) The following names are hereby added to the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers specified:

(a) Alcidae (ex Alcaidae) Anon., 1820, type-genus *Alca* Linnaeus, 1758 (Class Aves) (Name Number 486);

(b) Alceidae (ex Alcedae) Brookes, 1828, type-genus *Alces* Gray, 1821 (Class Mammalia) (Name Number 487).

IN BRIEF

Sea and coastal birds collected in Angola

by H. Skoog in 1912

Brinck (1955, *South African Animal Life*, vol. II, cap. XVII) gives data on Phthiraptera obtained from birds specially collected for their ectoparasites by H. Skoog in 1912 at Porto Alexandre (15° 49' S, 11° 53' E) on the Mossamedes coast of Angola. Most of the birds were Palearctic migrants or seabirds and since the records are accurately dated it seems worthwhile making them more readily available.

<i>Species</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Locality</i>
<i>Diomedea chlororhynchos</i>	24.vii & 16.viii.12	off Porto Alexandre
<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	28.viii.12	Porto Alexandre
<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i> (2 specimens)	24.vii.12	"
<i>P. minor</i> (3 specimens)	10.x.12	"
<i>Charadrius pallidus</i>	3.viii. & 23.x.12	"
<i>C. marginatus</i>	8.vii.12	"
<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	20.xi.12	"

Species	Date	Locality
<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	13.X.12	Rio Curoca, Porto Alexandre
<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	20.X.12	Porto Alexandre
<i>C. minuta</i>	23.X.12	"
<i>C. alba</i> (6 specimens)	23.X.12	"
<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	23.IX.12	"
<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	23.X.12	"
<i>Larus cirrocephalus</i>	23.X.12	"
<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i> (4 specimens)	2.XI.12	"
<i>S. hirundo</i>	30.X.12	"
<i>S. balaenarum</i>	20.XI.12	"
<i>Corvus albus</i> (2 specimens)	12.VII.12	"

The general occurrence and distribution of Angolan birds is covered by Traylor (1963, Check-list of Angolan Birds, *Publ. Cult. Comp. Diam. Ang.* 61). Most of the above records do not require a modification of Traylor's appreciation but a few require comment. *Diomedea chlororhynchos* was only included by Traylor on visual evidence. The record of *Charadrius pallidus* provides a second Angolan locality. That of *C. marginatus* extends the coastal distribution far to the south. The record of *Sterna balaenarum* is the second for Angola. Records of the last 2 species have since been supplemented by further collecting of *C. marginatus* on 20 and 23 May 1966 at the Curoca River and of *S. balaenarum* to the south at Baia dos Tigres on 15 November 1968 and of both species at the Cunene estuary (Pinto (1973), Aditamento a avifauna do Distrito de Mocamedes, Angola, in *Livro de Homenagem ao Professor Fernando Frade Viegas da Costa 70° Aniversario—27 de Abril de 1968*, Lisbon).

16 November 1977

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Miscaptions on Plates of weavers in works by Mackworth-Praed & Grant

Arising from correspondence with Stewart Lane, of Blantyre, Malawi, it has come to light that, while the adult plumages of the Brown-capped Weaver *Ploceus (Phormoplectes) insignis* and Bertram's Weaver *P. (Xanthoploceus) bertrandi* are correctly described by Mackworth-Praed & Grant (1963, *Birds of the Southern Third of Africa*, Vol. 2: 585–586), on Plate 67 the captions for these 2 species have been transposed. Furthermore, while the same authors (1973, *Birds of West Central and Western Africa*, Vol. 2: 641) again give a correct description for *P. insignis*, Plate 80 shows *P. bertrandi* miscaptioned as *insignis*. *P. bertrandi* is unknown from anywhere in the area covered in this latter work, and correctly there is no mention of it in the text.

3 January 1978

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