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*C. c. subalaris* Reichenow in having a darker grey lower breast, abdomen and under tail-coverts in the male, and being slightly larger in size.

Through the courtesy of the Director, Transvaal Museum, I have been lent two adult males and one adult female paratypes of *C. c. capricornensis*, which I have compared with a series of *C. c. subalaris* most kindly collected on my behalf by Mr. P. A. Clancey, Director of the Durban Museum.

*Comparison of C. c. subalaris and C. C. capricornensis.*

*Measurements (mm.).*

| <i>Adult Males.</i>   | <i>C. c. subalaris.</i> | <i>C. c. capricornensis.</i> |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Wing                  | 55—58                   | 56—58                        |
| Exposed Culmen        | 21—24                   | 22—23                        |
| Tail                  | 43—46                   | 43—45                        |
| Tarsus                | 16.5—17                 | 16.5                         |
|                       | (11 measured)           | (2 measured)                 |
| <i>Adult Females.</i> |                         |                              |
| Wing                  | 51—53                   | 50                           |
| Exposed Culmen        | 17.5—18                 | 18.5                         |
| Tail                  | 36—38                   | 37                           |
| Tarsus                | 16                      | 16                           |
|                       | (2 measured)            | (1 measured)                 |

*Plumage Characters.*

As in all other races of *Cinnyris chalybeus*, there is considerable individual variation in the colour of the breast, abdomen and under tail-coverts in my series of *C. c. subalaris* males. Five specimens are as dark below as the two *C. c. capricornensis* paratypes, and one example, an adult male, Ingeti Forest, Alfred County, Cape/Natal border, is much larger than either of the *C. c. capricornensis* males. Females of *C. c. subalaris* and *C. c. capricornensis* are not distinguishable on plumage colour.

*Conclusions.*

*Cinnyris chalybeus capricornensis* (Roberts) cannot be maintained as a distinct race on size or plumage characters, and must be considered a synonym of *Cinnyris chalybeus subalaris* Reichenow.

## The Races of Coqui Francolin in South and Central Africa.

By MR. C. M. N. WHITE.

*Francolinus coqui* Smith in its various races ranges from the Transvaal to southern Ethiopia and to Upper Volta in French West Africa. The more northern races are well defined and the following remarks do not therefore deal with *F. c. ruahdae* van Someren, *F. c. hubbardi* Ogilvie-Grant, *F. c. thikae* Grant and Mackworth-Praed, *F. c. maharao* Sclater and *F. c. spinetorum* Bates, all of which were, however, studied in revising the more southern forms. The races which I can recognise in South and Central Africa are as follows;



*Francolinus coqui coqui* Smith (1836. Kurrichaine).

Synonyms *F. c. campbelli* (Roberts) (1928. Mt. Edgecombe, Natal).

*F. c. lynesii* Sclater (1932. Tenke, southern Belgian Congo).

Males with upper side with rich tawny or russet well developed; below with black barring generally rather broad and mostly extending over belly though a number show an unbarred belly; wing coverts with considerable reddish; underside with a creamy tinge in the white and with lower flanks and under tail coverts warmly buffish. Females not well distinguished from adjacent races. In view of the extensive variation I do not now think it wise to separate the Natal birds as *F. c. campbelli*. I cannot see any constant differences to justify maintaining *F. c. lynesii*. *Range*: Transvaal to Zululand, Portuguese East Africa, Nyasaland, Southern and Northern Rhodesia, south-east Katanga, Tanganyika Territory except extreme north-west at Bukoba and north near Arusha, Kenya Colony to Tana river and Teita.

I have examined the following material in reaching this conclusion. British Museum: Transvaal, 16; Natal, 6; south Bechuanaland, 1; Zululand, 2; Southern Rhodesia, 7; Portuguese East Africa, 3; Nyasaland, 17; Northern Rhodesia, 17; Katanga, 2; Tanganyika Territory, 6; Kenya Colony, 2. Also 7 from the Katanga in the Musée du Congo Belge at Tervuren; a series from Northern and Southern Rhodesia in the National Museum at Bulawayo; the series in the Transvaal Museum from South Africa; series formerly in the collection of E. Button from Ndola and Solwezi in Northern Rhodesia and now in the Academy of Natural Science at Philadelphia.

*Francolinus coqui vernayi* (Roberts) (1932. Tsotsoroga).

A doubtful race which appears paler above than the typical race and rather lightly barred below; more material is needed to ascertain its validity.

*Range*: Ngamiland. 1 in British Museum and 2 in Transvaal Museum examined.

*Francolinus coqui hoeschianus* Stresemann (1937. Waterberg).

Upper side very light and reddish with some grey; below with fine barring and a duller, less creamy ground colour.

*Range*: Waterberg plateau, South West Africa. 2 examined in British Museum.

*Francolinus coqui kasaicus* White (1945. Luluabourg).

Above like nominate *F. coqui* but below like *F. c. angolensis* Rothschild. An intermediate population of wide range.

*Range*: Brazzaville and Leopoldville to Kasai and south-west Katanga at Kasaji. 3 examined in British Museum and several at Tervuren.



*Francolinus coqui angolensis* Rothschild (1902. Bailundu). Synonym.  
*F. bourquii* Monard (1934, Kuvangu).

Above dark and cold with much increase of black and grey pigment; red pigment reduced and very dark; wing coverts very grey; below with very narrow black barring; ground colour below greyish in tinge without the creamy tinge of the nominate race and with little contrasting warm fawn on lower flanks and under tail coverts.

*Range*: Angola highlands east to Balovale district of Northern Rhodesia as far as the Zambesi but soon replaced further east by the nominate race. 12 from Balovale examined in my own collection, of which part are now in British Museum and one from Angola in Pretoria at Transvaal Museum.

### A Revision of *Sylvietta ruficapilla* Bocage.

By MR. C. M. N. WHITE.

A revision of the warbler *Sylvietta ruficapilla* Bocage based on the material in the British Museum, the Musée du Congo Belge at Tervuren and my own collection, has revealed considerably more variation than was hitherto suspected and forms the basis of the present note. In place of the two races commonly recognised I find it necessary to include *S. rufigenis* Reichenow as a third and to describe three additional races. Variation seems best defined by dividing the races into the two groups designated below as A and B.

Group A. Characterised by having the upper side grey and the under side without any yellow wash and therefore grey with a white middle to the belly.

*Sylvietta ruficapilla ruficapilla* Bocage. J. Lisboa 6 p. 160. 1877.  
Caconda, Angola.

Crown bright rufous, as bright or nearly as bright as the ear coverts.

*Range*: Angola highlands at Caconda to Missao da Luz and east to meet the next race at Kasaji in the south-west Katanga where some examples are referable to typical *S. ruficapilla* and some to the next race. *Material*: British Museum, 2; Musée du Congo Belge, 12.

*Sylvietta ruficapilla gephyra*, new race.

Differs from nominate *S. ruficapilla* in the much paler sandy head top which is decidedly paler than the ear coverts.

*Type*: Male, collected at Mwinilunga, Northern Rhodesia on 26 January, 1940, by C. M. N. White and presented to the British Museum.

*Range*: North-western Northern Rhodesia from Mwinilunga south to Balovale and Kabompo districts and north-east to the Katanga at Lufupa river, Lufira river and Kambove.

*Material*: British Museum, 7; Musée du Congo Belge, 2; White collection, 10.