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The Oldest Name for the Bat-eating Pern

by Mr. H. G. Deignan

Received 14th March, 1960

Peters (Check List of Birds of the World, vol. 1, 1931, p. 194) lists the Bat-eating Pern as *Machaerhamphus alcinus* Westerman, with both generic and specific names cited from "Bijdr. tot de Dierk., 1, 1848, p. 29, pl. 12."

It should be noted that the year 1848 was date of issue only of Aflevering 1 of the Bijdragen tot de Dierkunde. Aflevering 2, in which Westerman's name appeared, was issued in 1851, as has been pointed out by Sherborn (Index Animalium, A-B, p. xvii), and Sherborn's decision is supported by the fact that Volume 1, Aflevering 2, of the Bijdragen was not received by the Académie des Sciences at Paris until 22nd September, 1851.

The generic name *Machaerhamphus* Westerman, 1851, is in fact only an emendation of *Macheiramphus* Bonaparte, published in Rev. et Mag. Zool., sér. 2, tome 2, [not earlier than Sept.] 1850, p. 482 (type, by original designation and monotypy, *Macheiramphus alcinus* Bonaparte, here first described, with type locality "la presquîle de Malacca").

The correct name for the Bat-eating Pern is, accordingly, *Macheiramphus alcinus* Bonaparte, 1850, since both the generic and specific names have one year's anteriority over *Machaerhamphus alcinus* Westerman, 1851.

A New Race of the Brown Barbet from Thailand

by Mr. H. G. Deignan

Received 14th March, 1960

Calorhamphus fuliginosus detersus, subsp. nov.

Type: U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 324284, adult female, collected at Ban Sichon [lat. 9° 00′ N., long. 99° 55′ E.], Nakhon Si Thammarat Province, Thailand, on 19th May, 1930, by Hugh McC. Smith; original number 3917.

Diagnosis: Nearest *C. f. hayii* of Malaya, but easily distinguishable by having the chin and throat but *slightly* suffused with a *paler* brick red, and by having the remaining under parts silky white suffused with *pale primrose* instead of brownish red.

Range: The Malay Peninsula from the Mergui District of Tenasserim and the Isthmus of Kra southward to the Siamese province of Trang (where some individuals show approach to *hayii*).

Remarks: The adult of *detersus* closely resembles the immatures of both *detersus* and *hayii* in the colouration of the under parts.

The races of the Bokmakierie *Telophorus zeylonus* (Linnaeus), with the characters of a new form from South-West Africa

by Mr. P. A. Clancey

Received 20th March, 1960

The handsome black-collared, green and yellow shrike *Telophorus zeylonus* (Linnaeus), 1766: Cape of Good Hope, is a relatively common species of the South African sub-continental avifauna, ranging in the west

from Cape Town northwards to the coastal deserts of Angola, and in the east to the borders of the thornveld in Natal, Swaziland and the Transvaal. Two races are admitted in our formal subspecific arrangement of the populations, which is based on the work of Hartert[1], these being *T. z. zeylonus* and *T. z. phanus* (Hartert), 1920: Farta Bay, south of Benguela Town, south-western Angola. When describing *T. z. phanus*, Hartert suggested that the populations lying between topotypical nominate *T. zeylonus* and the south-western Angola race might prove separable from either, but the problem has received little attention since Hartert's time. The ranges of *T. z. zeylonus* and *T. z. phanus* have never been satisfactorily defined, and some workers extend the range of the latter race south to the Orange River, while others restrict it to south-western Angola and perhaps extreme north-western South-West Africa, in so doing extending the range of *T. z. zeylonus* to the northern limits of Darmaraland at least. In order to resolve the question of the subspecific status of the *T. zeylonus* populations occurring in those western parts of the South African sub-continent lying between the Orange and Cunene Rivers, I have recently assembled a large panel of material, study of which shows that three geographical races of this shrike should be recognised. For the loan of material I am grateful to the Directors of the South African Museum, Cape Town (through Dr. J. M. Winterbottom), East London Museum, Kaffrarian Museum, King William's Town, Transvaal Museum, Pretoria (through Mr. O. P. M. Prozesky), and the American Museum of Natural History, New York, U.S.A. (through Drs. Dean Amadon and Charles Vaurie). Critical study of the assembled series reveals the geographical variation in the shrike species *T. zeylonus* to be simple and clinal in nature. The character-gradients of both the dorsal and ventral colour characters are stepped, permitting the formal recognition of three stable races, the nomenclature, characters and ranges of which are as hereunder given:

(*a*) *Telophorus zeylonus zeylonus* (Linnaeus).

Turdus zeylonus Linnaeus, *Systema Naturae*, 12th edition, i, 1766, p. 297: Cape of Good Hope, *i.e.*, Cape Province, South Africa. Here restricted to Cape Town.

Head-top and nape in freshly moulted dress about Dark Grayish Olive (*vide* Ridgway[2], (pl. xlvi)), the former surface often with an admixture of olive green; mantle, rump and upper tail-coverts Serpentine/Roman Green (pl. xvi). Under-parts: throat Lemon Chrome (pl. iv), torque glossy black; lower breast and abdominal surface Lemon Chrome with a variable overlay of Light Cadmium (pl. iv), or Aniline Yellow (pl. iv) in some. Sides of breast, body-sides and flanks with wash of green or greenish grey.

Measurements: Wings (flattened) of 12 ♂♂ 96–101.5 (98.7), 12 ♀♀ 92–101 (97.8) mm.

Material examined: 72. South-western Cape Province (16). Central, southern and eastern Cape Province (33). Northern Cape (4). Orange Free State (3). Basutoland (4). Transvaal (5). Natal (7).

Type: None in existence.

Range: South-western Cape Province and southern Little Namaqualand, eastwards through the southern and interior districts to the eastern Cape, East Griqualand and Pondoland, and in Griqualand West (northern Cape), Orange Free State, Basutoland, Transvaal highveld, Natal (uncommon on coast) and western Swaziland.

(*b*) *Telophorus zeylonus thermophilus*, subsp. nov.

Type: ♀, adult. Windhoek, Damaraland, South-West Africa. 5th May, 1918. Collected by the late Lt. C. G. Finch-Davies. In the collection of the Transvaal Museum, Pretoria. T.M. No. 12371.

Diagnosis: Similar to *T. z. zeylonus* as defined above but head-top and nape markedly paler (about Light Grayish Olive (pl. xlvi)); mantle, rump and upper tail-coverts lighter (about Mignonette Green (pl. xxxi), and with a distinct overlay of greyish olive to the mantle in freshly moulted dress. On under-parts rather paler, the lower breast and abdominal surface about Empire Yellow (pl. iv), and without a wash of green or greenish grey to the sides of the breast, body-sides and flanks (the latter greyish or buffish white). Black torque rather smaller. Wings and tail paler. Averaging a trifle smaller, especially the female.

Measurements: Wings of 10 ♂♂ 92.5–101.5 (97.2). 8 ♀♀ 89–99.5 (94.3) mm.

Material examined: 23. South-West Africa (7). North-western and western Cape Province (14). Orange Free State (1). Transvaal (1).

Measurements of the Type: Wing 95.5, culmen from base 27.5, tarsus 31, tail 97 mm.

Range: North-western Cape Province (northern Little Namaqualand, Richtersveld, Bushmanland and northern Kenhardt), western and northern districts of the northern Cape (east to about the Vaal and Hartz Rivers), western Transvaal, southern Bechuanaland Protectorate and South-West Africa (except Kaokoveld). Once from Modder River, Orange Free State (migrant?). Intergrades to the south of its stated range with *T. z. zeylonus*.

Remarks: The name is descriptive of its fondness for the hot, scrub covered hillsides bordering the edge of the almost rainless Namib Desert in South-West Africa, in which terrain I found it common during my visit to the territory in May, 1949.

(*c*) *Telophorus zeylonus phanus* (Hartert).

Pelicinius zeylonus phanus Hartert, *Novitates Zoologicae*, vol. xxvii, 1920, p. 451: Farta Bay, south of Benguela Town, Benguela, south-western Angola.

Similar to *T. z. thermophilus* on the upper-parts, wings and tail, but averaging still paler. On the under-parts, clearer Lemon Yellow (pl. iv) over the throat, lower breast and abdominal surface (The lower breast and abdominal surface are pure Lemon Yellow, as against Empire Yellow in *T. z. thermophilus* and Lemon Chrome with overlays of Light Cadmium or Aniline Yellow in *T. z. zeylonus*). Sides of body and flanks chalky white. Similar in size, but with a slightly heavier bill (up to 30 mm.)

Measurements: Wings of 2 ♂♂, 1 ♀ 97.5–100.5 mm.

Material examined: 3. South-western Angola (3). All paratypes.

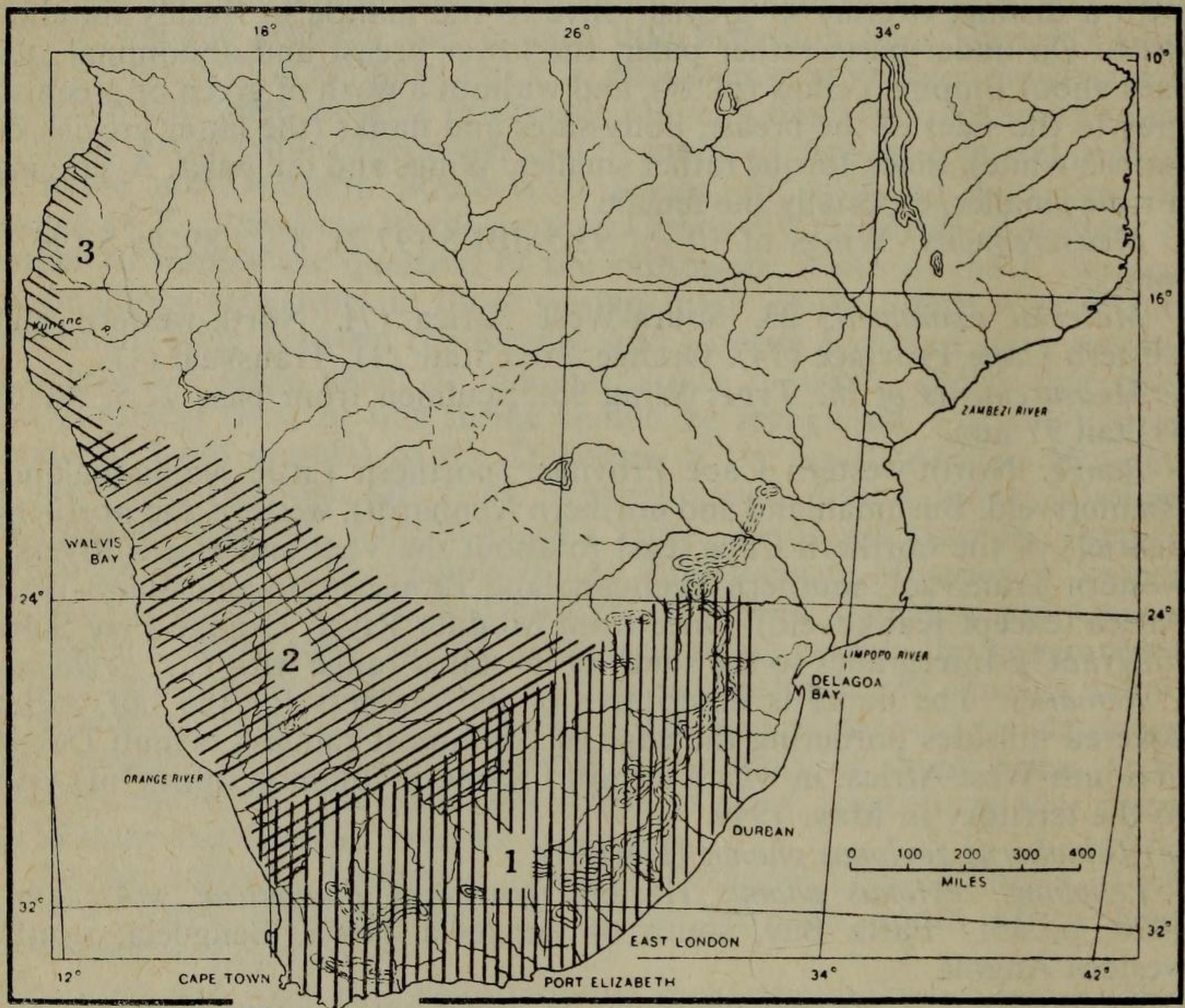
Type: In the American Museum of Natural History, New York, U.S.A. (ex Tring Museum collection).

Range: Arid coastal strip of south-western Angola (Benguela and Moçamedes), southwards to the western Kaokoveld, north-western South-West Africa (Orupembe).

Remarks: The extension of the range of *T. z. phanus* south to the western Kaokoveld rests on the single partially moulted specimen from Orupembe identified by Macdonald and Hall[3], (1957). I have not been able to examine the specimen in question, and Mr. O. P. M. Prozesky, Orni-

thologist of the Transvaal Museum, informs me that it is not in their collection.

Literature cited.
[1] Hartert, E *Novitates Zoologicae*, vol. xxvii, 1920, p. 451.
[2] Ridgway, R. *Color Standards and Color Nomenclature*, 1912.
[3] Macdonald, J. D., & Hall, B. P. *Annals of the Transvaal Museum*, vol. xxiii, 1., 1957, pp 31–32.



Telophorus zeylonus (Linnaeus).

Sketch-map showing the approximate ranges of the three races of *Telophorus zeylonus* (Linnaeus).
1. *Telophorus zeylonus zeylonus* (Linnaeus).
2. *Telophorus zeylonus thermophilus* Clancey.
3. *Telophorus zeylonus phanus* (Hartert).

The grassland species of the genus Cisticola

by Mr. C. M. N. White

Received 21st March, 1960

The term "grassland species" is a handy means of referring to a group of small species of *Cisticola* characterised by their dark streaked upper-sides. They are also associated with more open country than the rest of the genus, especially with open grasslands and pastures, although they may also occur in cultivation (one or two of the species involved). Lynes