States to study and prepare the report on the present bird collections from Palawan, Balabac, and the Calamian Islands of Culion and Busuanga, in collaboration with Dr. Ripley.

NEW SUBSPECIES FROM PALAWAN

BY

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Ninox scutulata palawanensis, subsp. nov.


DIAGNOSIS: Similar to N. sc. randi of most of the larger Philippine islands in the reddish chocolate-brown upper- and underparts, but decidedly smaller. Slightly smaller than N. sc. totogo of Botel Tabago but lighter brown on upperparts with decidedly more reddish wash; light parts on the streaked individual feathers of underparts purer white with much less buff, and brown streaks darker; blackish tail bands similar in width, number and location on tail feathers, but brown bands in palawanensis tinged more ashy. Closest to Ninox scutulata borneensis in size, but upperparts slightly darker brown with more red wash; blackish tail bands much narrower, more in number and darker, and the brown bands tinged more ashy.

MEASUREMENTS: N. sc totogo from A'Oshima, Loo Choo Islands, and Okinawa: Wing ♂ (2) 214, 210, ♀ (5) 204-212.5 (av. 208.5); tail ♂ (2) 119, 115, ♀ (5) 111.5-118 (av. 115.6); culmen from base ♂ (2) 24.5, 23.5, ♀ (4) 23.5-25 (av. 24.5); tarsus ♂ (2) 26, 24.5, ♀ (5) 25-26.5 (av. 26 mm).

N. sc. borneensis from Borneo: Wing ♂ (4) 176-184.5 (av. 179.6), ♀ (2) 182.5, 176, sex ♂ (4) 183-187.5 (av. 185.6) tail ♂ (4) 98-102 (av. 99.5), ♀ (2) 96.5, 96, sex ♂ (4) 94-104 (av. 100.1); culmen from base ♂ (4) 21.5-22.5 (av. 22.1), ♀ (2) 22, 22.5, sex ♂ (4) 21.5-24 (av. 22.2); tarsus ♂ (4)
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23-25 (av. 24.4), ♀ (2) 24.5, 23.5, sex ♀ (4) 22.5-24 (av. 23.6 mm). N. sc. palawanensis from Palawan Island. Wing ♂ 195.5; tail 108; culmen from base 23.5, tarsus 25 mm.

Range: Palawan Island.

Remarks: The three races totogo, borneensis and palawanensis are lightly differentiated from one another, based on plumage coloration. In size, however, palawanensis is intermediate between totogo and borneensis.

Pitta erythrogaster thompsoni, subsp. nov.


Diagnosis: Closest to P. e. propinqua of Palawan and Balabac Islands but back, rump, tail and scapulars pale blue, not cobalt. Differs from P. e. erythrogaster in the much paler blue of back, rump, tail and scapulars, and in the much narrower dull green band on mantle, as in propinqua.

Measurements: P. e. propinqua from Palawan: Wing ♂ (3) 96-100 (av. 98); tail ♂ (3) 34-36.5 (av. 34.8); culmen from base ♂ (3) 13.5-14.5 (av. 14); tarsus ♂ (3) 32-33.5 (av. 32.8 mm); weight ♂ (3) 50.7-53.4 (av. 51.2 grams).

P. e. erythrogaster from Luzon: Wing ♂ (4) 96.5-99 (av. 97.5), ♀ 99.5; tail ♂ (4) 32-37.5 (av. 35.1), ♀ 34.5; culmen from base ♂ (2) 23.5, 23.5, ♀ 23; tarsus ♂ (4) 33.5-35.5 (av. 34.2), ♀ 35 mm; weight ♂ (4) 56.2-69 (av. 63.3), ♀ 55.2 g.

P. e. erythrogaster from Mindanao: Wing ♂ (2) 98.5, 100.5, ♀ (2) 95.5, 98; tail ♂ (2) 36.5, 33.5, ♀ (2) 32, 34; culmen from base ♂ (2) 23.5, 24, ♀ 22; tarsus ♂ (2) 35.5, 35.5, ♀ (2) 34, 34.5 mm.