

PRELIMINARY DIAGNOSES OF NEW BIRDS FROM NORTH SUMATRA

by

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Through the kindness of the Director of the Zoological Museum, Buitenzorg, I have been given the privilege of examining the large collection of birds made by Mr. A. HOOGERWERF at various places in the environs of Mt. Leuser and on the mountains itself in the Government of Atjeh, North Sumatra, in 1937. The collection contains some striking novelties. Some of these are described below as a preliminary to the publication of a more detailed report which is being prepared by Mr. HOOGERWERF and myself.

Turdus javanicus hoogerwerfi subsp. nov.

A very distinct form that needs no close comparison with any other race. In fresh plumage adult males are almost uniformly dull brownish black, but there is a small white patch on the lower abdomen and a few feathers on the centre of the abdomen are fringed with dull chestnut. In females the chestnut markings are more extensive. Bill and feet, orange. Worn parts of the plumage are paler, and the pale brownish grey crown and nape sometimes form a striking contrast with the darker mantle. Nearest to *T. j. indrapuræ* from Mt. Korinchi in South-West Sumatra, but at once distinguished by the absence of the extensive chestnut area on the abdomen and flanks.

Type. — Adult male, collected on Mt. Leuser, Atjeh, North Sumatra, 3,000 metres (c), on 5th February, 1937. Mus. Buitenzorg No. 10156.

Specimens examined. — Ten males, and nine females.

Serilophus lunatus moderatus subsp. nov.

Nearer to *S. l. rothschildi* from the mountains of the Malay States than to *intensus* from Mt. Korinchi, South-West Sumatra, but the crown and nape are tinged with fulvous and the top of the head is therefore darker and less pure grey than in *rothschildi*.

Type. — Adult male, collected at Palok near Mt. Leuser, Atjeh, North Sumatra, 1,000 metres (c), on 29th January, 1937. Mus. Buitenzorg, No. 10068.

Specimens examined. — Four males, and one female.

Serinus estherae ripleyi subsp. nov.

Like the typical race from the mountains of West Java, but with more yellow on the head and breast in both sexes.

Type. — Adult male, collected on Mt. Leuser, Atjeh, North Sumatra, 3.300 (c) metres, on 1st February, 1937. Mus. Buitenzorg, No. 10107.

Specimens examined. — Two males, and two females.

Remarks. — The finding of this species, hitherto only known from Java, is one of the more remarkable of Mr. HOOGERWERF's ornithological discoveries on the mountains of North Sumatra. I have associated with this form the name of Mr. S. D. R. RIPLEY, one of Mr. HOOGERWERF's successors in the ornithological exploration of Mt. Leuser.
