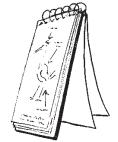


Neotropical Notebook



Neotropical Notebook contains two sections. The first summarises records published elsewhere in the literature, following the format previously established in *Cotinga*. The second lists unpublished and undocumented records. Photographs are published where appropriate.

PUBLISHED RECORDS FROM THE LITERATURE

CARIBBEAN

Cuba

E. Reyes & N. Navarro have twice recorded the highly threatened **Cuban Kite** *Chondrohierax wilsonii* in recent years in the vicinity of Alejandro de Humboldt National Park, in the far east of the island, firstly in 2004 and secondly in December 2009, when they secured photographs¹⁵⁷. The first published report for Cuba of the globally threatened **Kirtland's Warbler** *Dendroica kirtlandii* involved a bird seen on Cayo Coco in early November 2004¹⁵².

Dominica and Guadeloupe

Larsen & Levesque¹¹⁰ present the first records of **White-winged Dove** *Zenaida asiatica* on Dominica (in January and May 2005) and on Guadeloupe (many records since July 2005, mainly since April 2006).

US Virgin Islands

The northernmost ever record of **Striated Heron** *Butorides striata* involves one photographed on the island of St. John in May 2003⁹².

MIDDLE AMERICA

Belize

Northern Crested Caracara *Caracara cheriway* has been found breeding in Belize for the first time recently, perhaps as a result

of ongoing deforestation in the country¹⁵⁸.

Costa Rica

Five species have been added to the national list recently: **Christmas Shearwater** *Puffinus nativitatis*, **Grey-bellied Hawk** *Accipiter poliogaster*, **Black-legged Kittiwake** *Rissa tridactyla*, **Veraguian Mango Anthracothorax veragrensis** and **Sapphire-throated Hummingbird** *Lepidopyga coeruleogularis*²⁶; the latter also documented separately¹⁷. Sandoval & Gallo¹⁷⁵ describe the nest and eggs of the country endemic **Black-cheeked Ant Tanager** *Habia atrimaxillaris*, and new data on the breeding biology of **Ocellated Antbird** *Phaenostictus mcleannani* have also been presented³⁵. Novel information concerning the breeding biology of **Slate-throated Whistler** *Myioborus miniatus* has been published based on work in northern Costa Rica¹³⁹. The first records for Cocos Island of **Nazca Booby** *Sula granti* and **Glossy Ibis** *Plegadis falcinellus* (both documented with photographs) occurred in the first half of 2008¹⁶⁴.

Honduras

Vallely *et al.*¹⁹⁶ report records of 27 species that are rare or poorly known in the country, all from the Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve, including four that had not previously been reported in Honduras, namely **Fasciated Tiger Heron** *Tigrisoma fasciatum*, **Grey-rumped Swift** *Chaetura cinereiventris*, **Striped Woodhaunter** *Hyloctistes subulatus* and **Wing-banded Antbird** *Myrmornis torquata*.

Mexico

The first country record (and the southernmost in the New World) of **Yellow-browed Warbler** *Phylloscopus inornatus* involved

a bird photographed and sound-recorded at Miraflores, Baja California Sur, in March–April 2007¹³⁴. This is the third species of *Phylloscopus* to be recorded in Baja California. Several new breeding localities for the restricted-range **Worthen's Sparrow** *Spizella wortheni* have been discovered in north-east Mexico²⁷. Forcey & Aragón⁶³ provide notes on 46 species in the state of Oaxaca, including two species new to the state list, **Ruff** *Philomachus pugnax* and **Cassin's Finch** *Carpodacus cassini*, of which the former has been reported just twice in Mexico before (see also Other records received). A population of **Monk Parakeet** *Myiopsitta monachus* has also been found in Oaxaca, representing the first record in southern Mexico as a whole¹²⁰. González-Medina *et al.*⁷⁸ have reviewed the winter status and distribution of the globally threatened **Black-capped Vireo** *Vireo atricapilla* in the state of Sinaloa. The first record of **Stygian Owl** *Asio stygius* in north-east Mexico since 1911 involved a bird in Ciudad Victoria, Tamaulipas, in June 2007¹⁷². Sixteen species have been added to the state list of Morelos, some of them based on previously overlooked specimen records¹⁹³.

Yellow-winged Tanager

Thraupis abbas has been added to the Nuevo León avifauna¹³⁵, whilst **Kentucky Warbler** *Oporornis formosus* has also been added to the state list, **Spot-crowned Woodcreeper** *Lepidocolaptes affinis* has been confirmed on the basis of a photographic record¹⁹⁴, and the second record **Aztec Thrush** *Ridgwayia pinicola* has been reported¹³⁶. **Tamaulipas Crow** *Corvus imparatus* has been added to the Hidalgo list¹⁹⁵. **Black-throated Magpie-Jay** *Calocitta colliei* has been discovered in Baja California Sur⁹. Montejó Díaz *et al.*¹³⁷ discuss the status of

Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus* in the Yucatán, and report a new record from there. The first record of **Crimson-collared Grosbeak** *Rhodothraupis celaeno* in central Veracruz was photographed in July 2005; further records have followed⁷⁷. New records of **Brown Noddy** *Anous stolidus*, **Calliope Hummingbird** *Stellula calliope*, **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** *Sphyrapicus varius*, **Chestnut-sided Warbler** *Dendroica pensylvanica* and **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** *Pheucticus ludovicianus* have been made in Sinaloa¹¹¹. Two new records of **Resplendent Quetzal** *Pharomachrus mocinno* in eastern Chiapas have been reported¹⁵⁵. **Yellow-breasted Chat** *Icteria virens* has been recorded in the Distrito Federal recently; there are few previous records¹⁶⁹. A range extension for **Strong-billed Woodcreeper** *Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus* in Guerrero has been reported¹². New breeding data for **Russet-crowned Motmot** *Momotus mexicanus* have been published⁷⁹.

Nicaragua

Buff-breasted Flycatcher

Empidonax fulvifrons has been recorded for the first-ever time in the country, in January 2008¹⁴¹, and **Common Raven** *Corvus corax* has been recorded for the first time in over 40 years¹⁴⁰.

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina

Bodrati & Cockle¹⁸ report a new species for the country, a **Pacific Dove** *Zenaida meloda* photographed and tape-recorded in La Rioja province, in March 2007, and Bodrati *et al.*¹⁹ present the first record of **Masked Tityra** *Tityra semifasciata* in Argentina, a male photographed in Iguazú National Park in January 2008. In the same region, the Brazilian endemic, **Stripe-breasted Starthroat** *Heliomaster squamosus* was photographed in November 2009³⁰. Another new species for Argentina is **Chilean Mockingbird** *Mimus thenca*, which was discovered breeding in

north-west Neuquén in 2006¹²⁷. Sosa *et al.*¹⁸⁵ report the first specimen record of **Grey-breasted Crake** *Laterallus exilis* in Argentina, from the province of Chaco, in May 2000. Segovia *et al.*¹⁸¹ have published confirmatory evidence for the presence of **Golden-crowned Flycatcher** *Myiodynastes chrysocephalus* in Argentina, and **Least Sandpiper** *Calidris minutilla* has been confidently recorded for the first time on the Argentine mainland, in La Pampa¹²⁴. Further records of **Brown-breasted Bamboo Tyrant** *Hemitriccus obsoletus* have been published²⁰. Also in Misiones province, Bodrati *et al.*²¹ have reported a new locality for **Black-capped Piprites** *Piprites pileata*, and another new record for Misiones was of a **Capped Heron** *Pilherodius pileatus* at Iguazú National Park, which is one of the few records for Argentina¹⁵⁹. Another vagrant to the country was a **Magnificent Frigatebird** *Fregata magnificens*, which remarkably was found inland in Buenos Aires province¹⁵¹. **Military Macaw** *Ara militaris* is considered to be Critically Endangered in Argentina, making the recent discovery of an apparent breeding population in Salta province of considerable importance¹⁴⁴. In the same province, a population of up to 300 individuals of **Orinoco Goose** *Neochen jubata* discovered in 2004 represents the first Argentine records for some years¹²³. Twelve species are reported for the avifauna of Parque Nacional Iguazú, among them **Hooded Tanager** *Nemosia pileata*, a new record of **Sapphire-spangled Emerald** *Amazilia lactea* (photographed), confirmation of **Wood Stork** *Mycteria americana* and **Chilean Flamingo** *Phoenicopterus chilensis* for the province of Misiones, as well as a new record of **Plumbeous Seedeater** *Sporophila plumbea*, whose status in Argentina is still poorly known¹³³. A successful breeding attempt by a pair of **Harpy Eagles** *Harpia harpyja* in Misiones province has been documented recently¹⁰. **Slender-**

Tailed Woodstar *Microstilbon burmeisteri* has been added to the known avifauna of Córdoba province, based on a male and female (the latter photographed) in January 2009¹⁸⁷. **Pearl Kite** *Gampsonyx swainsoni* has been recorded for the first time in Santa Fé¹²¹. In central Santa Fé, Fandiño & Pautasso⁵² present the first record of **Mourning Sierra Finch** *Phrygilus tricotis* and new provincial records of **Subtropical Doradito** *Pseudocolopteryx acutipennis*. At El Palmar National Park, Entre Ríos, a male **Chestnut-backed Tanager** *Tangara preciosa* was photographed, the first confirmed provincial record¹⁰². **Sayaca Tanager** *Thraupis sayaca* has been added to the known avifauna of Pampa province²⁵ and **Scribble-tailed Canastero** *Asthenes maculicauda* to that of Salta province⁴⁰. **Boat-billed Heron** *Cochlearius cochlearius* has been recorded for the first time in north-west Argentina, in Salta²⁴. **Swallow Tanager** *Tersina viridis* has been recorded for only the second time in the same region of the country, this time in Tucumán¹⁴⁶. **Little Blue Heron** *Egretta caerulea* and **Andean Lapwing** *Vanellus resplendens* have been recorded for the first in the provinces of Santa Fe and San Juan respectively, while **Hudson's Black Tyrant** *Knipolegus hudsoni* has been found breeding in northern Río Negro province, and **Scaly-headed Parrot** *Pionus maximiliani* and **Chiguancó Thrush** *Turdus chiguancó* appear to have become established in Buenos Aires province³. **Subtropical Doradito** *Pseudocolopteryx acutipennis* has been reported in north-west Buenos Aires province¹⁸⁸ (separately to the records reported by Roesler in *Cotinga* 31: 86–89, but also documented photographically). **Swainson's Flycatcher** *Myiarchus swainsoni* has been recorded for the first time in south-west Buenos Aires province¹³⁸, from where a record of **Jabiru** *Jabiru mycteria* has also recently been published⁴⁴. Lowen *et al.*¹²² present new records of two

rarities in Buenos Aires province, **Magellanic Plover** *Pluvianellus socialis* and **Crested Doradito** *Pseudocolopteryx sclateri*, both at Rincón de Cobo. Several interesting new records from Río Negro province were presented by Seewald & Pérez¹⁸⁰. Records of 15 species have been presented from Mendoza and San Juan provinces, with those of **Roadside Hawk** *Rupornis magnirostris*, **Moreno's Ground Dove** *Metrodelia morenoi* and **Slender-billed Miner** *Geositta tenuirostris* being the first for Mendoza and in the cases of the latter two the southernmost ever. **Salinas Monjita** *Neoxolmis salinarum* was recorded in both provinces for the first time, and the status of **Southern Screamer** *Chauna torquata* in the two provinces was updated. The presence of **Fulvous Dendrocygna bicolor** and **White-faced Whistling Ducks** *D. viduata* was confirmed in northern Mendoza, with **Spectacled Duck** *Speculanas specularis*, **Flying Steamer Duck** *Tachyeres patachonicus* and **Yellow-bridled Finch** *Melanodera xanthogramma* found in the south of the same province. **Upland Sandpiper** *Bartramia longicauda* was added to the San Juan list and **Horned Coot** *Fulica cornuta* was also recorded there (perhaps the southernmost record ever). **Puna Plover** *Charadrius albicola* was recorded for the third time in Mendoza and a sighting of **Rosy-billed Pochard** *Netta peposaca* there was perhaps at its upper altitudinal limit. Finally, **Cliff Flycatcher** *Hirundinea ferruginea* was also confirmed for Mendoza¹²⁶. Ortiz *et al.*¹⁴⁷ present new data on the range-restricted and uncommon **Hoy's Screech Owl** *Megascops hoyi* in north-west Argentina, and in Tucumán province there were several new records of **Chestnut-vented Conebill** *Conirostrum speciosum*¹⁴³. Seipke¹⁸² presents an updated list of the diurnal raptors of Catamarca, including several interesting new provincial records. Breeding data for **Planalto Woodcreeper** *Dendrocolaptes platyrostris*³⁶, **Black-throated**

Trogon *Trogon rufus*¹⁴⁵ and **Southern Giant Petrel** *Macronectes giganteus*³⁸ have appeared recently.

Bolivia

Herzog *et al.*⁹⁴ report the first Bolivian records of the poorly known **Cloud-forest Screech Owl** *Megascops marshalli*, from La Paz (a single locality) and Cochabamba (two sites), and speculate that the species should perhaps be treated as Vulnerable. They also provide new information on the species' vocal characters. Hosner *et al.*⁹⁷ present details of the first country record of **Red-fronted Coot** *Fulica rufifrons*, in Cochabamba, as well as new departmental records of 12 other species. A survey of the Serranía Sadiri produced the first record of **Blackish Nightjar** *Caprimulgus nigrescens* for La Paz, the second Bolivian localities for **Purple-throated Cotinga** *Porphyrolaema porphyrolaema*, **Red-billed Tyrannulet** *Zimmerius cinereicapilla* and **Cuzco Warbler** *Basileuterus chrysogaster*, as well as five new species for Parque Nacional Madidi⁹⁶. Potentially a new species for the country, there were two sight records of **White-chinned Swift** *Cypseloides cryptus* north of Manaus, Amazonas, in 2007²⁰⁰. Whittaker¹⁹⁹ reports the overlooked first Brazilian record of **Blackburnian Warbler** *Dendroica fusca*, a specimen from Pará collected in October 1961; there have been five subsequent records, including one from the south-east of the country. Lima & Kamada¹¹⁷ report records of the Afrotropical **Pied Crow** *Corvus albus* in the port city of Santos, São Paulo, between July 2004 and June 2009. On the other hand, Carlos²⁹ has critically reviewed recent claims of **Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross** *Thalassarche carteri* in Brazil and concluded that all of them should be regarded as unproven. Candia-Gallardo *et al.*²⁸ present the first details concerning the discovery of a new and apparently reasonably large population of **Cone-billed Tanager** *Conothraupis mesoleuca* in the Chapada dos Parecis, on the upper rio Juruena, as well as providing information on life history, female plumage and taxonomy. Furthermore, the authors also clarify the whereabouts of the type locality, which had remained enigmatic until now.

Brazil

Amongst the latest spate of additions to the national list are the following. Arguably the most

remarkable is a record of the Pacific-breeding **Short-tailed Shearwater** *Puffinus tenuirostris*, involving a corpse found on a beach at Salvador, Bahia, in May 2008, which is also one of the few Atlantic Ocean records¹⁸⁶. A **Sabine's Gull** *Xema sabini* was photographed in Rio Grande do Sul, in November 2009, is a new gull species for Brazil¹⁵³. **Fine-barred Piculet** *Picumnus subtilis*, previously considered endemic to eastern Peru, has been recorded at two sites in the extreme western state of Acre¹⁶⁶. From the same state, Guilherme & Aleixo⁸⁷ present the first Brazilian records of **Tschudi's Woodcreeper** *Xiphorhynchus chunchotambo*. Another new country record was provided by the discovery of a colony of **White-chinned Swift** *Cypseloides cryptus* north of Manaus, Amazonas, in 2007²⁰⁰. Whittaker¹⁹⁹ reports the overlooked first Brazilian record of **Blackburnian Warbler** *Dendroica fusca*, a specimen from Pará collected in October 1961; there have been five subsequent records, including one from the south-east of the country. Lima & Kamada¹¹⁷ report records of the Afrotropical **Pied Crow** *Corvus albus* in the port city of Santos, São Paulo, between July 2004 and June 2009. On the other hand, Carlos²⁹ has critically reviewed recent claims of **Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross** *Thalassarche carteri* in Brazil and concluded that all of them should be regarded as unproven. Candia-Gallardo *et al.*²⁸ present the first details concerning the discovery of a new and apparently reasonably large population of **Cone-billed Tanager** *Conothraupis mesoleuca* in the Chapada dos Parecis, on the upper rio Juruena, as well as providing information on life history, female plumage and taxonomy. Furthermore, the authors also clarify the whereabouts of the type locality, which had remained enigmatic until now.

Guilherme & Santos⁸⁸ report the results of an avifaunal survey in eastern Acre, with specific notes on those species

closely associated with bamboo forests, among them the recently described **Rufous Twistwing** *Cnippodectes superrufus*. Recent surveys of the **Restinga Antwren** *Formicivora littoralis* have revealed a population and range slightly larger than previously thought, which has led the authors of the study to recommend that it be downlisted from Critically Endangered to Endangered¹²⁹. Two recently discovered specimens taken in the state of Goiás of **Kaempfer's Woodpecker** *Celeus obrieni*^{47,95}, along with a recent documented record from there¹⁴⁸, as well as yet more records from the state of Tocantins¹⁶¹, demonstrate that this rediscovered species has a much wider range than could have been expected just a few years ago. Pinheiro & Dornas¹⁶² list over 400 species recorded in the region of the Cantão State Park, on the right bank of the Araguaia River, in Tocantins, amongst them several species previously unrecorded in the Cerrado biome and / or new to the avifauna of the state. Kirwan¹⁰⁵ presents breeding data for over 50 species, amongst them the first nest descriptions for **Serra do Mar Tyrannulet** *Phylloscartes difficilis* and **Speckle-breasted Antpitta** *Hylopeus nattereri*, and the first descriptions of chicks of **Ash-throated Crake** *Porzana albicollis* and **Paint-billed Crake** *Neocrex erythrops*. Recent observations in the Campanha region of south-west Rio Grande do Sul have included the second Brazilian record of **Sharp-billed Canastero** *Asthenes pyrrholeuca*, in May 2005, and the first state record of **Least Nighthawk** *Chordeiles pusillus*, in February 2006¹⁶⁷. Pacheco Nunes¹⁴⁹ reviews Brazilian records of **Black-backed Grosbeak** *Pheucticus aureoventris* and presents a new record, in Mato Grosso do Sul in May 2007. Despite the species' overall rather wide range, **Wing-barred Piprites** *Piprites chloris* has been recorded in north-east Brazil for the first time only recently¹⁷¹, whilst the first documented record for Rio de Janeiro has also

been made¹⁶⁰. Albano & Girão⁷ discuss the interesting avifaunas of three isolated upland humid forests within the *caatinga* of Ceará, which support a number of threatened and taxonomically interesting forms. New nesting data have been published for two species of *Hemitriccus*, namely **Stripe-necked Tody-Tyrant** *H. striaticollis* and **Drab-breasted Bamboo Tyrant** *H. diops*¹⁰⁶. The nests of **Band-tailed Antshrike** *Sakesphorus melanothorax*²⁰⁵ and **Coal-crested Finch** *Charitospiza eucosma* have been described²². Mendonça *et al.*¹³² discuss possible local avian extinctions in the Upper Paraná floodplain, at the border between Mato Grosso do Sul and Paraná states. Girão *et al.*⁷² present the first records of five species of terns in Ceará: **Black Noddy** *Anous minutus* (moribund birds found in December 2004 and 2006 are apparently the first records from the Brazilian mainland), **Least Tern** *Sternula antillarum* (regular in groups of up to hundreds of individuals), **Black Tern** *Chlidonias niger*, **Arctic Tern** *Sterna paradisaea* and **Sandwich Tern** *Thalasseus sandvicensis eurygnathus* (also regular in the state). Interesting records at a state level include the first of **Short-eared Owl** *Asio flammeus* in Tocantins and north-east Brazil⁶⁹, the first **White-backed Stilt** *Himantopus melanurus* in Tocantins⁴⁸, the first **Slate-coloured Seedeater** *Sporophila schistacea* in Amazonas⁵⁹, the first **Broad-winged Hawk** *Buteo platypterus* in Amapá², the first documented records of **Great Horned Owl** *Bubo virginianus* for Amazonas¹¹ and **Agami Heron** *Agamia agami* for Mato Grosso do Sul¹⁹², a record of **White-necked Hawk** *Leucopternis lacernulatus* in Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais⁴³, new records of **Black-and-white Hawk-Eagle** *Spizaetus melanoleucus* in Santa Catarina¹¹³ and Paraná¹⁷⁸, a documented record of **Chestnut-backed Antshrike** *Thamnophilus palliatus* in the littoral of São Paulo¹⁷⁶ and several documented records of **Spectacled Tyrant** *Hymenops perspicillatus* in the same state¹¹⁶. Fifteen species have been added to the Pernambuco list: **Stripe-backed Bittern** *Ixobrychus involucris*, **Whistling Heron** *Syrigma sibilatrix*, **Rufous-thighed Kite** *Harpagus diodon*, **Pectoral Sandpiper** *Calidris melanotos*, **Upland Sandpiper** *Bartramia longicauda*, **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** *Coccyzus americanus*, **Band-winged Nightjar** *Caprimulgus longirostris*, **Black-fronted Nunbird** *Monasa nigrifrons*, **Rusty-backed Spinetail** *Cranioleuca vulpina*, **Greater Thornbird** *Phacellodomus ruber*, **White-throated Kingbird** *Tyrannus albogularis*, **Sharpbill** *Oxyruncus cristatus*, **Purple Martin** *Progne subis*, **Cliff Swallow** *Petrochelidon pyrrhonota* and **Orange-fronted Yellow Finch** *Sicalis columbiana*¹⁵⁶. Cestari³² presents a documented record of **Rufous-chested Dotterel** *Charadrius modestus* in São Paulo. A specimen of **Chestnut-backed Tanager** *Tangara preciosa* has recently been collected in Minas Gerais⁶¹. **Ash-coloured Cuckoo** *Micrococcyx cinereus* has been added to the list of Paraíba¹³⁰, and **Cocoi Heron** *Ardea cocoi* has been confirmed in the state of Ceará⁷⁴. **White-winged Coot** *Fulica leucoptera* has been documented for the state of São Paulo¹⁷⁴, **Red Shoveler** *Anas platyrhynchos*¹⁹⁸ and **Horned Screamer** *Anhima cornuta* in Paraná¹⁵⁴, a documented record of **Maguari Stork** *Ciconia maguari* for Santa Catarina has been published⁵⁷, and records of **Least Bittern** *Ixobrychus exilis*⁷³ and **Lesser Nighthawk** *Chordeiles acutipennis* are reported for Ceará⁷¹. **Jabiru** *Jabiru mycteria* has also been added to the latter state's list¹¹⁵. **Crowned Eagle** *Harpyhaliaeetus coronatus* has recently been documented within the Pantanal wetland region³³. **Fiery-tailed Awlbill** *Avocettula recurvirostris* has been recorded in the state of Tocantins¹⁶³. Faria⁵³ presents interesting new records from the Distrito Federal, and two new records of **Fasciated Tiger**

Heron *Tigrisoma fasciatum* in Goiás⁵⁴. Serpa *et al.*¹⁸³ discuss the status of **Buff-necked Ibis** *Theristicus caudatus* in Rio de Janeiro state. There have been several recent records of the globally threatened **Bearded Tachuri** *Polyptilus pectoralis* in Rio Grande do Sul¹⁰⁹. A road-killed **Buff-fronted Owl** *Aegolius harrisii*, found in December 2008, represents one of the few records for Paraná¹⁷⁷. Brandt *et al.*²³ present new records of **White-throated Spadebill** *Platyrinchus leucoryphus* in Santa Catarina. **Masked Booby** *Sula dactylatra* has been added to the avifauna of Rio Grande do Sul⁶⁵. Pacheco Nunes *et al.*¹⁵⁰ detail records of four species new to the Pantanal region (**Cinnamon Teal** *Anas cyanoptera*, **White-collared Swift** *Streptoprocne zonaris*, **White-eyed Foliage-gleaner** *Automolus leucophthalmus* and **Eared Pygmy Tyrant** *Myiornis auricularis*) as well as records of seven other species rarely seen in the region previously. Lima *et al.*¹¹⁸ present data on the nesting of three north-east Brazilian endemics, **Broad-tipped Hermit** *Phaethornis gounellei*, **Silvery-cheeked Antshrike** *Sakesphorus cristatus* and **White-browed Guan** *Penelope jacucaca*, as well as for c.20 other species. New information on breeding has also been published for the following species: **Slaty-breasted Wood Rail** *Aramides saracura*¹⁹⁷, **Rufous-breasted Hermit** *Glaucis hirsutus*¹⁸⁹, **Spot-billed Toucanet** *Selenidera maculirostris*⁸⁶, **Variegated Antpitta** *Grallaria varia*¹³¹, **Collared Crescentchest** *Melanopareia torquata*¹⁰⁴, **Yellow-breasted Flycatcher** *Tolmomyias flaviventris*³¹, **Streaked Flycatcher** *Myioodynastes maculatus*⁸⁹, **White-rumped Swallow** *Tachycineta leucorrhoa*¹¹⁴ and **White-bellied Seedeater** *Sporophila leucoptera*⁶⁴. Other novel breeding data have been presented for **Pale-throated Serra Finch** *Embernagra longicauda*⁶⁸, as well as separately a new record of the latter species for eastern Minas Gerais⁸. Corrêa *et al.*³⁹

present a number of interesting avifaunal records from the Floresta Nacional de Três Barras, in Santa Catarina, amongst them **Marsh Tapaculo** *Scytalopus iraiensis*, and Legal & Kohler¹¹² report the southernmost record of **Brown Tanager** *Orchesticus abeillei* from the same state. Interesting ornithological records from western Santa Catarina are presented by Favretto & Geuster^{55,56,58}. **Brazilian Tanager** *Ramphocelus bresilius* has been recorded in Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais⁴². Maciel *et al.*¹²⁵ report the arrival of **Curl-crested Jay** *Cyanocorax cristatellus* in the city of Rio de Janeiro.

Chile

In *Cotinga* 31: 162 we referred to a recent record of **Hooded Grebe** *Podiceps gallardoi* in Region V; this should have read Region XII, and we take this opportunity to note that there has never been a record in Region V (*per FB*). Two new breeding seabirds for Chile have been found nesting on the Desventuradas Islands, namely **Blue-footed Booby** *Sula nebouxii* and **White-tailed Tropicbird** *Phaeton lepturus*⁴. Schmitt & Barros¹⁷⁹ bring together recent records of **Semipalmated Sandpiper** *Calidris pusilla* and **Western Sandpiper** *C. mauri* in central Chile, the latter species has only recently been confirmed to occur in the country. A recent survey of Guafo Island, in the south of the country, revealed the presence of 81 species including an important colony of **Sooty Shearwater** *Puffinus griseus*¹⁶⁸. González-Acuña *et al.*⁷⁵ report three new distributional records from the north of the country, in Tarapacá, including a 100-km southward range extension for **Puna Canastero** *Asthenes pudibunda*. Further records of **Westland Petrel** *Procellaria westlandica* have been reported recently⁶⁶; this species' presence in Chilean waters, practically unknown just over a decade ago, is now well established.

Recent records published in the electronic bulletin *La Chiricoca* include the following

highlights^{14–16}. Three **Patagonian Tinamous** *Tinamotis ingoufi* were observed in Region XII in early December 2008. A **Black-bellied Whistling Duck** *Dendrocygna autumnalis* was photographed in Region XV in late December 2008, a **Fulvous Whistling Duck** *D. bicolor* was in the Metropolitan District in August 2008, whilst there were three records of **Little Blue Heron** *Egretta caerulea* in the same region during August to October 2008, with another in July 2009. A **Wandering Albatross** *Diomedea exulans antipodensis* was photographed off Valparaíso in early April 2009. The first documented record of **Manx Shearwater** *Puffinus puffinus* involved a bird photographed during a pelagic trip from Valparaíso at the end of August 2008, with another report off Valparaíso in mid-December 2008 and single **Little Shearwaters** *P. assimilis* were seen off there in early January and late September 2009. South of the Juan Fernández archipelago in November 2008 there was a **Murphy's Petrel** *Pterodroma ultima*, and, in May 2009, 120 **Herald Petrels** *P. arminjoniana* and small numbers of **Phoenix Petrel** *P. alba* and **Henderson Petrel** *P. atrata* were seen and photographed around the Isla de Pascua. Shorebirds again provided plenty of interest. There was a **Killdeer** *Charadrius vociferus* in Region II in April 2009 and up to seven **Stilt Sandpipers** *Calidris himantopus* were present in the extreme north in early March 2009, of which one was trapped in a mist-net. A **Marbled Godwit** *Limosa fedoa* was photographed in Region IV between December 2008 and January 2009, as was a **Western Sandpiper** *Calidris mauri* at the same locality in late November 2008, with another of the latter species in Region V in June / July 2009, and the first documented record of **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** *Tryngites subruficollis* involved two photographed in Region IV in mid-November 2008. A **Fuegian Snipe** *Gallinago stricklandii* was photographed in Region XII

at the end of December 2008. A **Herring Gull** *Larus argentatus* photographed in Region II, in February–April 2009, was the first record for Chile, and another first record involved a **Gull-billed Tern** *Gelochelidon nilotica* in Region XV in February–April 2009 (which too was photographed). Between mid-March and early April 2009, two **Large-billed Terns** *Phaetusa simplex* (also photographed) were present in the same region, yet another new tern species for the country. There have also been several further records of **Grey-headed Gull** *Larus cirrocephalus* in the extreme north of the country, where two **Laughing Gulls** *L. atricilla* were also seen in mid-September 2008, whilst two **Sabine's Gulls** *Xema sabini* were seen in Region IV in mid-October 2008, with further records of the latter species in Region V in November and December (photographed). A **Swallow-tailed Gull** *Creagrus furcatus* was seen off Arica (Region XV) in early March 2009. In Region V, a **Ruddy Ground Dove** *Columbina talpacoti* was photographed in April; the species is only a vagrant in Chile. Again in the extreme north of the country, a **Lesser Nighthawk** *Chordeiles acutipennis* photographed in September 2009 represents the first such documentation for the species in Chile. A **Bran-coloured Flycatcher** *Myiophobus fasciatus* of the nominate race was photographed in the Metropolitan Region in November 2008, a **Great Kiskadee** *Pitangus sulphuratus* was photographed there in June 2009, and a male **Southern Martin** *Progne elegans* was reported from the same region in October 2008. There have been several recent records from Regions II south to V, some of them involving birds that were photographed, of **White-banded Mockingbird** *Mimus triurus*.

Colombia

Donegan *et al.*⁴⁶ report a long-overlooked first record for the country, involving a specimen of **Leach's Storm Petrel** *Oceanodroma leucorhoa*, held in

Washington DC that was collected 160 miles off the country's Pacific coast in 1941. Ellery *et al.*⁵⁰ report the first mainland occurrence (documented with photographs) of **Yellow-throated Warbler** *Dendroica dominica*, in the Santa Marta Mountains in November 2007 and January 2009. In another paper, Donegan *et al.*⁴⁵ report revisions (to subspecies level) to the Colombian checklist since 2008, mainly based on recent publications, including some taxonomic changes. Krabbe¹⁰⁸ reports a new locality, in Antioquia, for the globally threatened **Munchique Wood Wren** *Henicorhina negreti*, 350 km north of the type locality, while **Cloud-forest Pygmy Owl** *Glaucidium nubicola* has been found at a sixth Colombian locality in the West Andes⁶⁰. A new population of **Yellow-eared Parrots** *Ognorhynchus icterotis*, apparently not associated with wax palms, has been found in Meta, in the East Andes¹⁴².

Apolinar's Marsh Wren

Cistothorus apolinari hernandezii has been discovered in Boyacá, filling a gap in this subspecies' known range⁵¹. New records of **Scaled Antpitta** *Grallaria guatimalensis* that improve our knowledge of the species' range and habitat use in the country have been published⁴⁹. Breeding data for the globally threatened **Fuertes's Parrot** *Hapalopsittaca fuertesi* have also been published¹⁹¹. New records from the Cauca Valley of **Scarlet Ibis** *Eudocimus ruber* and **Stilt Sandpiper** *Calidris himantopus* are available³⁴.

Ecuador

Harris *et al.*⁹¹ present new information concerning the distribution and conservation status of the globally threatened **Esmeraldas Woodstar** *Chaetocercus berlepschi*. Similarly, Tinoco *et al.*¹⁹⁰ present the first detailed assessment of the conservation status of the endemic **Violet-throated Metaltail** *Metallura baroni*, which is restricted to Azuay and Cañar provinces. Knowlton¹⁰⁷

presents new breeding data for birds in south-west Ecuador. Recent publications from the Greeney-led team, and others, on the nests and breeding biology of the country's birds include single-species publications on **Powerful Woodpecker** *Campephilus pollens*⁸⁵, **Yellow-breasted Antpitta** *Grallaria flavotincta*⁸², **Chestnut-naped Antpitta** *G. nuchalis*¹⁰³, **Giant Antpitta** *G. gigantea*¹⁸⁴, **Watkins's Antpitta** *G. watkinsi*⁸³, **Marble-faced Bristle Tyrant** *Pogonotriccus ophthalmicus*⁸⁰, **Pale-eyed Thrush** *Turdus leucops*⁹⁰, **Black-capped Tanager** *Tangara heinei*⁶⁷ and **Rufous-naped Brush Finch** *Atlapetes l. latinuchus*⁸¹, as well as data on 66 species from south-east Ecuador, the latter representing a further contribution to our understanding of the general breeding seasons of birds in different parts of the country⁸⁴.

Falklands Islands

The second and third records in the archipelago of **Snares Penguin** *Eudyptes robustus* were made in the same penguin colony in 2008⁴¹, whilst Matias *et al.*¹²⁸ report three recent records of **Northern Rockhopper Penguin** *E. moseleyi*, the first for the Neotropics.

French Guiana

Ingels *et al.*¹⁰⁰ review the status of the eight species of Caprimulgiformes known from the well-watched region of Saül, in the country's interior, presenting interesting notes on natural history for several of these. Ingels & Vinot⁹⁹ report the first breeding data for the Guianan Shield endemic, **Dusky Purpletaut Iodopleura fusca**.

Guyana

Robbins *et al.*¹⁷⁰ report a total of 441 species from a survey of the upper Essequibo River drainage of extreme southern Guyana, including 12 new country records and the first Guianan specimens of an additional four. These included: **Rusty Tinamou** *Crypturellus brevirostris*, **Stygian Owl** *Asio stygius*,

Green-bellied Hummingbird *Amazilia viridigaster*, **Rusty-breasted Nunlet** *Nonnula rubecula*, **Rufous-tailed Xenops** *Xenops milleri*, **Spot-throated Woodcreeper** *Deconychura stictolaema*, **Spot-winged Antshrike** *Pygiptila stellaris*, **Plain Antvireo** *Dysithamnus mentalis*, **Willis's Antbird** *Cercomacra laeta*, **Large-headed Flatbill** *Ramphotrigon megacephalum*, **Pale-bellied Mourner** *Rhytipterna immunda*, **White-eyed Tody-Tyrant** *Hemitriccus zosterops*, **Glossy-backed Becard** *Pachyramphus surinamus*, **White-thighed Swallow** *Neochelidon tibialis*, **Collared Gnatwren** *Microbates collaris* and **Dotted Tanager** *Tangara varia*.

Netherlands Antilles

Prins *et al.*¹⁶⁵ present an updated checklist of the birds of Aruba, Curaçao and Bonaire; the total number of resident species has increased from 115 (1957) to 168 (2006), and of migrants from 117 (1957) to 236 (2006). The islands are home to six globally threatened or Near Threatened species, of which **Caribbean Coot** *Fulica caribaea* and **Yellow-shouldered Amazon** *Amazona barbadensis* are represented by globally significant populations, whereas the others—**Piping Plover** *Charadrius melanotos*, **Olive-sided Flycatcher** *Contopus cooperi*, **Cerulean Warbler** *Dendroica cerulea* and **Golden-winged Warbler** *Vermivora chrysoptera*—use the islands in winter or on migration. Yellow-shouldered Amazon is found mainly on Bonaire, where there is a resident population of some 400 birds, whilst Caribbean Coot is present on all three islands and its status has improved. The authors identify 15 Important Bird Areas, four on Aruba, five on Curaçao and six (including Klein Bonaire) on Bonaire.

Paraguay

Codesido & Fraga³⁷ report 16 new localities for ten species of globally threatened or Near Threatened grassland passersines—**Cock-**

Tailed Tyrant *Alectrurus tricolor*, **Strange-tailed Tyrant** *A. risora*, **Black-and-white Monjita** *Xolmis dominicanus*, **Bearded Tachuri** *Polystictus pectoralis*, **Sharp-tailed Tyrant** *Culicivora caudacuta*, **Ochre-breasted Pipit** *Anthus nattereri*, **Dark-throated Seedeater** *Sporophila ruficollis*, **Marsh Seedeater** *S. palustris*, **Chestnut Seedeater** *S. cinnamomea* and **Saffron-cowled Blackbird** *Xanthopsar flavus*—in Paraguay, Argentina and Uruguay.

Peru

The first documented records of **Red-footed Booby** *Sula sula* in the country have been published⁷⁰. Likewise, the first records (five in all) of **Magellanic Penguin** *Spheniscus magellanicus* have been reported²⁰². Ahlman & Danielsson⁶ report the first documented record of **Bronzy Jacamar** *Galbulia leucogastra* in Peru, from dpto. Madre de Dios. Separately, Ahlman⁵ reports a photographic record of **Brazilian Teal** *Amazonetta brasiliensis*, also from the south-east of the country; this species seems to be an addition to the Peruvian list since the publication of Schulenberg *et al.* (2007, *Birds of Peru*). Flanagan *et al.*⁶² have thoroughly reviewed all available records of the globally threatened **Peruvian Plantcutter** *Phytotoma raimondii*; it is known from 53 localities, although some of these lack modern records, and the authors also largely discount the possibility that the species has ever been recorded in Tumbes department. Recent surveys for the globally threatened **Peruvian Tern** *Sternula lorata* have found the species at 14 localities, of which five are new sites for the species²⁰⁴. Roesler *et al.*¹⁷³ present recent documented records of **White-chested Swift** *Cypseloides lemosi* and **White-chinned Swift** *C. cryptus* in north-east Peru, as well as two specimen records of the latter species (see also Bolivia). Eleven sightings of **Northern Giant Petrel** *Macronectes halli* off southern and central Peru in the months of August to December

have been reported²⁰³. Londoño¹¹⁹ describes the nests and eggs of four pairs of **Moustached Wren** *Thryothorus genibarbis* in the south-east of the country, and Wilkinson²⁰¹ presents information on the breeding ecology of **Silky-tailed Nightjar** *Caprimulgus sericocaudatus* from the same region.

Uruguay

The southernmost record of **Masked Booby** *Sula dactylatra* in the south-west Atlantic and the first for Uruguay involved an adult photographed in the country's waters in March 2006¹⁰¹.

Venezuela

The nest and eggs of the globally threatened **Grey-headed Warbler** *Basileuterus griseiceps* have been described recently⁹³. The following species have recently been recorded for the first time on Margarita Island: **Pied-billed Grebe** *Podilymbus podiceps*, **Coco Heron** *Ardea cocoi*, **Common Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus*, **Caribbean Coot** *Fulica caribaea*, **American Golden Plover** *Pluvialis dominica*, **White-rumped Sandpiper** *Calidris fuscicollis*, **Red Knot** *C. canutus*, **Whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus* and **Hudsonian Godwit** *Limosa haemastica*⁷⁶.

OTHER RECORDS RECEIVED

Brazil

An interesting record was that of a male **White-bellied Dacnis** *Dacnis albiventris* at Pousada Rio Azul in southern Pará, on 16 July 2009 (BD *et al.*). This species appears to have an extraordinarily disjunct range, with no published records between upper Amazonia and south-east Amazonian Brazil, where it was previously known from Alta Floresta, in northern Mato Grosso, and the upper rio Cururú, also in south-west Pará. Elsewhere, single records of **Fiery-tailed Awlbill** *Avocettula recurvirostris*, at Borba, Amazonas, on 16 and 19 September 2009 (GMK, HS, AW), and at Pousada

Rio Roosevelt, also Amazonas, in January 2009 (EE) and on 19 February 2010 (BD, RAD), were both well west of the species' main range. A **Slate-coloured Hawk** *Leucopternis schistaceus* along the rio Madeirinha, also in February 2010, was another new species for the environs of the Pousada Rio Roosevelt (BD, RAD). In the south-east of the country, a **Veery** *Catharus fuscescens* was observed at the Volta Velha reserve, near Itapoá, in northern Santa Catarina, on 2 January 2010 (PB, BR, JHV/S); this appears to be the second state record. The same observers also recorded four adult **Chilean Flamingos** *Phoenicopterus chilensis* at Lagoa de Araruama, Rio de Janeiro, on 12 January 2010, which follow 'hot on the heels' of other recent records of this vagrant in the state (see *Cotinga* 31: 161).

Costa Rica

Amongst interesting sightings reported online at <http://pajarerostostarica.blogspot.com/>, the country's first **Yellow-winged Tanager** *Thraupis abbas* was seen and photographed at a feeder near Los Chiles de San Carlos, Alajuela, between December 2009 and January 2010. Another first country record involved a juvenile **Piping Plover** *Charadrius melanotos* photographed on the coast between Playa Mansita and Playa Avellanas, Guanacaste, in early November. A three-day pelagic trip off the Pacific coast in mid-September 2009 produced several rare species in Costa Rican waters, including another addition to the national list, five **Tahiti Petrels** *Pseudobulweria rostrata* (also photographed).

Another pelagic, in early April 2009, produced some rare species for the country including 15 **Parkinson's Petrels** *Procellaria parkinsoni*, two **Christmas Shearwaters** *Puffinus nativitatis* and a first-summer **Long-tailed Skua** *Stercorarius longicaudus*. Elsewhere, only the third dated record of **White-crowned Pigeon** *Patagioenas leucocephala* was photographed near the town of Tortuguero in late January 2010.

Cuba

The third **Mississippi Kite** *Ictinia mississippiensis* for Cuba (and the fourth for the Greater Antilles) was observed heading over Playa Larga, Zapata, on 30 March (AM). A **Swallow-tailed Kite** *Elanoides forficatus* moving steadily north-west over Cayo Coco, on 4 March 2010, represents an addition to this offshore island's avifauna (of more than 200 species), whilst two **Dunlins** *Calidris alpina* at La Salina, Zapata, on 10 March 2010, is another recent record of this region-wide rarity (see *Cotinga* 31: 165), and a **Tennessee Warbler** *Vermivora peregrina* was at Soroa, Pinar del Río, on 28 February 2010 (GMK *et al.*). Sixteen **Red Knots** *Calidris canutus* were on Cayo Guillermo on 6 April 2010 and an **American Oystercatcher** *Haematopus palliatus* was on Cayo Paredón Grande the next day (DS). Single **Blue Grosbeaks** *Guiraca caerulea* were near Dos Hermanas, Viñales, on 11 February 2008 (AM), and at Santa Clara on 8 April 2010 (DS); there are very few previous records in Cuba. Another **Swallow-tailed Kite** was seen near Najasa, Camagüey, on 29 March 2010 (AM).

Guyana

In the south of the country, there was an exceptional sighting of a **Semipalmated Plover** *Charadrius semipalmatus* on the River Iring, north of Lethem, alongside a **Collared Plover** *C. collaris*, for comparison, on 30 September 2009 (GMK, HS). Inland records of *C. semipalmatus* in South America appear to be extremely rare.

Jamaica

An expedition searching for the feared extinct Jamaican Petrel *Pterodroma caribbaea* at sea off the island in late 2009 uncovered evidence that the globally threatened **Black-capped Petrel** *P. hasitata* could breed on Jamaica. Furthermore, three **Band-rumped Storm Petrels** *Oceanodroma castro* were seen on separate days (previously known in the Caribbean only from records

in Cuba and Antigua), as well as a **Leach's Storm Petrel** *O. leucorhoa*, two **Pomarine Skuas** *Stercorarius pomarinus* and one **Arctic Skua** *S. parasiticus*, all of which are considered vagrants in Jamaican waters (www.birdlife.org/news/news/2010/05/jamaica-petrel-search.html).

Mexico

Howell & Webb (1995, *Birds of Mexico and northern South America*) mentioned two records of **Ruff** *Philomachus pugnax*, from Baja California and Sonora, both of which they regarded as being unacceptable. A second-calendar year male was photographed at La Paz sewage works, in southern Baja California, in late March 2008 (see <http://www.birdquest.co.uk/gallery.cfm?TourTitle=WESTERN+MEXICO&GalleryRegionID=0&GalleryCategoryID=0&Country=Type+here+to+search.&Photographer=Type+here+to+search.&Species=Ruff>).

St. Lucia

Recent interesting records from the island include the following records submitted by PBe and CG (status follows Keith 1997, *The birds of St. Lucia*, British Ornithologists' Union). A **Wilson's Storm Petrel** *Oceanites oceanicus* at sea 4 km off Soufrière on 11 May 2009 (CG) appears to be the first St. Lucian record. The long-staying **Eurasian Spoonbill** *Platalea leucorodia* (first island record) was still present, at Cul de Sac River Marsh, south of Castries, on 24 March–21 April 2009 at least (PBe, CG). At the same locality, 14 **Black-bellied Whistling Ducks** *Dendrocygna autumnalis* were present on 20–21 April 2009 (fourth record) and two **Caribbean Coots** *Fulica caribaea* stayed from late April to at least mid May (rare visitor; both CG). Another new species for the island was **Short-tailed Swift** *Chaetura brachyura* with four over Soufrière on 1 April 2009 (PBe) and a flock of eight at Aerial Tram, Babonneau, on 18 April 2009 (CG).



Figure 1. Unidentified dark-backed gull *Larus* sp., St. Martin, 10 February 2009

St. Martin

An unidentified dark-backed gull *Larus* sp. was photographed in the Dutch part of the island, on 10 February 2009 (PA; Fig. 1). Raffaele *et al.* (1998, *Birds of the West Indies*, Christopher Helm) list Lesser Black-backed Gull *L. fuscus* as a vagrant to the island.

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