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BREEDING RECORDS FROM FLORES

by

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(Final draft received 18 February 2000)

The late Father Jilis Verheijen (see p. 179) published a major report on breeding seasons of birds on Flores in 1964, with more than 2000 records from 100 species (Verheijen 1964). Below we note additional breeding records from a seven month BirdLife/PKA/WWF survey of the island of Flores during 1998. Of these, Verheijen (1964) did not list records for the Metallic Pigeon, Dark backed Imperial Pigeon, Timor Leaf warbler or Russet backed Jungle Flycatcher

Metallic Pigeon *Columba vidensis*. One on the nest at Keli Mutu (1,550m, 8°46'S, 121°49'E) on 23 to 26 Aug. The nest was only one metre off the ground, made in dense shrub (Siam Weed sad Bracken) in seasonal montane forest dominated by open stands of *Casuarina junghuhniana*. There was a single egg on 26th.

Dark backed Imperial Pigeon *Ducula lacernulata*. Two nests were observed at Keli Mutu (1,530 m) in seasonal montane forest on 24 to 26 Aug. Both were in *Casuarina* trees (10 and 15 m above ground), with pigeons sitting on the nest.

Flycatcher *Gerygone sulphurea* One sitting a nest at Mausambi (sea Wal, 8°30'S, 121°45'E) in degraded beach forest on 30 Aug. The nest was 4 m above ground in a large *Tamarindus* tree.

Timor Leaf warbler *Phylloscopus presbytes* One with nest material was observed on 24 Aug at Keli Mutu (1,450 m) in closed canopy seasonal montane forest.

Russet backed Jungle flycatcher *Rhinomyias oscillans* A recently fledged juvenile was observed at Poco Ranaka (at ca. 1,500 m, 8°37'S, 120°31'E) on 2 Oct in degraded montane forest.

Golden rumped Flowerpecker *Dicaeum annae* An adult was feeding a juvenile at Inerie (at 950 m, 8°53'S, 120°57'E) on 22 Sep in closed canopy forest.

Crested Dark eye *Lophozosterops dohertyi* Two adults and two recently fledged juveniles were observed at Puarlo (900 m, 8°36'S, 120°02'E) on 6 Oct in semi evergreen forest.

Tawny breasted Parrot finch *Erythrura hyperythra* A finch with nesting material was observed at Keli Mutu (1,500 m) on 25 Aug in dense scrub in seasonal montane forest.

Wallacean Drongo *Dicrurus densus* One was observed on the nest at Nggorang Bowosie (250 m, 8°3' S, 119°57'E) on 14 Oct. The nest was in forest edge, 10 m above ground level.

Flores Crow *Corvus florensis* One observed on the nest at Paku (at 350 m, 8°38'S, 119°57'E) on 7-8 Oct in wooded cultivation and forest edge. The nest was about 10 m above the ground.

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AUSTRALIAN PELICAN IN EAST TIMOR AN ARMCHAIR RECORD

by
Mark Grantham

On 17 May 1999, whilst watching the 21.00 news programme on television (TVRI's '*Dunia Dalam Berita*'), Bapak Songep and I observed film of a single Australian Pelican *Pelecanus conspicillatus* in a small bay in the vicinity of Dili, East Timor. Though only seen from below, for less than a second, the all dark underwing coverts and flight feathers and white belly were diagnostic of an adult bird. The film was thought to have been made around midday on 17 May.