

THE TREE SPARROW REACHES MEW GUINEA

By D.A. Holmes

On 27 May 1989, five or six Tree Sparrows *Passer montanus* were seen around the office of Animal Quarantine and adjacent Sub-Balai PHPA at Biak, Irian Jaya. The birds were visiting sites beneath the eaves of the buildings and showed indications of being in residence.

At the suggestion of the author, S.V. Nash visited the site on 12 July 1989 and noted a similar number of Tree Sparrows, confirming the record.

The nearest limit of previously known range is Ambon (White & Bruce, 1986) where the species is common (D.A. Holmes pers. obs). Assuming the birds have reached Biak on board ship, it seems unlikely that they will be able to spread around Irian Jaya's inhospitable coasts unassisted, but a search should be made at other ports along the coast.

Reference:

White, C.M.N. & M.D. Bruce. 1986. *The Birds of WaUacea*. British Ornithologists' Union, Checklist no.7. London.

RINGKASAN

Catatan penemuan pertama *Passer montanus* untuk Irian Jaya.

WHITE-WINGED WOOD DUCK, A MEW SITE FOR JAMBI PROVINCE

By Marcel J. Silvius and Hans de longh

While travelling by speedboat along the Berbak river on 7 April 1989 at 17.45, both authors observed a large duck flying across at about 50m height. It had almost completely white wing coverts and a white neck and head, while remaining parts were dark. It was thus identified as an adult male White-winged Wood Duck, *Cairina scutulata*. It crossed the river coming from the forested south side near Kampung Sekumbang. It disappeared over the forest fringe of the northern river side.

There are few sightings of White-winged Wood Duck from this province (Holmes 1976, 1977; Lambert, 1988) which may reflect the low density of birdwatchers rather than the rarity of the species. However, suitable feeding areas may be less common in this province than in South Sumatra and Lampung. During intensive survey work in the coastal region of the Berbak

Game Reserve in 1983 (Silvius and Verheught, 1986), no White-winged Wood Duck was observed.

It would be very useful if any birdwatchers in the lowlands of Jambi Province would try to include some early morning or late afternoon river trips in their time schedule (*this advice applies anywhere in the lowlands of Sumatra. Ed.*).

References

- Holmes, D.A. 1976. A record of the White-winged Wood Duck *Cairina scutulata* in Sumatra, *full. S-it.Orn.Cl.* 96:68.
- Holmes, D.A. 1977. A report on the White-winged Wood Duck in southern Sumatra. *Wildfowl* 28;81-64.
- Lambert, F.R. 1988. *The status of the White-winged Wood Duck in Sumatra. A preliminary, report.* AMB/INTERWAOER Report no. 1 4 Bogor.
- Silvius M.J. and W.J.M. Verheught. 1986. The birds of Berbak Game Reserve, Jambi Province, Sumatra. *Kukila* 2(4):76-85.

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RINGKASAN

Dipertelakan tempat penemuan untuk *Cairina scutulata* di Sungai Berbak dekat pantai Jambi. Catalan ini merupakan tempat paling utara untuk jenis ini da lam beberapa dosa warsa ini.

LESSER ADJUCAMT NESTS IN. S.W. KALIMANTAN

Birute M.F. Galdikas and Ben King
(Received 30 June 1969)

On 1 October 1988 we noted 7 Leaser Adjutants *Leptoptilos javanicus* on and near 4 large stick nests. No young birds were seen. This site was about 7 km from the Tanjung Puting National Park boundary at Tanjung Harapan, outside the western edge of the park, in Kalimantan Tengah. The nests were in 2 huge *Alstonia* sp., the largest tree in the area.

Smythies (1981) notes this species as resident but local, the last report of nesting being given in 1968. It is certainly now generally rare in Borneo. This record enhances the importance of Tanjung Puting National Park, and it would be worthwhile to study the possibility of including tine nesting area in the park.