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BLUE-CROWNED HANGING PARROT ON JAVA

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Ringkasan

Dipertelakan dua Catalan tentang *Loriculus galgulus* di Carita, Jawa Barat. Nampaknya burung tersebut adalah lepasan-sangkar. Diskusi terutama ditujukan kepada kemungkinan terjadinya imigrasi alami dari Sumatera.

During a visit on 12-14 Jul 1989 to the Carita Recreation forest, ca 10 km north of the village of Labuhan (6°21' S, 105°48' E) on the west coast of Java, AL observed a Hanging Parrot at the forest edge not far from the Curug Gendang waterfall. The bird showed a red throat and was provisionally identified as either an aberrant Javan Yellow-throated or feral Blue-crowned Hanging Parrot.

About one year later, on 6 Jun 1990, the area was visited by SvB. A Hanging Parrot with red throat patch, red rump, but otherwise green plumage was observed during a few seconds in a tree at the edge of a clearing south of the above mentioned waterfall.

On Java and Bali the only resident species of hanging parrot so far known is the endemic Yellow-throated Hanging Parrot *Loriculus pusillus* (MacKinnon 1988). Descriptions of both present birds however fits best with the Blue-crowned *L. galgulus*, a species occurring on Kalimantan, Sumatra, peninsular Thailand and Malaysia (King *et al.* 1975). Very likely the observations at Carita concerned one or more escaped cagebirds. Vorderman (1883) mentioned the breeding of feral Blue-crowned Hanging Parrots in Jakarta, and reported that local sailors regularly brought them from southern Sumatra to Anyar, Caringin and Merak in the far northwest of Java. However, the possibility of more natural immigration should not be excluded. West Java is separated from southern Sumatra by a strait of ca 25 km in which lie some islands that may serve as stepping stones. Van Marle & Voous (1988) mentioned the species for most of the islands off Sumatra, and the absence of races in the species (Forshaw 1973) may indicate interchange amongst the different populations throughout its range. Its dispersal abilities are attested by the arrival of three birds on Selingan island, 40 km off Sabah, after a storm in July 1973, as reported by de Silva & Chong (1974).

Except for part of Sulawesi, there is no area that supports more than one *Loriculus* species (Forshaw *op.cit.*), as interspecific competition may prevent intrusion of other species. It would be interesting to monitor these parrots at Carita. Their colonisation success must depend amongst other factors on the composition of the recipient community, especially with regard to the presence of ecological counterparts; the Blue-crowned Hanging Parrot will find a vigorous competitor in the widespread Yellow-throated.

Other examples of such interactions in this corner of Java, where more surprising arrivals can be expected, may include that of the White-breasted Kingfisher *Halcyon smymensis*, which has been recorded in West Java, very rarely, since 1942 (Hoogerwerf 1948). More recent records include the observation of several birds in Sep 1988 in the Ranca Danau nature reserve (6°10' S, 105°57' E own obs.) and of a single bird at Depok (6°23' S, 106°50' E) in Mar 1989 (Guritno *et al.* pers.comm.). However, its expansion appears to have been prevented quite efficiently by the endemic Javan Kingfisher *H. cyanoventris*.

Likewise, one breeding specimen of the White-bellied Munia *Lonchura leucogastra* was collected in 1936 northwest of Bogor in West Java (Hoogerwerf 1949), but this species must have had problems in becoming established amidst the abundant Javan Munia *L. leucogastroides*.

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