

海南島絨額鴉的一新亞種——尖峯絨額鴉

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1963年5—6月間在海南島尖峯岭采得的絨額鴉，經对比研究后，認為是一个新亞種，取名为：

尖峯絨額鴉 *Sitta frontalis chienfengensis*, 新亞種

模式标本 正模标本(登記號碼 43264)与副模标本(登記號碼 43267)均为雄性成鳥，由丁文宁、王子玉等同志在尖峯岭(海拔750—800米)，分別于1963年5月29日和6月7日采得，現收藏于北京中国科学院动物研究所鳥类标本室。

鉴别特征 本亞種与越南北部的 *Sitta frontalis solangiae* Delacour et Jabouille 最相近似，但后一亞種据原始文献記載及越南鳥类志(Les oiseaux de l'Indochine Francaise)第三卷 XXXIII 图版所示，其上体較为藍紫色，下体的黃棕色亦較深得多；嘴峯較短(仅13毫米)，上嘴先端的黑褐色甚微，不似在本亞種約占嘴长之1/3；最外5对尾羽均具白色端斑或次端斑，不似在本亞種仅3对尾羽具有白斑。

越南南部的 *S. f. fortior* Delacour et Greenway 較 *S. f. solangiae* 为大，翼长达83毫米，下体也較沾紫色，因而与本亞種区别更著。

菲律賓羣島的 *S. f. oenochlamys* (Sharpe)及其他相近亞種均于眼先下緣及下嘴基处具白色帶紋。*S. f. oenochlamys* 的下体呈浓紫棕色，与本亞種区别明显。

自我国云南南部所采的 *S. f. frontalis*，除嘴在新鲜标本呈紅色外，嘴峯(10♂♀:13—14毫米，一般在14毫米以下)亦較本亞種为短，上体呈紫藍色，而非本亞種的灰藍色。

描述 雄性成鳥：額、眼先、眉紋及頰的上部等均絨黑色；上体余部包括两翼的表面概灰藍色，头頂和后頸稍沾紫色，肩間部略呈頸側的紫棕色，初級复羽黑，各羽外緣以灰藍色；初級飞羽的外翮中段緣以天藍色，其內側的初級飞羽仅于外翮近羽端处微緣以灰藍色；次級飞羽亦黑，其外緣全为灰藍；三級飞羽几純灰藍；中央尾羽与背同色；外側尾羽大都黑色，羽端轉灰；尾羽的黑色部分外緣以灰藍色，至最外側尾羽則外翮全轉为灰色，最外三对尾羽的灰端，在其內翮邊緣部具一白色斑点，这白斑从外向內側尾羽逐漸縮小，有时再內一对尾羽的內翮末端亦微具白緣；頰的下部，耳羽及頸側均紫棕色；額与喉白；胸以下概黃棕色，向后稍較浓些；翼下复羽黑；腋羽棕白。

雌性成鳥与雄者羽色相似，但无黑色眉紋及頰。

眼黃褐色；嘴黃，上嘴尖端黑褐；脚灰褐色。

幼鳥的上下嘴均黑褐；羽毛的黑色和藍色均不若成鳥的鮮亮；額和喉沾棕；下体余部

量 衡 度¹⁾

号	碼	采集地点	海拔(米)	日期	性 别	体 重	体 长	嘴 峯	翼 长	跗 蹠	尾 长
				1963年							
(正模)	43264	尖峯岭	800	5月29日	♂	14.5	134	14.0	78.5	16.0	47.0
(副模)	43267	尖峯岭	750	6月7日	♂	14.0	135	15.0	77.0	15.5	43.5
	43268	尖峯岭	750	6月8日	♂	15.0	140	15.0	79.5	16.5	46.0
	43269	尖峯岭	700	6月10日	♂	16.0	130	14.0	79.0	15.5	45.0
	43265	尖峯岭	800	5月29日	♀(幼)	14.5	123	12.0	66.5	15.5	34.5
	43270	尖峯岭	800	6月9日	♀	15.0	122	—	76.0	15.5	43.5

1) 衡度以克为单位,量度以毫米为单位。

的棕色亦較成鳥浓著。

分类討論 絨額鵒在它的分布範圍內,显然有紅嘴和黃嘴的两种类型,各包括若干亚种。这两种类型曾被分列为二个甚至三个不同的种,亦有把它們分为不同的属,如 *Sitta frontalis*, *Callositta solangiae*, *Dendrophila oenochlamys* 等; 今則一般認為均應归併于同一个属及种, 即 *Sitta frontalis* Swainson。 現將迄今所知的亚种及它們的分布的大概範圍,列示如次:

I. 紅 嘴 类 型

分 布 范 圍

- (1) *Sitta frontalis frontalis* Swainson, 1820
Sitta velata Temminck, 1821
Sitta corallina Hodgson, 1836
Sitta frontalis simplex Koelz, 1939
- (2) ? *Sitta frontalis saturator* Hartert, 1902
- (3) *Sitta frontalis corallipes* (Sharpe), 1888
- (4) *Sitta frontalis palawana* Hartert, 1905

錫蘭,印度,緬甸,中国云南南部,印度尼西亚: 苏門答臘、爪哇

馬來半島南部
加里曼丹島
菲律賓: 巴拉望島(Palawan)

II. 黃 嘴 类 型

分 布 范 圍

- (1) *Sitta frontalis solangiae* (Delacour & Jabouille), 1930
- (2) *Sitta frontalis fortior* Delacour & Greenway, 1939
- (3) *Sitta frontalis chienfengensis*, 新亚种
- (4) *Sitta frontalis oenochlamys* (Sharpe), 1877
- (5) *Sitta frontalis mesoleuca* (Ogilvie-Grant), 1894
- (6) *Sitta frontalis lilacea* (Whitehead), 1897

越南北部

越南北部

中国海南島
菲律賓: 呂宋(Luzon)低地、吉馬臘斯(Guimaras)、班乃(Panay)等島
菲律賓: 呂宋山地

菲律賓: 巴西藍(Basilan)、禮智(Leyte)、薩馬(Samar)、民答那莪(Mindanao)等島

此外,在菲律賓羣島尚有 *S. f. apo* (Hachisuka), 1930; *S. f. insignis* (Hachisuka), 1930; 及 *S. f. cebuensis* (Hachisuka), 1930。 这些亚种分別采自民答那莪島(Mindanao)山地、尼格罗島(Negro)及宿務島(Cebu)等,但是否确立,尚屬疑問。

由上所列,可知紅嘴类型的各亚种遍布于印度、緬甸、泰国、馬來半島以至南洋羣島,而黃嘴类型的亚种則分布于越南及菲律賓羣島的大部分。 海南島的新亚种属于黃嘴类型,在地理位置上,直可認為是介于越南亚种組与菲律賓亚种組之間的連环。

生态 平时攀匍上下于树干上,动作极其敏捷,有时亦見栖止于横枝上。喜結成小羣,亦与其他小鳥混雜成羣,活动于海拔750—900米的山沟热带雨林間。叫声似“chi-chi-chi”。

在所檢驗的四个 (2 ♂♂、2 ♀♀) 胃中, 全是昆虫, 內蚬虫占 58%, 蟪象 24%, 余为飞虱 (*Delphacodes*) 及昆虫卵等。巢与卵未曾采到。

分布 本亚种仅限于海南島。

在我国境内, 除本文所述的新亚种外, 尚有紅嘴类型的指名亚种, 采自云南南部(郑作新, 1958)。

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A NEW SUBSPECIES OF THE VELVET-FRONTED NUTHATCH FROM HAINAN—*SITTA FRONTALIS CHIENFENGENSIS*, SUBSP. NOV.

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In a zoological expedition to Hainan during May and June, 1963, a number of the velvet-fronted Nuthatches (*Sitta frontalis*) were collected from Chien-feng-ling (尖峯岭). They are considered as belonging to a new subspecies, which we propose to name as:

Sitta frontalis chienfangensis, subsp. nov.

Types Holotype (registry number: 43264) and paratype (registry number: 43267), both adult males, collected at Chien-feng-ling (alt. 750—800 m), Hainan, on May 29 and June 7, 1963 respectively, by Ting Wen-ning and Wang Tze-yu.

Diagnosis Differing from *Sitta frontalis solangiae* of northern Vietnam in having the upperparts more greyish-blue, the underparts also much paler in colour, the culmen longer, the blackish tip of the upper bill more conspicuous (occupying about one-third of the total length of the bill), and the white terminal spots of the rectrices less developed, being mostly confined to the outermost 3 pairs. In *S. f. solangiae*, the culmen shorter (measuring only 13 mm), and the upper bill only slightly tipped with black; the white spots of the rectrices better developed, appearing on all of the lateral rectrices (5 pairs).

S. f. fortior of southern Vietnam distinguishable in having the underparts suffused with violet and in being larger in size, with the wings measuring 83 mm in length.

The Philippine forms (*S. f. oenochlamys* and other subspecies) separable by a narrow white loreal band and by a white spot at the base of the lower mandible; *S. f. oenochlamys* further distinguished by its deep vinaceous rufous underparts.

S. f. frontalis from the southern part of Yunnan, China, readily distinguishable from the present subspecies by the bill being red in fresh specimens, the culmen shorter (10♂♀ 13—14 mm, generally under 14 mm), and the upperparts purplish-blue instead of greyish-blue of this subspecies.

Description of Type (Adult male): Forehead, lore, supercilium, and upper cheek velvet-black; the remaining upperparts including exposed parts of wings greyish-blue, the crown and hind neck suffused with purplish, and the interscapular region tinged with lilac-rufous; primary coverts black, externally edged with greyish-blue; primaries black with a concealed white spot at the base; 3rd to 5th primaries externally edged with sky-blue at the middle part, the other primaries further inwards slightly edged with greyish-blue near the tip of the outer web; secondaries also black, edged along the entire outer edge with greyish-blue; tertiaries almost entirely greyish-blue; central rectrices same as back; outer rectrices mostly black, with the tips turned greyish; the black portion externally edged with greyish-blue or with grey, as in the case of the ultimate pair; the grey tips of the outer 3 pairs of rectrices spotted with white along the edge of the inner web, the white spot decreasing in size from the outermost rectrices inwards. Ear coverts and

sides of neck lilac-rufous; lower cheek, chin, and throat white; underparts below breast fulvous-rufous, somewhat deepening posteriorly; under-coverts of wings black; axillaries rufous-white.

The female differs in having no black supercilium and cheeks.

Iris yellow-brown; bill yellow, tip of the upper bill turned blackish-brown; tarsus grey-brown.

Measurements and weights*

Registry number	Collecting locality (alt.)	Date of collecting	Sex	Body weight	Body length	Culmen	Wing	Tail	Tarsus
43264 (type)	Chien-feng-ling, Hainan (alt. 800m)	V 29, 1963	♂	14.5	134	14.0	78.5	47.0	16.0
43267 (paratype)	ditto	VI 7, 1963	♂	14.0	135	15.0	77.0	43.5	15.5

* Measurements are in mm, and weight in g.

Discussion The velvet-fronted nuthatch (*Sitta frontalis*) has apparently two types: red-billed and yellow-billed. The red-billed forms are *S. f. frontalis* (Ceylon, India, Pakistan, Burma, Thailand, S. Yunnan in China, Sumatra and Java in Indonesia), ?*S. f. saturator* (S. Malay Pena.), *S. f. corallipes* (Borneo), and *S. f. palawana* (Palawan in Philippines), while the yellow-billed forms include *S. f. solangiae* (N. Vietnam), *S. f. fortior* (S. Vietnam), *S. f. chienfengensis* (Hainan, China), *S. f. oenochlamys* (Philippines: Guimaras, lowlands of Luzon, Panay), *S. f. mesoleuca* (highlands of Luzon, Philippines), and *S. f. lilacea* (Philippines: Basilan, Leyte, Samar, Mandanao). Subspecies reported from the highlands of Mindanao (*S. f. apo*), Negros (*S. f. insignis*), and Cebu (*S. f. cebuensis*) are doubtedly distinct from *S. f. lilacea* (Delacour and Mayr, 1946).

From the above analysis, it is made clear that the red-billed forms are distributed in India, Burma, Thailand, Malay Peninsula, and some of the South Sea Islands, whereas the yellow-billed forms in Vietnam and most of the Philippines. Our new subspecies belongs to the yellow-billed type, and is considered, from a geographical viewpoint, as a link between the subspecies group of Vietnam and that of the Philippines.

Ecology In Hainan, the birds are seen singly or in small groups in the tropical rain forests of the hills, ranging from 750 to 900 m in altitude. Their habits are similar to those of the northern nuthatches. Four stomachs (2♂♂, 2♀♀) are found to contain insects only, which include beetles (58%), bugs (24%), *Delphacodes*, and insect eggs.

Range Confined to Hainan, China.