

*C. placentis.*

Rufous Owl

*Ninox rufa*

At Varirata a pair was heard duetting in forest near the raggiana lek. At first, a single bird gave pairs of *mumph* notes, followed by a series of pairs of these notes. A bird with a higher pitched voice then joined in, producing an antiphonal duet that eventually had the high-pitched bird giving a quavering and then twittering response in high excitement. One of the birds was spot-lighted on a high open branch of a *Casuarina*.

Tit Berrypecker

*Oreocharis arfaki*

At Lake Omha a pair was netted on 11 August. This is 600 m higher than the species' regular upper altitudinal limit.

Leadon Honeyeater

*Ptiloprora plumbea*

Suria. Common in the forest interior, in the lower and middle levels of the forest. The birds foraged for arthropods among twigs and petioles, and also visited understory flowers.

Streaked Bowerbird

*Amblyornis subalaris*

Suria. Bowers were well-decorated and tended by males at this time. A male in attendance at one bower gave a variety of weird calls, including: (1) sound of leaves rustling, (2) growls and cussing sounds, (3) the trill call of the Magnificent Bird of Paradise, (4) sound of ripping cloth, and (5) the sharp call of the Papuan King-Parrot.

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## DISPLAY OF LORIA'S BIRD OF PARADISE

JENNY H. HICKS AND ROGER K. HICKS

At 10:15 on 11 October 1987 a displaying male Loria's Bird of Paradise *Cnemophilus loriae* was observed briefly in the grounds of Ambua Lodge, Tari, Southern Highlands Province, at c. 2200 m. Our attention was drawn to the displaying bird by a regular clicking noise. We could not at the time decide whether the click was a call or a bill snapping [it was probably the latter since, a male bird in the hand which was recently (13 June 1988) mist-netted at Myola (Oro Province) clicked its bill softly while puffing out its white cheek pouches]. The male bird hung upside down, about 6 m off the ground but below the canopy. He quivered with his wings half open. This display was observed for less than 10 seconds, after which the bird flew off to feed. Although this observation is of such short duration we present it here because, as far as we know, the display of Loria's Bird of Paradise is undescribed.

Address: c/o N.C.C., Wards Strip P.O., Waigani, P.N.G.

## GRAY'S GRASSHOPPER WARBLER AT MOITAKA

IAN BURROWS<sup>1</sup> AND ROGER K. HICKS<sup>2</sup>

Whilst mist-netting birds in a reed bed at Moitaka Settling Ponds (National Capital District) on 16 October 1986, an adult Gray's Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella fasciolata* was trapped. The following in-hand description and biometrics were taken:

A large greyish-brown warbler with sloping forehead, long bill and graduated tail which gave the bird an elongated appearance. **Bare parts:** Legs bluish-grey, soles yellowish-brown; upper mandible horn, lower mandible pink; rictal bristles black; iris olive-green. **Plumage:** Crown, mantle and scapulars cold olive-brown; upperwing coverts slightly more rufous; secondaries and primaries similar; wing linings light-buff; rump olive; uppertail coverts warm brown; tail brown with a rufous tinge; supercilium short, buffish, ending just behind eye; ear patch olive-green; chin white; upper breast creamy-white, streaked faintly with dark brown; sides of breast and thighs ginger extending to light ginger undertail coverts; belly white. The bird was in adult plumage which was generally abraded and without moult.

Biometric data:

Band number:	02357302		
Weight:	23.8 g	Tarsus:	27 mm
Tail:	62 mm	Culmen:	18 mm
Wing:	83 mm	Exposed culmen:	14 mm

Note: wing is the maximum flattened chord; exposed culmen is from bill tip to basal feathers; culmen is from bill tip to union with skull.

Primary number	Wing formula*	Primary number	Wing formula*
1	-10	6	-8
2	-1	7	-11
3	longest, emarginated	8	-14
4	-1	9	-17
5	-4	10	-18

\* (difference in length from longest primary in mm)

Wing length of this bird is the same as the maximum wing length found among 35 individuals examined by Williamson (1960).

Gray's Grasshopper Warbler breeds in Eastern Siberia and migrates through Japan and coastal China to its winter quarters in the Philippines, Sulawesi, Moluccas and