

Gothenburg 2:nd June 1983

To:

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ENGLAND

NORDIIV J WALLANDER

(1982)

Dear Friends,

We are awfully sorry for not beeing able to send You our birdlist from Nepal until now. However, we are not yet ready with our complete list of birds observed during our Asia expedition. But when we heard that You soon were going to print Your material, we decided to send You some of our most interesting observations.

We visited Nepal from begining of March - 82 to the end of April - 82. We spent most of our time in The Solo - Khumbu area in eastern Nepal.

We hope that our material will be too any use. Please contact us if something is unclear.

Spotted Eagle (Aquila clanga) One subad. 9/3-82 Godawari, Kathmandu.

Hen Harrier (Circus cyaneus) One ad. male 29/3-82 Pheriche, north of Namche Bazaar, Solo-Khumbu. Migrating northwards. Altitude 5.000 meter.

Eurasian Kestrel (Falco tinnunculus) Two ad. Male and Female. 31/3-82 Between Lobuje and Gorak Sheep. Altitude 5.300 meters.

Chukor Partridge (Alectoris graeca) One ad. 17/3-82 Jiri

Bengal Florican (Eupodotis bengalensis) One ad. Male. 19/4-82 Sapt Kosi - south of the barrage.

Lesser Sand Plover (Charadrius mongolus) Six 19/4-82 Sapt Kosi barrage

Collared Pratincole (*Glareola pratincola*) One 19/4-82 Sapt Kosi barrage
Great Blue Kingsfisher (*Alcedo hercules*) One Sabbhaya Khola . South of
Tumlingtar 14/4-82

Kashmir Red-breasted flycatcher (*Ficedula subrubra*) One female 14/3-82
Gokarna safari park, Kathmandu valley.

Rusty-breasted Blue Flycatcher (*Ficedula hodgsonii*) One ad. male 9/3-82
Godaweri, Kathmandu valley.

Booted Warbler (*Hippolais caligata*) One or two ad. 13/4-82 Khatige Ghat
north of Tumlingtar

Oriental Reed Warbler (*Acrocephalus orientalis*) One 20/4-82 Sapt Kosi

Smooky Leaf Warbler (*Phylloscopus fulgiventis*) One 20/4-82 Sapt Kosi

Yellow-troated Leaf Warbler (*Phylloscopus catator*) One or two 13/4-82
Khatige Ghat, north of Tumlingtar.

Brook's Leaf Warbler (*Phylloscopus subviridis*) One or two 23/3-82
Ghat, south of Namche Bazaar. And one or
two 4/4-82 Phakding, between Namche Bazaar
and Ghat.

Arctic Warbler (*Phylloscopus borealis*) One 11/4-82 east of Phedi, along
The Irkhua Khola river. Solo-Khumbu

Rufous-bellied Bush Robin (*Erithacus hyperythrus*) One male 8-9/4-82
Sanam, west of Salpa pass, Solo-Khumbu

Hodgson's Bush Chat (*Saxicola insignis*) Two female 19-20/4-82 Sapt Kosi

Pied Ground Thrush (*Zoothera wardeii*) One male 14/4-82 north Sabbhaya Khola
south of Tumlingtar

Fire-capped Tit (*Cephalopyrus flammiceps*) Two male 5/4-82 east of Puiyan
between Phaphlu and Namche Bazaar.

Golden-headed Cisticola (*Cisticola exilis*) One with food, 18/4-82 Sapt Kosi

Yours Faithfully,

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Göteborg First of July - 83

Dear Friends,

Thank You for Your letter. Unfortunately we are in a great hurry; tomorrow we are leaving Sweden for a two month birdwatching trip to Greenland.

Because of lack of time, we have to write the descriptions quickly. Hope You will be satisfied thou.

Great Blue Kingfisher (*Alcedo hercules*)

Observation conditions: range about 30-50 meters.

Clean weather. Observed during a time of app. 5 min.

Size: Much bigger than the *Alcedo atthis*, but smaller than the *Halcyon smyrnensis*.

Upperparts; Bill: complete black and stout. Head: dark bluebarred. As with the *A. atthis*, broad white stripes on each side of neck.

Wings and upper cover dark blue, contrasting against a prominent, shimmering light blue back stripe extending from hindneck down to the upper tail-coverts.

Underparts; Tail: completely dark blue. Breast and belly like the *A. atthis*.

Call: like the *A. atthis*, maybe a bit 'higher'.

The contrast between the dark blue tail and the light blue back-stripe was very obvious in flight.

Observation conditions: very close range, about 2-3 meters. Observed during a time of 3-4 minutes.

Size: a big leaf warbler. Noticeable bigger than *P. trochiloides*, *P. inornatus*, *P. proregulus* and *P. pulcher* - leaf warblers that we saw in the surroundings. Upperparts: dark green above, much darker than the four mentioned before. Head: eye-stripe very prominent and extending back to hindneck. The eye-stripe (whitish) extends further back than on *P. trochiloides* and on *P. magnirostris* (that we saw earlier that week). Bill long and tipped black.

Lower mandible light, upper mandible dark.

One long - but narrow wing-bar. Not so very prominent, but easy to see.

Underparts: under tail-coverts and belly whitish.

Flanks slightly darker.

Legs: light

Observation conditions: range about 10 meters
clear weather, observed during a time of flapp.
4-5 minutes.

Size: about the same as *phylloscopus inornatus*
Upperparts: Head: crownstripe faint yellow-green,
Eyestripe clear and in the colour as crownstripe,
but the eyestripes are much bolder than the crownstripe.
The crownstripe looked nearly the same as on
a *ph. inornatus* with faint crownstripe.
The crown feathers (between eyestripe and crownstripe)
were olive green, not black as on *Ph. reguloides*.
Bill: lower mandible light
Back: Olivegreen. One clear wingbar
Tail and rump: rump noticeable lighter (yellowgreen) than
the rest of the back and tail, no white outer tail
feathers.
Underparts: whitish-grey.

Observation conditions: range about 15 meters, clear weather.

Observed during a time of app. 2-3 minutes

Size: about the same size as willow warbler (*Phylloscopus trochilus*)

Upperparts; Head: gave the typical impression of a hippolais warbler: with an angled head.

Eye stripe was rather short - extending from the base of the bill to just behind the eye. Stout above the eye and more narrow in front and behind the eye

Bill: stout and short (compared to icterine warbler (*Hippolais icterina*))

Back: grey-green

Underparts: light underparts, under rump looked yellowish white and so did the under tail coverts too.

Voice: Song resembled Olivaceous warbler (*Hippolais pallida*)

Observation conditions; range about 15 meters
clear weather.

Size and shape: looked just the same as an Great
reed warbler (*Acrocephalus arundinaceus*) and we
distinguished it from this species on the clear white
outer tail feathers, a character given to us by an
English birdwatcher.

We would be pleased if you let us know ~~when~~
the book is published so that we can buy two copies

Yours faithfully,

Torgny Nordin, Johan Wallander