

soybean, corn, wheat and rice. These areas provide feeding areas for some species during the winter months.

- iii. Marshland: this habitat occupies the largest area of the reserve, and is comprised primarily of reeds and nutgrass. The thin stems of the reeds has meant that the reeds are not harvested by the local people as they are in other nature reserves such as Zhalong Nature Reserve. Consequently, even in the winter months this area is a good habitat for wildlife, especially large mammals.
- iv. Forest: areas of forest occur on higher ground, and along the rivers, and include oaks, poplar, birch, amongst other species

In the winter months of January and February 1998, the authors carried out a survey for 42 days of the birds of Sanjiang Nature Reserve, covering some 280 km on foot. Thirty-one bird species were identified, of which only 10 are known to be winter visitors (Table 1).

Most species were found in agricultural and forested areas, with only a few species occurring in villages or marshlands. This is almost certainly dictated by food supply, for example the occurrence of finches and

buntings in crop areas, woodpeckers, Bohemian Waxwing and grouse in forests, whilst raptors ranged across the marshes, agricultural land and forest. Clearly, the results indicate the importance of agricultural land and forest in the Sanjiang Nature Reserve. In the winter months, no species observed appeared to rely solely on the areas of marsh. However, this would not be the case in the summer months with the return of breeding marshland species.

Most species were relatively rare, with the exception of Bohemian Waxwing *Bombicilla garralus*, Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*, Common Redpoll *Carduelis flammea*, Pallas's Bunting *Emberiza pallasi* and Snow Bunting *Plectrophenax nivalis*. The large groups of grouse and ptarmigan, which were apparently present some 20 years ago, have largely disappeared.

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Nomenclature of the 'Hypsipetes' Bulbuls (Pycnonotidae)

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The 'Hypsipetes' complex of bulbuls is confined to the Oriental region (with the exception of outliers in the Malagasy subfauna, where they form a distinct Asian element along with *Ninox* (Strigidae) and *Copsychus* (Saxicolini); and three Palearctic species).

The issue of the correct generic names for the species within this complex has, apparently, been long avoided by those who have had to deal with it. The expedient solution has been to fall back on traditional treatment, with the excuse that it would take a detailed generic revision to resolve.

Most of the present confusion would appear to be the ambiguity caused by the presence of three potential homonyms: *Iole virescens* Blyth, 1845, *Ixos virescens* Temminck, 1825, and *Ixocincla virescens* Blyth, 1845. Rand and Deignan (1960) placed all three in an expanded *Hypsipetes*, leaving only *Hypsipetes virescens* (Temminck, 1825), the type of *Ixos*, with its name intact, and curiously predating the type of *Hypsipetes*, *Hypsipetes psaroides* Vigors, 1832, by seven years.

Subsequently *Iole*, *Ixos*, *Hemixos* and *Hypsipetes* have become generally re-established as accepted genera; however, the inclusion of *Ixos virescens* Temminck, 1825, along with *Hypsipetes mccllellandii* Horsfield, 1840, in

Hypsipetes by Sibley and Monroe (1990), followed by Inskipp *et al.* (1996), would logically require the disappearance of *Hypsipetes* as a junior synonym of *Ixos*, and seventeen new name combinations.

However, an alternative solution, already adopted by Wolters (1975-1982), would be to include *Ixos virescens* Temminck, 1825 and *Hypsipetes mccllellandii* Horsfield, 1840 in *Ixos*, along with the seven morphologically similar species listed in that genus by Sibley and Monroe (1990). This would leave eight closely related species in *Hypsipetes* and allow the scientific name of the Nicobar Bulbul to revert to *Hypsipetes virescens* (Blyth, 1845).

Synonymy:

Ixos Temminck, 1825, *Planches coloriées d'oiseaux*, livr. 64, text to pl. 382. Type, by monotypy, *Ixos virescens* Temminck.

Galgulus Kittlitz, 1832, *Kupfert. Nat. Vögel*, fasc. 1, p. 7. Type, by original designation, *Turdus amaurotis* Temminck. Not *Galgulus* Brisson, 1760. [Cuculiformes]

Hypsipetes Vigors, 1832, *Proc. Comm. Zool. Soc. London*, pt. 1 (1830-1831), p. 43. Type, by monotypy,

| Species recognized by Sibley & Monroe (1990) | Contains the type of genus |
|---|--|
| <i>Tricholestes criniger</i> (Blyth, 1845) | <i>Tricholestes</i> Salvadori, 1874. <i>Myiosobus</i> Reichenow, 1891. |
| <i>Iole virescens</i> * Blyth, 1845 | — |
| <i>Iole propinqua</i> (Oustalet, 1903) | — |
| <i>Iole olivacea</i> * Blyth, 1844 | <i>Iole</i> Blyth, 1844. |
| <i>Iole indica</i> (Jerdon, 1839) | <i>Acritillas</i> Oberholser, 1905. |
| <i>Ixos palawanensis</i> (Tweeddale, 1878) | — |
| <i>Ixos philippinus</i> (J. R. Forster, 1795) | — |
| <i>Ixos rufigularis</i> (Sharpe, 1877) | — |
| <i>Ixos siquijorensis</i> (Steere, 1890) | — |
| <i>Ixos amaurotis</i> (Temminck, 1830) | [<i>Galgulus</i> Kittlitz, 1832, not <i>Galgulus</i> Brisson, 1760.] <i>Microscelis</i> G. R. Gray, 1840. [<i>Orpheus</i> Temminck & Schlegel, 1848, not <i>Orpheus</i> Swainson, 1827.] |
| <i>Ixos everetti</i> (Tweeddale, 1877) | — |
| <i>Ixos malaccensis</i> (Blyth, 1845) | — |
| <i>Hemixos flavala</i> Blyth, 1845 | <i>Hemixos</i> Blyth, 1845. |
| <i>Hemixos castanonotus</i> Swinhoe, 1870 | — |
| <i>Hypsipetes mccllellandii</i> Horsfield, 1840 | — |
| <i>Hypsipetes virescens</i> (Temminck, 1825) | <i>Ixos</i> Temminck, 1825 |
| <i>Hypsipetes madagascariensis</i> (P. L. S. Müller, 1776) | — |
| <i>Hypsipetes crassirostris</i> E. Newton, 1867 | — |
| <i>Hypsipetes parvirostris</i> Milne-Edwards & Oustalet, 1885 | — |
| <i>Hypsipetes borbonicus</i> (J. R. Forster, 1781) | [<i>Anepsia</i> Reichenbach, 1850, not <i>Anepsia</i> Gistel, 1848.] |
| <i>Hypsipetes olivaceus</i> Jardine & Selby, 1837 | <i>Ixocinclia</i> Blyth, 1845. |
| <i>Hypsipetes leucocephalus</i> (Gmelin, 1789) | <i>Hypsipetes</i> Vigors, 1832. <i>Haringtonia</i> Mathews & Iredale, 1917. |
| <i>Hypsipetes nicobariensis</i> ** Moore, 1854 | — |
| <i>Hypsipetes thompsoni</i> (Bingham, 1900) | <i>Cerasophila</i> Bingham, 1900. |

The head of the second column states 'Contains the type of genus:' because the type need not be the species in the first column, but rather an included subspecies, or junior synonym. A single asterisk (*) denotes that, should these genera ever be merged, a specific name change would occur, and the double asterisk (**) denotes that, due to homonymy, a specific name change has occurred.

Hypsipetes psaroides Vigors. Not preoccupied by *Ypsipetes* Stephens, 1829.
Microscelis G. R. Gray, 1840, *A list of the genera of birds*, p. 28. Type, by monotypy, *Turdus amaurotis* Temminck.
Iole Blyth, 1844, *Journ. Asiatic Soc. Bengal* 13, p. 386. Type, by monotypy, *Iole olivacea* Blyth.
Hemixos Blyth, 1845, *Journ. Asiatic Soc. Bengal* 14, p. 572. Type, by original designation, *Hemixos flavala* Blyth.
Ixocinclia Blyth, 1845, *Journ. Asiatic Soc. Bengal* 14, p. 575. Type, by original designation, *Hypsipetes olivaceus* Jardine and Selby.
Orpheus Temminck and Schlegel, 1848, in Siebold, *Fauna Japonica*, Aves, fasc. 4-8, p. 68. Type, by monotypy, *Turdus amaurotis* Temminck. Not *Orpheus* Swainson, 1827. [Mimini]
Anepsia Reichenbach, 1850, *Avium Syst. Nat.*, pl. liv. Type, by subsequent designation, G. R. Gray, 1855, *Cat. of the genera and subgenera of birds*, p. 43., *Turdus borbonicus* Gmelin = *Turdus borbonicus* J. R. Forster. Not *Anepsia* Gistel, 1848. [Diptera]
Tricholestes Salvadori, 1874, *Ann. Mus. Civ. Genova* 5, p. 205. Type, by original designation and monotypy, *Trichophorus minutus* Hartlaub = *Brachypodius criniger* Blyth.
Myiosobus Reichenow, 1891, *Journ. f. Orn.* 39, p. 210. Type, by original designation and monotypy,

Myiosobus fulvicauda Reichenow = *Brachypodius criniger* Blyth.
Cerasophila Bingham, 1900, *Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.* ser. 7, 5, p. 358. Type, by monotypy, *Cerasophila thompsoni* Bingham.
Acritillas Oberholser, 1905, *Smiths. Misc. Coll.*, Quarterly Issue, 48, no. 2, p. 161. Type, by original designation, *Criniger ictericus* Strickland
Haringtonia Mathews & Iredale, 1917, *Austral Av. Rec.*, 3, p. 124. New name for *Hypsipetes* Vigors, 1832, considered preoccupied by *Ypsipetes* Stephens, 1829. [Lepidoptera]

Corrected species citations:

Tricholestes criniger (Blyth, 1845).

*Iole virescens** Blyth, 1845.

Iole propinqua (Oustalet, 1903).

*Iole olivacea** Blyth, 1844.

Iole indica (Jerdon, 1839).

Ixos palawanensis (Tweeddale, 1878).

Ixos philippinus (J. R. Forster, 1795).

Ixos rufigularis (Sharpe, 1877).

Ixos siquijorensis (Steere, 1890).

Ixos amaurotis (Temminck, 1830).

Ixos everetti (Tweeddale, 1877).

Ixos mccllellandii (Horsfield, 1840).

Ixos virescens Temminck, 1825.

Ixos malaccensis (Blyth, 1845).

Hemixos flavala Blyth, 1845.

Hemixos castanonotus Swinhoe, 1870.

Hypsipetes madagascariensis (P. L. S. Müller, 1776).

Hypsipetes crassirostris E. Newton, 1867.

Hypsipetes parvirostris Milne-Edwards & Oustalet, 1885.

Hypsipetes borbonicus (J. R. Forster, 1781).

Hypsipetes olivaceus Jardine & Selby, 1837.

Hypsipetes leucocephalus (Gmelin, 1789).

*Hypsipetes virescens** (Blyth, 1845).

Hypsipetes thompsoni (Bingham, 1900).

I am grateful to Tim Inskipp for drawing attention to the treatment of this complex in Wolters (1975-1982).

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Breeding habits and behaviour of Large-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus macrurus* in Singapore

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Although the Large-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus macrurus* is a common bird in Peninsular Malaysia and Singapore its breeding habits in the region are poorly documented. Little is known about the species, other than that 1-2 eggs are laid in a clutch and that no nest is constructed, the eggs usually being laid on leaf litter on the ground (Wells 1999).

A pair of Large-tailed Nightjars bred during the summer of 1998 on the roof of a carport at Casabella Apartments, Singapore, a low-rise urban development within open grassy areas interspersed with small mature trees. The carport was an open-sided structure with room for four cars parked parallel and was roofed with corrugated asbestos sheets. The roof was about 3 m above the ground and was overhung at one end by a Bushy Cassia *Cassia biflora* which, over a period of time, had deposited a layer of leaves and twigs onto the roof, upon which the eggs were laid. The female was observed from the balcony of a nearby flat and was first seen sitting on eggs on 13 March. The nest site was 3 m below the level of the balcony and 10 m from it, thereby allowing excellent viewing opportunities. Only the female incubated the eggs during the day whilst the male roosted almost directly above in the cassia tree. It was interesting to note that the male roosted crosswise on a branch and rested in a near vertical posture with its head sunk down into its shoulders. This was its normal roosting position and it was seen in this posture on several occasions during daylight hours. The birds were very vocal around sunset giving the typical loud *tchonk* call characteristic of this species.

The first egg was seen to hatch at 11h00 on 2 April followed by the second on 5 April and it was interesting to note that eggs hatch during the day. The young were

covered with very pale beige fluffy down and at dusk they were seen begging food aggressively from their parents. When an adult landed near the breeding site the chicks rushed towards it and begged open-mouthed while giving a wing quivering display and uttering a thin high-pitched call. Their behaviour was so aggressive that they sometimes seemed in danger of falling off the roof. The male was frequently seen feeding a young bird in the evening immediately after dark. The young birds were often moved about the carport roof by their parents during a prolonged period of frequent heavy showers and it was during this time that one of the chicks died. This occurred within seven days of hatching. By 18 April the remaining chick had lost its downy appearance and was showing juvenile plumage which was similar to that of the adult male including white tips to the outer tail feathers. By the evening of 22 April the nest site was empty but a newly fledged nightjar was seen on the ground in the immediate vicinity.

Courtship behaviour was observed at the same site on 12 July and presumed to be by the same pair of birds. The male ran around the female wagging his tail from side to side whilst giving a harsh, grating frog-like call and clearly displaying the white crescent exposed on his puffed-up throat. Two eggs were subsequently laid at the same site as previously used and incubation was noted on 3 August, although there were still no chicks by 25 August when observations ceased. The length of time taken for the two incubations generally agree with the longer incubation times given in published literature (Cleere and Nurney 1998).

In conclusion, observations showed that this pair of Large-tailed Nightjars had two broods and that their breeding season extends from at least mid March to