

right side in the centre of the 'bath'. It then righted itself and briefly dust-bathed conventionally with much feather-fluffing and scratching. It then stood up, moved to the edge of the 'bath', and again threw itself at the middle, landing on its right side, repeating the process of then righting itself and dust-bathing conventionally.

References

- BRITTON, P.L. (ED) 1980. *Birds of East Africa*. Nairobi: EANHNS.
- URBAN, E.K., FRY, C.H. & KEITH, S. 1986. *The birds of Africa*. Volume 2. London: Academic Press.

R. M. Glen, Box 40691, Nairobi, Kenya

Scopus 18: 51–51, November 1994

Received 29 November 1993

Hide and seek: Striped-cheeked Greenbul *Andropadus milanjensis* opportunistically encounters and feeds on a chameleon

Studies indicate that most greenbul species retain mixed diets of invertebrates and fruits although the degree of variation between species appears to be large (e.g., Keith *et al.* 1992, L. Dinesen pers. comm.). A few species of the family Pycnonotidae have also been known to take small lizards, geckos and frogs (e.g., Keith *et al.* 1992, Maclean 1988). There has apparently been no report of the Striped-cheeked Greenbul *Andropadus milanjensis* feeding on vertebrates and it is therefore of interest to document one such case here.

The following observations were made during a survey of the avifauna of Kindoroko Forest Reserve in the North Pare Mountains, Tanzania (Cordeiro in prep.). The area in which the actual observations were made was at 1600 m, about 25 m inside mature montane forest dominated by *Newtonia buchananii* stands.

At 16:05 on 21 July 1993, four Olive Mountain Greenbuls *Phyllastrephus placidus* and one *A. milanjensis* diverged from their mixed feeding party and flew into the canopy of a *Newtonia* tree. *P. placidus* individuals foraged for invertebrates on the bark and amongst the foliage and branches. The *A. milanjensis* followed the party shortly after and flew into the foliage of a hanging climber on the same tree, about 12 m above the ground. At about 16:10 it had begun to glean actively amongst the leaves when it appeared to be surprised by a puffed-up chameleon, c. 4–5 cm long, possibly of the genus *Rhampholeon*. It immediately attacked the reptile with its beak for several seconds, swallowed it whole, and then flew off to join the other greenbuls in the canopy.

Most reports on the feeding ecology of *A. milanjensis* indicate that it has a mixed diet consisting of fruits, seeds, and invertebrates (Belcher 1930, Mackworth-Praed & Grant 1960, Maclean 1988, Dowsett-Lemaire 1988, 1989, Keith *et al.* 1992, L. Dinesen pers. comm.) although Stuart (1983) categorizes it as a frugivore. My observations suggest that this greenbul also feeds opportunistically on larger and more difficult prey.

Acknowledgements

I am grateful to COSTEC and the Kilimanjaro Regional and District Officers for permission to conduct this study and to the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and the Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania for providing financial support. Many thanks to Dr N. Burgess, N. and E. Baker, Prof K. M. Howell, P. Nyiti, J. T. Mushi and E. Tarimo for their help on this project. I also thank L. Dinesen for unpublished observations on greenbul ecology and T. D. Evans and L. Watson for comments on an earlier draft.

References

- BELCHER, C.F. 1930. *The birds of Nyasaland*. London: The Technical Press.
- DOWSETT-LEMAIRE, F. 1988. Fruit choice and seed dissemination by birds and mammals in the evergreen forests of upland Malawi. *Revue d'Ecologie (Terre et Vie)* 43: 251–285.
- DOWSETT-LEMAIRE, F. 1989. Ecological and biogeographical aspects of forest bird communities in Malawi. *Scopus* 13: 1–80.
- KEITH, S., URBAN, E.K. & FRY, C.H. (EDS) 1992. *The birds of Africa*. Volume 4. London: Academic Press.
- MACKWORTH-PRAED, C.W. & GRANT, C.H.B. 1960. *Birds of eastern and north eastern Africa*. Volume 2. London: Longman.
- MACLEAN, G.L. 1988. *Roberts' birds of southern Africa*. London: New Holland.
- STUART, S.N. 1983. Biogeographical and ecological aspects of forest bird communities in eastern Tanzania. Cambridge University, unpubl. Ph.D thesis.

Norbert J. Cordeiro, 3145 Canfield Avenue, #13, Los Angeles, CA 90034, USA

Scopus 18: 51–52, November 1994

Received 7 December 1993

Further sightings of an unnamed cliff swallow *Hirundo* sp. in Ethiopia

We watched up to 12 cliff swallows for half an hour from about 09:30 on 18 September 1993, feeding along the western cliff faces of the small gorge running north from the main Awash river gorge, immediately adjacent to Kereyou Lodge, Awash National Park, Ethiopia (8°53N, 40°06E). Although they were typically observed flying below the rim of the gorge, they were also noted occasionally moving up as far as the grassland and scrub beyond the rim and, much less frequently, joining the more numerous Eurasian *Hirundo rustica*, Striped *H. abyssinica*, and Red-rumped Swallows *H. daurica*, in the airspace above. African Rock Martins *H. fuligula*, occasional House Martins *Delichon urbica*, Sand Martins *Riparia riparia* and Alpine Swifts *Apus melba*, were also seen for comparison.

General impression

A dark hirundine with pale underparts and pale rufous rump. Smaller than Striped Swallow with more triangular wings and short notched tail. Flight very martin-like with periods of gliding, sharp turns and fluttering along a relatively short flight path. This contrasted with longer, steadier, sweeping glides of the other swallow species. Although we watched them for half an hour with 7 x 42 and 10 x 40 binoculars, they