

East African Rarities Committee (EARC) Special Report Species included for East African countries in Britton (1980) which have since been considered unacceptable

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During the late 1980s and early 1990s the EANHS Ornithological Sub-committee (O S-C) re-assessed records of a number of species listed for East African countries in Britton (1980) (hereafter referred to simply as Britton). They were assisted by members of the EARC and other outside experts. Acceptance of several records was deemed unsafe. Some had been included on the basis of bald reports, and attempts to obtain additional details proved unsuccessful. In other cases the original descriptions failed to exclude all likely confusion species.

For Kenya, twelve species from Britton were rejected by Zimmerman *et al.* (1996) where their omission was briefly commented on. For Uganda, seven unacceptable species were discussed by Carswell *et al.* 2005. Three species unacceptable for Tanzania have been discussed in papers in *Scopus* (Baker 1990, 2010, Turner & Baker 2011). But most of these re-assessments have never been formally published in a consolidated list or report, and so some species may still be considered to be authentic. This short report therefore sets the record straight. Nomenclature follows that used in Britton.

Kenya

Following Zimmerman *et al.* (*op. cit.*) records of twelve species should be removed from those included in Britton.

Red-tailed Tropicbird *Phaethon rubricauda* [near Kiunga 1961]

Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea* [Lake Turkana]

Asiatic Dowitcher *Limnodromus semipalmatus* [Lake Nakuru November 1966]

Brown Skua *Catharacta antarctica* [near Kiunga August 1961]

Mediterranean Gull *Larus melanocephalus* [Turkana April 1975 and Lamu August 1978]

Little Gull *Larus minutus* [Turkana January 1978. And see *Scopus* 3: 26]

Black-billed Wood Dove *Turtur abyssinicus* [Lake Turkana and Uganda border at Amudat]

Pale-billed Hornbill *Tockus pallidirostris* [Taveta]

Ashy Starling *Cosmopsarus unicolor* [Lake Jipe]

Blue-throated Brown Sunbird *Nectarinia cyanolaema* [Kakamega]

Chestnut-breasted Negrofinch *Nigrita bicolor* [Kakamega]

Southern Cordon-bleu *Uraeginthus angolensis* [Lake Jipe]

Uganda

Following Carswell *et al.* (*op. cit.*) seven species included for the country by Britton are unacceptable:

Eleonora's Falcon *Falco eleonorae* [Kidepo NP March 1972].

Black-faced Sandgrouse *Pterocles decoratus* [Kidepo NP].

Red-fronted Parrot *Poicephalus gularis* [Impenetrable Forest].

Blue Cuckoo Shrike *Coracina azurea* [Mafuga Forest].

Grauer's Cuckoo Shrike *Coracina graueri* [Rwenzoris. Listed in Appendix 3 of Carswell *et al.* (*op. cit.*)].

Brown-tailed Rock Chat *Cercomela scotocerca* [Karamoja].

Splendid Sunbird *Nectarinia coccinigaster* [West Nile].

Tanzania

Four species from Britton have been considered untenable. Three of these are discussed by the authority given. The Gadwall record, rejected by the O S-C and implicitly by Zimmerman *et al.* (*op. cit.*) lacked supporting details.

Gadwall *Anas strepera* [Ngorongoro Crater December 1964].

Somali Bee-eater *Merops revoilii* [Dar es Salaam November 1970]. Baker (2010).

Red-tailed Greenbul *Criniger calurus* [Bukoba]. Baker (1990).

Golden Palm Weaver *Ploceus bojeri* [Tanga]. Turner & Baker (2011).

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