

NOTES UPON A COLLECTION  
OF BIRDS MADE BY FRANK GILL ESQ.  
OFF THE WEST COAST OF PENINSULAR THAILAND

by

E.C. DICKINSON

SUMMARY

Notes are made upon a collection of 73 specimens of 30 species of birds collected off the West coast of Thailand in November 1963 as part of the International Indian Ocean Expedition. These add to our knowledge of the distribution within Thailand of ten species, none of the extensions in range being unexpected. Five other species seen in areas where they have not previously been recorded are also included.

**Introduction:** FRANK B. GILL visited 6 Thai localities on or off the West coast of peninsular Thailand during the period November 1st. to 16th. 1963 on board the R/V *Te Vega*; a research vessel from Stanford University, California; which was participating in the United States Programme in Biology as part of the International Indian Ocean Expedition. In the course of this visit he collected with the aid of several colleagues 73 bird specimens; these were preserved either as skins or as skeletons or in alcohol. The specimens have been deposited with the Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C., which administered the National Science Foundation grant making possible Mr. GILL's fieldwork.

A number of the records which emerge from this collection extend the known range within Thailand of the species concerned. This paper is not intended to resolve subspecific identifications as the material is drawn from the records of the collector and the museum catalogue at the Smithsonian Institution where specimens are entered prior to study. Nonetheless some points are touched upon at subspecific level. Certain further points may emerge from a serious examination of the material.

**Itinerary:** To avoid any possible future confusion the names used on U.S. Maps are here shown as well as those used on the labels of the specimens.

Date	Name used on British Admiralty Charts and on specimen labels	Name shown on U.S. Army Map Service Sheets NB 47 and NC 47 if different	Position	Changwad
Nov. 1-2	Phuket Harbour			Phuket
Nov. 3-4	Goh Huyong, Similan Is.	Ko Tai (meaning South Island)	8°29'N:97°37'E	Phang-nga
Nov. 5-7	Goh-Sindarar Nua	Ko Chan	9°26'N:97°50'E	Ranong
Nov. 8	Goh Similan, Similan Is.	Ko Nua (meaning North Island)	8°38'N:97°39'E	Phang-nga
Nov. 9	Goh Huyong Phuket Harbour			
Nov. 11-13	Goh Pipidan In Malaysian waters	Ko Bida	7°47'N:98°47'E	Krabi
Nov. 14	Pulau Tenga	Ko Ta Nga, Butang Islands	6°35'N:99°28'E	Satun
Nov. 15	Goh Pipidan			
Nov. 16	Phuket Harbour			

Throughout this paper I use the spelling Ko for Goh meaning island (Pulau in Malay).

**Specific List:**

The specific names are those used by DEIGNAN (1963).

*Egretta sacra* (GMELIN)

2 ♂ 2 ♀ as skins. 2 ♀ as skeletons.

Collected from Ko Sindarar Nua and Ko Pipidan. All birds collected and most seen were dark phase. Nests were found on Ko Pipidan.

*Egretta alba* (LINNÉ)

6 to 8 were seen in Phuket Harbour on November 16th. This appears to be the first record for the West coast of peninsular Thailand.

*Goisakius melanolophus* (RAFFLES)

1 immature ♂ as skeleton.

Taken in deep forest on Ko Huyong 4.11.63.

*Haliastur indus* (BODDAERT)

1 in alcohol.

Collected on Ko Pipidan 15.11.63.

*Pandion haliaetus* (LINNÉ)

Seen on Ko Huyong, Ko Ta Nga and Ko Pipidan. There are no formal records from the West coast of the Peninsula.

*Falco peregrinus* TUNSTALL

Seen at Phuket 16.11.63. There appears to be no formal record from peninsular Thailand, although there are records from Malaya.

*Charadrius alexandrinus* LINNÉ

1 ♂ as a skin.

Taken on Ko Huyong 3.11.63. The skin has been entered in the Museum catalogue as *C. a. dealbatus* after comparison with specimens of *C. a. dealbatus* and birds taken in the Gulf of Thailand which have been given the name *C. a. nihonensis* by DEIGNAN (1941). It would thus appear to represent a new subspecies for the Thai list and although the species is known as a visitor to Malaya this extends the known range of the species in Thailand.

*Charadrius mongolus* PALLAS

2 ♀ as skins, 4 as skeletons and 2 in alcohol.

4 birds were taken in Phuket Harbour and the other 4 on Ko Sindarar Nua. A ♀ from the latter place showed body moult.

*Charadrius leschenaultii* LESSON

1 ♂ as a skin, 1 ♀ as a skeleton and 2 in alcohol.

Collected from Ko Huyong and Phuket.

*Numenius phaeopus* (LINNÉ)

Up to 7 seen regularly on Ko Sindarar Nua 5-7.11.63.

There are no formal records for the West coast of peninsular Thailand.

*Xenus cinereus* (GÜLDENSTÄDT)

1 ♀ as a skeleton.

Taken at Phuket 16.11.63. This is the first record from the Changwad though it has been recorded from neighbouring Phang-nga.

*Actitis hypoleucos* (LINNÉ)

1 ♂ 2 ♀ as skins.

Taken from Ko Sindarar Nua and Ko Ta Nga. The pair from Ko Ta Nga collected on 10.11.63 constitute the first formal records from Changwad Satun and fill a gap in our knowledge of this bird's distribution in Thailand. It occurs widely in Malaya in the winter months.

*Arenaria interpres* (LINNÉ)

2 seen at Phuket 2.11.63. Previous West coast records come from Satun, further South.

*Calidris ruficollis* (PALLAS)

1 ♂ as a skin, 2 ♂ as skeletons and 2 birds in alcohol.

All taken in Phuket Harbour on 16.11.63

*Calidris ferruginea* (PONTOPPIDAN)

1 ♂ as a skeleton, 1 bird in alcohol.

Collected in Phuket Harbour from a large flock 16.11.63. Gill observed "400-500" there on 2.11.63. The species has not been formally recorded from the West coast of peninsular Thailand although it occurs on that coast further South.

*Limicola falcinellus* (PONTOPPIDAN)

1 ♀ as a skin, 1 ♂ as a skeleton and 1 bird in alcohol.

All collected in Phuket Harbour 16.11.63. The ♀ showed heavy body moult. No formal records exist for peninsular Thailand. The species occurs in winter in Malaya. These specimens were collected from "several dozen" birds.

*Esacus magnirostris* (VIEILLOT)

1 specimen in alcohol.

Collected on Ko Huyong 3.11.63 from a pair. Also seen on Ko Sindarar Nua. The species has not been formally

recorded from Changwad Pang-nga but is known from Ranong and Satun.

*Sterna bergii* LICHTENSTEIN

1 ♂ as skeleton.

Taken in Phuket Harbour 2.11.63. The form from *S. b. velox* Cretzschmar is reported from Satun, farther South on this coast, but there appears to be no formal record of the species from Changwad Phuket. GILL noted some 25 birds in the harbour on this date.

*Ducula aenea* (LINNÉ)

1 ♂ as skeleton.

From Ko Sindarar Nua.

*Ducula bicolor* (SCOPLI)

1 in alcohol.

Collected on Ko Huyong 3.11.63 from a flock of 6-10 birds. GILL also saw this species on Ko Ta Nga on 10.11.63. This bird is listed by DEIGNAN (1963) from islets off the Eastern coast of peninsular Thailand; this appears to be the first formal report from the West coast.

*Caloenas nicobarica* (LINNÉ)

1 ♂ 1 imm. ♀ as skins.

The male, taken on Ko Huyong on 3.11.63 from a flock of 6 was in mating condition. The immature ♀ was collected on Ko Ta Nga.

*Surniculus lugubris* (HORSFIELD)

1 ♀ as a skeleton.

From Ko Huyong 4.11.63.

*Eudynamys scolopacea* (LINNÉ)

1 skin, 1 skeleton and 1 in alcohol—all males.

All from Ko Huyong on 3.11.63.

*Alcedo atthis* (LINNÉ)

2 skins and 1 in alcohol—all immature females.

Collected on Ko Sindarar Nua and Ko Ta Nga.

*Halcyon pileata* (BODDAERT)

1 imm. ♀ as a skin, 1 bird in alcohol.

The ♀, from Ko Sindarar Nua, was in moult; the other bird was taken on Ko Similan.

*Halcyon chloris* (BODDAERT)

4 ♂ 2 ♀ as skins.

From Ko Sindarar Nua and Ko Ta Nga. The birds from Ko Sindarar Nua, a male and a female, showed body moult.

*Hirundo tahitica* GMELIN

1 ♂ as a skeleton.

From Ko Sindarar Nua.

*Dicrurus annectens* (HODGSON)

1 imm. ♂ as a skin.

Taken on Ko Huyong 4.11.63.

*Monticola solitarius* (LINNÉ)

1 ♂ 1 ♀ as skins, 1 in alcohol.

Collected on Ko Pipidan 15.11.63. The bird preserved in alcohol was in male plumage. These birds have been identified by HERBERT G. DEIGNAN as *M. s. affinis* (Blyth).

*Phylloscopus borealis* (H. BLASIUS)

1 ♂ 1 ? as skins, and 2 as skeletons.

The skins were made of birds collected on Ko Huyong, the skeletons from a bird taken on Ko Similan and a bird found on board at Ko Pipidan.

*Acrocephalus arundinaceus* (LINNÉ)

1 ♀ as a skin.

This bird was taken in low vegetation at the edge of a swamp on Ko Similan on 8.11.63. This species has been recorded in the province of Ranong to the North and of Phuket to the South; this is the first formal record from Changwad Pang-nga.

*Muscicapa latirostris* (RAFFLES)

1 ♀ as a skin, 1 bird in alcohol.

The ♀ was collected on Ko Huyong, the other bird on Ko Similan.

*Muscicapa tickelliae* (BLYTH)

1 ♀ as a skin.

From Ko Ta Nga 10.11.63 in moult.

*Anthreptes malacensis* (SCOPOLI)

1 imm. ♂ as a skin.

From Ko Sindarar Nua 6.11.63 showing slight moult.

*Nectarinia jugularis* LINNÉ

1 ♂ 1 ♀ as skins, 1 ♂ in alcohol,

Collected on Ko Sindarar Nua and Ko Similan.

**Acknowledgements:** My first thanks are due to the collector, FRANK B. GILL, for allowing me to write up this material, to HERBERT G. DEIGNAN who suggested it and to PROF. S. DILLON RIPLEY and Dr. GEORGE WATSON both of the Smithsonian Institution who made it possible.

I should also like to thank GROUP CAPTAIN P. MALLORIE R.A.F. for help with maps. Messrs. GILL, DEIGNAN and WATSON have all been of considerable help in the actual preparation of the text which has been read and criticized by each of them.

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