

EURASIAN SISKIN *Carduelis spinus*

A flock of 8 seen together with Bramblings in Sa Pa, Lao Cai Province (22°20'N 103°50'E) on 25 December 1994. A small yellowish-green finch, separated from Black-headed Greenfinch *C. ambigua* by the combination of yellow rump, two yellow wing-bars and yellow sides to tail.

Subsequently, R. Eve (*in litt.* to T. Inskipp) found and described a male Eurasian Siskin singing in Hanoi zoo on 14 May 1995.

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Records of Blunt-winged Warbler *Acrocephalus concinens* in northern Vietnam

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Between 6 April and 3 May 1995, in the Cuc Phuong National Park (north-west Bac Bo, or south Tonkin), around 100 km SSW of Hanoi, I trapped a total of 189 birds belonging to 54 species, which were thoroughly

examined for chewing lice (Phthiraptera: Ischnocera and Amblycera) infestation, then released. The detailed ecological and taxonomic results will be discussed elsewhere; a general report has already been published (Mey 1995). During this study five Blunt-winged Warblers *Acrocephalus concinens* were trapped in two nets c. 5 km apart, two of the birds on 11 April and three on 21 April. Both locations were in semi-open country with dense shrubby undergrowth. Three of the birds had flown along the edge of secondary woodland bordering forestry plantations, which were partly open and partly overgrown with *Imperata cylindrica*.

Identification of the warblers was confirmed using wing formulae from King *et al.* (1975). One individual, which was recovered freshly dead on 11 April, is retained as a skin in the Museum of Natural History, Rudolstadt, Thuringia, Germany.

Blunt-winged Warbler is described by Vo Quy and Nguyen Cu (1995) as a passage migrant of uncertain abundance and occurring only in Vung Nam bo, or Cochin China, based on 'several birds, believed to be this species, were observed at close range in Nam Bai Cat Tien National Park, on 31 December [1989]' (Robson *et al.* 1993). Vo Quy and Nguyen Cu (1995) do not list any records for the other six districts of Vietnam. However, Kinnear (1929) reported that three clutches of eggs, possibly from this species, were collected by H. Stevens in northern Tonkin in 1923-1924. Nearby, in Laos, Dickinson (1970) reported that A. David-Beaulieu collected a specimen at Savannakhet on 13 November 1944. It is also recorded as a winter visitor in southern and eastern Myanmar, and north-west and south-east Thailand (King *et al.* 1975). It may be a more common passage migrant and/or winter visitor in eastern Indochina than has previously been ascertained.

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