

This is only the third confirmed record of a Spoon-billed Sandpiper from Sri Lanka: the previous ones being from Bundala in March 1978 (CBCN 1978a), and Bentota in November 1978 (CBCN 1978b). The CBC Rarities and Records Committee rejected a December 1979 report from Bundala (CBCN 1979; Collar *et al.* 2001) during its evaluations in 1985 (Deepal Warakagoda, *in litt.*, 01 July 2018). This is also, probably, the first report of an over-summering Spoon-billed Sandpiper from South Asia.

My special thanks to Deepal Warakagoda and Udaya Sirivardana for identifying the importance of this sighting and coordinating with Oriental Bird Club and Spoon-billed Sandpiper Task Force; and to Moditha Hiranya Kodikaraarachchi, Hemantha Seneviratne, and Sudheera Bandara for helping me document the sighting and reviewing this article.

References

- Bird, J. P., Lees, A. C., Chowdhury, S. U., Martin, R., & Haque, E. u., 2010. A survey of the critically endangered Spoon-billed Sandpiper *Eurynorhynchus pygmeus* in Bangladesh adn key future research and conservation recommendations. *Forktail* 26 (August): 1–8.
- BirdLife International. 2017. *Calidris pygmaea* (amended version of 2017 assessment). The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2017: e.T22693452A117520594. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2017-3.RLTS.T22693452A117520594>. en. Downloaded on 12 July 2018.
- BirdLife International. 2018. Species factsheet: *Calidris pygmaea*. URL: <http://www.birdlife.org> on 01/07/2018. [Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 01/07/2018.]
- Ceylon Bird Club Notes. 1978a. *Ceylon Bird Club Notes* 1978: 7, 20.
- Ceylon Bird Club Notes. 1978b. *Ceylon Bird Club Notes* 1978: 66.
- Ceylon Bird Club Notes. 1979. *Ceylon Bird Club Notes* 1979: 46.
- Chakraborty, A., Tripathi, S., & Bhattacharya, B. B., *In Press*. Rediscovery of the Spoon-billed Sandpiper *Calidris pygmaea* on the coast of West Bengal, India. *Indian BIRDS*. URL: http://indianbirds.in/pdfs/InPress_PrakritiSamsad_SpoonbilledSandpiper.pdf.
- Chandler, R., 2013. *Shorebirds of the northern hemisphere*. Helm Field Guides. Pp. 1–448. Christopher Helm. London, UK.
- Chowdhury, S. U., 2015. Update on Spoon-billed Sandpiper *Calidris pygmaea* in 2015. *BirdingASIA* 24: 6.
- Collar, N. J., Andreev, A. V., Chan, S., Crosby, M. J., Subramanya, S., & Tobias, J. A., 2001. *Threatened birds of Asia: The BirdLife International Red Data Book. Part A*. 1st ed. Cambridge, UK: BirdLife International. Vol. 1 of 2 vols. Pp. i–xxx, 1–1516 [1433–1453].
- Van Gils, J., Wiersma, P., Sharpe, C. J. & Kinwan, G. M., 2018. Spoon-billed Sandpiper (*Calidris pygmaea*). In: del Hoyo, J., Elliott, A., Sargatal, J., Christie, D. A., & de Juana, E., (eds.). *Handbook of the Birds of the World Alive*. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona. Website URL: <https://www.hbw.com/node/53939>. [Accessed on 1 July 2018.]
- Warakagoda, D., Inskipp, C., Inskipp, T., & Grimmett, R., 2012. *Birds of Sri Lanka*. 1st ed. London: Christopher Helm. Pp. 1–224.

Correspondence

A colour-aberrant Indian Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone paradisi* from Ahmednagar, Maharashtra

On the evening of 23 November 2017, Hitesh Oberoi photographed an Indian Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone paradisi* that was in unique plumage. It was in the canopy of a tree in Dongargan Valley (19.25°N, 74.76°E) near Ahmednagar city. The adult white morph male had a white crest [100], an aberration, as the species normally has a black crest. In addition, the bird had white spots around its eye, and on its throat. This seems to be a case of partial leucism, or progressive greying (van Grouw *et al.* 2016). On subsequent trips to the location, Onkar Ingle, Onkar Bedre, and Yuvraj Navle saw the bird five more times. Every time it was seen only in the evening. While the length of the crest varies by region (Rasmussen & Anderton 2012), there is no mention in literature of a white crest in any subspecies of the Indian Paradise

Flycatcher. Other than the plumage, we did not observe any other physical or behavioral abnormality in that individual.

Acknowledgements

We thank Ajinkya Supekar for helping us with this note.

References

- Rasmussen, P. C., & Anderton, J. C., 2012. *Birds of South Asia: the Ripley guide: attributes and status*. 2nd ed. Washington, D.C. and Barcelona: Smithsonian Institution and Lynx Edicions. Vol. 2 of 2 vols. Pp. 1–683.
- Mahabal, A., van Grouw, H., Sharma, R. M., & Thakur, S., 2016. How common is albinism really? Colour aberrations in Indian birds reviewed. *Dutch Birding* 38: 301–309.

– Hitesh Oberoi, Onkar Ingle, Onkar Bedre & Yuvraj Navle
Ahmednagar, Maharashtra, India.



100. A male Indian Paradise Flycatcher with a white crest, showing partial leucism.