

Grant, G., P. Trail, R. Clapp. 1994. First specimens of sooty shearwater, Newell's shearwaters, and white-faced storm-petrel from American Samoa. *Notornis* 41: 215-217.

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**First Specimens of Sooty Shearwater, Newell's Shearwater, and
White-faced Storm-Petrel from American Samoa**

Seabird distribution in the waters around American Samoa (14° S, 170° W) is incompletely known despite visits by numerous ornithologists (Clapp and Sibley 1966, Fry 1966, Clapp 1968, Amerson *et al.* 1982, Banks 1984, Pratt *et al.* 1987, Pyle *et al.* 1990). In this note we document specimens of three species of seabirds new to American Samoa.

Sooty Shearwater *Puffinus griseus* (USNM 597680)

A male (testes 2 x 1 mm) collided with a structure near the runway of Pago Pago International Airport, Tafuna, Tutuila, on 20 May 1992. When collected by PWT, its left wing was broken and it died on 22 May 1992. A second specimen, a female (ovary 12 x 6 mm) in emaciated condition, was obtained from Lions Park, Tafuna, Tutuila, on 17 May 1994. Both birds were probably recently fledged juveniles at they had moderate fat deposits, fresh plumage, and were not undergoing moult.

Sooty Shearwaters are not unexpected but have not been reported previously from American Samoa. Jenkins (1980) reported large numbers in Tongan waters during May and thought this species might pass east of Samoa during its northern migration. Sooty Shearwaters have been recorded from waters of Fiji (Watling 1982), Kiribati, the Cook Islands, Society Islands and Marquesas (Pratt *et al.* 1987). Sooty Shearwaters depart from nesting colonies at the Snares Islands, New Zealand, in late March-early May (Warham *et al.* 1982). The migratory pathways are still unclear but most seem to fly north probably through the Central Pacific up towards the Aleutians rather than around towards Japan (J. Warham, pers. comm.).

Newell's Shearwater *Puffinus auricularis newelli* (USNM 597688)

A female (ovary 9 x 5 mm, largest ova 1 mm) was found alive but injured in a banana plantation near Pavaiai, Tutuila, on 26 January 1993 by Richard and Vito Nomura. Measurements were: left wing 249 mm, culmen 32.4 mm, tarsus 47.3 mm, tail 87 mm.

King and Gould (1967) and Pratt *et al.* (1987) report that the non-breeding season dispersal of Newell's Shearwater is largely unknown. Adults arrive at nesting colonies on Kauai, Hawaiian Islands, in April and depart in October-November (Sincock and Swedberg 1969). Jouanin (1956) reported a specimen taken in May 1887 at Saipan, Mariana Islands and King and Gould (1967) recorded one 64 km south of the equator near Baker Island. Drahos (1977) measured and photographed a bird believed to be this species in June 1974 on Guam. Our specimen is only the second recorded occurrence of this species in the Southern Hemisphere. It suggests that Newell's Shearwater ranges during the non-breeding season as much as 4000 km south of the Hawaiian Islands. However, the bird was in an emaciated condition and lacked any fat. It weighed only 291 g, well below the range of 353-439 g (n = 11) given by King and Gould (1967) and may indicate that something was wrong with this bird.

White-faced Storm-Petrel *Pelagodroma marina* (USNM 597656)

A wing was salvaged by GSG from the shoreline of Pala Lagoon, Tafuna, Tutuila, on 7 September 1992. Its strong procellariiform odour, size, and colouration suggested to GSG that it was a storm-petrel. RBC identified the remains using wing formula and colour patterns of comparative material at the U.S. National Museum.

In the Pacific Ocean, this species breeds on small islands around Australia and New Zealand and is thought to migrate across the subtropical and tropical South Pacific to the west coast of South America (Pratt *et al.* 1987, Marchant and Higgins 1990).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This study is a by-product of investigations carried out under the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. We thank Don Wilson for delivering the specimens to the U.S. National Museum and R.L.Pyle, J. Warham, and H.D. Pratt for commenting on the manuscript.

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REVIEW

Current Ornithology, vol 10, by Power, D.M. (Ed.) 1993. Plenum Press, New York. ISBN 0-306-44282-5. 383 p. Price: US\$ 69.50 (hardback).

Current Ornithology is a series devoted exclusively to reviews in ornithology. About six topics are chosen for each volume from outlines submitted by hopeful authors, with the collection providing an idiosyncratic perspective on current research trends.

The results are fascinating, but the reading may not be easy. Vol 10 includes chapters on how phylogenetic history might influence mating and parental care systems, trophic structure in raptor communities, the use of matrix algebra for studying demography, nocturnal behaviour in waterbirds, latitudinal gradients in species diversity, and patterns of development. The volume of information is overwhelming (there are 57 pages of references alone), but the book represents an excellent source of material on the topics being considered. Here are some snippets to whet the appetite:

It may well be that the predominance of exclusive male parental care (an unusual parental care system in birds) in modern ratites indicates that this was the system used by the original ratite.