

SPECIES DIVERSITY AND RICHNESS OF WILD BIRDS IN DAGONA-WATERFOWL SANCTUARY, NIGERIA

Lameed GA^{1*}



Gbolagade Lameed

*Corresponding author email: lamakim2002@yahoo.com; lamgbola2008@gmail.com

¹(Associate Professor) Department of Wildlife and Ecotourism Management, Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry, University of Ibadan, Ibadan; Nigeria.

Published by African Scholarly Science Communications Trust Josem Trust Place, Bunyala Road, Upper Hill, Nairobi P.O. Box 29086-00625 Tel: +254-20-2351785 Fax: +254-20-4444030, Nairobi, KENYA Email: oniango@iconnect.co.ke OR info@ajfand.net www.ajfand.net





ABSTRACT

The study of bird species diversity and richness in Dagona-Waterfowl Sanctuary was carried out during the midst of both early wet and late dry seasons, to provide comprehensive data on wild birds. Dagona Sanctuary is located within the Bade-Nguru Wetland sector. It is one of the important bird areas marked for the conservation of avifauna species in sub-Sahara region, Nigeria. Line Transect method was used to carry out birds' survey at three different lake sites, namely: Gatsu (site:1), Mariam (site: 2) and Oxbow (site: 3). The instruments used were GarminTM 12 Global Positioning System (GPS), a pair of binoculars for bird's identification, a field guide test- book and a 1,000 meters tape-rule. The data were tested with the Kolmogorov- Smirnov method o determine distribution level and birds' diversity was assessed using Shannon-Weiner Diversity Index, while parametric tests were applied for all data. The results showed that bird species diversity was normally distributed in all the sites, site 2 had the highest diversity (2.74) compared to site 1: (1.84) and site 3: (1.62). Likewise, bird species richness in the area was normally distributed and significantly different (P<0.05) among the three sites. Site 1 had the highest number of bird species richness (16.36) (Species diversity is different species of birds at the site, while species richness is referring to specific species population), compared to site 2: (14.32) and site 3: (11.51). It was observed that there is a significant relationship between vegetation density and bird species diversity, because as tree density increases, diversity of bird species decreases. Therefore, there is a significant relationship between vegetation density and bird species diversity. A total of 135 bird species in 40 families was recorded during the survey. Seventy-four percent were found in site1, sixty-three percent in site 2 and seventy-one percent in site 3. The majority of wetland birds observed during this study were resident (Ardeidae family), migratory (Accipitridae family) and palearctic species (Yellow Wagtail, Warblers, Northern Shoveler and Sandpipers). It can be concluded that wild birds are good indicators of environmental condition, revealing the state of the wetland. Some sites were more disturbed, as observed in site 1 and site 3. It was, however, recommended that regular monitoring of the sites should be carried out so as to control changes in the state of the wetland ecosystem.

Key words: Wetland, birds, diversity, richness, vegetation





INTRODUCTION

Wetlands are of important ecological significance in the tropical region, which serves as a major link between the natural resource management and agricultural practices. They are a store house or hot-spot for the conservation of important species that rural inhabitants mostly depend upon for a source of protein, while at the same time serving deep interests of the conservationists for protection. In all the three types of wetlands (marine/coastal, inland or man-made), the most significant point of reference is water management. Therefore, a wetland or riparian ecosystem is a servicing point for diverse species of animals (fishes, birds, antelopes, primates and carnivores) that need water either for drinking, wallowing or abode [1].

Wetlands are unique biotic communities involving diverse plants and animals that are adapted to shallow and often dynamic water regimes. The Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, commonly called the "Convention on Wetlands" (or the RAMSAR convention), signed in Ramsar, Iran in 1971, defines wetlands as "areas of marsh, fern, peat land or water, whether natural or artificial, temporary or permanent, with water that is static or flowing, fresh, brackish or salt, including areas of marine water, the depth of which at low tide does not exceed six meters". In addition, the Convention provides that wetlands "may incorporate riparian and coastal zones adjacent to the wetlands and islands or bodies of marine water deeper than six meters at low tide lying within the wetland" [1]. There are also man-made wetlands such as fish and shrimp ponds, farm ponds, irrigated agricultural land, salt pans, reservoirs, gravel pits, sewage pits, sewage farms, and canals [2].

Although wetlands occupy a small portion of the earth's land area, they are very important in the biosphere. Over geologic time, wetland environments produced the vegetation that has been converted into coal. Salt water marshes are important breeding areas for many oceanic animals and many invertebrates. Dominant animal species in fresh water wetlands include many species of insects, birds, and amphibians; few mammals are also included this biome [3].

Wetlands are known for their abundance of birds. The use of wetlands and their resources is widespread among many diverse bird taxa of the world. Avian adaptation to utilize wetlands and other aquatic systems are diverse and include anatomical, morphological, behavioral changes. Anatomically, they include designs for diving and swimming, such as body compression to increase gravity, or adaptation for plunge diving from great heights [4]. Respiratory physiology differs dramatically in those bird species that engage in long period of time deep diving into the water body [5]. Morphological adaptations include bills that strain, peck, spear, store and grab, and feet that allow swimming, diving, walking on mudflat, wadding or grabbing and holding fish. Not only do body parts differ in general form, but also size of bills, legs, and flight patterns differ across a gradient of wetland edges [6]. As a result of these adaptations, birds are better equipped as a group to exploit wetland resources and are often used as indicators of conditions within a wetland ecosystem [4].



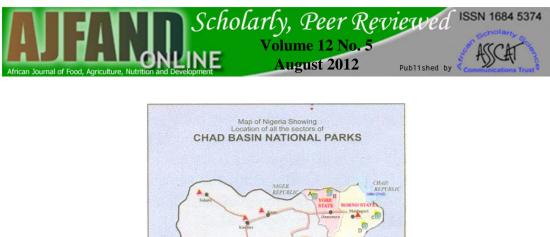


In Nigeria, the Hadeija-Nguru Lake (Marma channel) complex is a designated Ramsar site. The surface area enclosed is about 58,100 hectares, with an elevation of 340-345m, located northeastern Nigeria (10° 22' N, 012° 46' E), with two-third of this site in Jigawa State and one-third in Yobe State. The Nguru Lake is a good representation of a natural or near-natural wetland, which embodies all the diverse flora and fauna of both the Sahel and the Sudan savanna in a single limited location. It regularly supports more than 20,000 water birds and is also a wintering ground for many palearctic migrant birds. A total of 377 wetland bird species have been recorded in the wetland and the total numbers of water birds recorded during the January African Water bird census counts were 259,769 in 1995; 201,133 in 1996 and 324,510 in 1997 [7]. The aim of this study was to assess species diversity and richness of wild birds and to provide a species list in Dagona Waterfowl Sanctuary. Birds are good environmental indicators, revealing the state of the ecosystems such as wetland. They also serve as dispersal agents in transferring nutrients and spores from one place to another during their migration and local movements [4].

THE STUDY AREA

The Dagona Wildlife Sanctuary is located within the Bade-Nguru Wetland Sector. The Sanctuary covers an area of 938sq.km and comprises the 1966 legislated Bade Native Authority Gogoram and Zurgum Baderi Forest Reserves. It is situated southwest of Bade and Jakusko local government areas of Yobe State. It is located between latitudes 12°13 and 13°00 and longitudes 10°00 and 11°00 (Figure 1 - Map of Nigeria showing location of the Sectors). Dagona Waterfowl Sanctuary is significant to the internationally assisted conservation effort to protect the palaearctic migrant birds. It is open Sudan/scrub Sahelian vegetation, though a small part of the wetland is covered with water all year round yielding support for water birds and other wildlife found in that area.

The sanctuary is bordered by some villages and the main occupation is pastoral farming with high incidence of grazing by the Fulani community. The Waterfowl sanctuary is among the Hadeija-Nguru Wetlands while the management of the sanctuary is under the jurisdiction of the Chad Basin National Park. The sanctuary is under multiple-use management, and there is no free access to wild resources (wild animals, fish, birds). However, grazing and collection of wild resources are practiced by the local population illegally, and there is, therefore, need for more strict enforcement of laws [8].



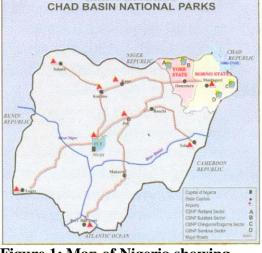


Figure 1: Map of Nigeria showing location of all sectors of Chad Basin National Park.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The Line Transect method was used to survey birds. This method proved most efficient in terms of data collection per unit effort. This census involves an observer moving slowly along the routes and recording all birds detected on either side of the route. The length of transects depends on the type of survey but is usually constrained by accessibility and thus may not be fixed. Line transects are often used to collect data in large open areas and is more efficient than point counts as one tends to record more birds per unit time [9].

Surveys were carried out at three different lakes (Gatsu, Mariam and Oxbow, referred to as sites 1 to 3) in 2009 using the line transect method. A GarminTM *12* Geographic Positioning System (GSP) was used to mark each point. At each site, bird observation was carried out twice daily. Morning between 0630hrs and 1000hrs and evening, between 1600hrs and 1800hrs by walking slowly along transects and making observations. The length of each transect was one kilometer and was subdivided into 50meters sub-sections to aid data collection and habitat measurements. At each site, transects were placed 100m apart.

Birds were counted as bird seen and heard and birds in flight were also recorded. A pair of binoculars with magnification 7x 50 was used in identification of birds visually alongside a field guide [1].

The data were tested with the Kolmogorov- Smirnov to determine whether or not they were normally distributed while parametric tests were applied for all data.

Published by African Scholarly Science Communications Trust Josem Trust Place, Bunyala Road, Upper Hill, Nairobi P.O. Box 29086-00625 Tel: +254-20-2351785 Fax: +254-20-4444030, Nairobi, KENYA Email: oniango@iconnect.co.ke OR info@ajfand.net www.ajfand.net





Birds' diversity was calculated using the Shannon-Weiner Diversity Index, H

$$H = -\sum_{i=1}^{S} P_i \ln n P_i$$

P_i = Proportion of individual species

S = Total number of species of the community (number of bird seen and heard).

Average bird diversity was calculated by getting a mean of the replicated surveys of bird diversity at each point for mornings and evenings for all sites. One-way ANOVA was used to determine if the differences in mean bird species diversity across sites were significant. A post hoc test was carried out to ascertain the level of variance in bird species diversity at the three sites.

The means of vegetation variables were calculated. Pearson's correlation was used to determine if there were significant associations between habitat variables and mean bird diversity. Using the bird diversity as the dependent variable, the Generalized Linear Model (GLM) was used to test if vegetation variables had any relationship with bird diversity.

Model equation is given as:

 $Y=b_0 + b_1 x$ Where Y= dependent variable $b_0=$ corrected R^2 , $b_1=$ independent variables and x =error

RESULTS

Species Diversity

The results of this study showed that bird species diversity was normally distributed at all the sites (Table 2). A one-way ANOVA showed that bird diversity varied significantly (P<0.05) between the three sites. Site 2 (Maram) had the highest diversity (2.74) compared to site 1 (Gastu) (1.84) and site 3 (Oxbow) (1.62). Thus, site 2 had the highest diversity as indicated in Figure 2. Birds were more easily sighted and species easily identified; they were concentrated in the woodland forest ecosystem than in the riparian environment.



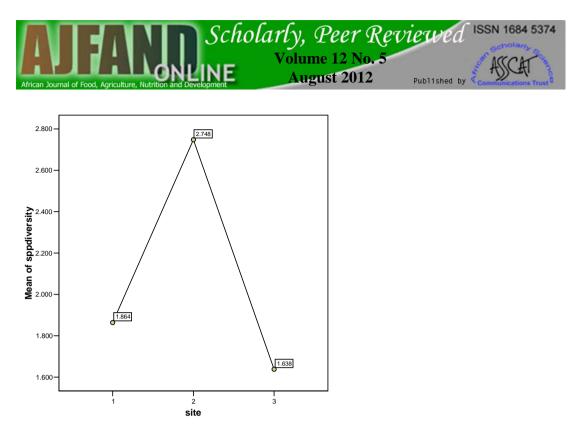


Figure 2: Bird species diversity in each site

Species Richness

Bird species richness in the area was normally distributed among the three sites, (Table 3). There was a significant difference (P<0.05) within species richness at the three sites (Table 4). Site 1 had the highest species richness (16.36) compared to the other two sites 2 and 3 that gave 14.32 and 11.51 respectively.

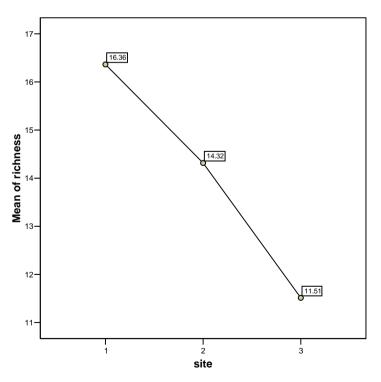


Figure 3: Mean species richness of the three sites

Published by African Scholarly Science Communications Trust Josem Trust Place, Bunyala Road, Upper Hill, Nairobi P.O. Box 29086-00625 Tel: +254-20-2351785 Fax: +254-20-4444030, Nairobi, KENYA Email: oniango@iconnect.co.ke OR info@ajfand.net www.ajfand.net





Figure 3 showed that site 1(Gastu lake) had the highest number of bird species (16.36) as compared to site 2 (Maram lake) (14.32) and site 3(Oxbow lake) (11.51); site 3 had the least number of bird species.

Vegetation Distribution & Species Diversity

There was a significant relationship between vegetation densities and bird species diversity. As tree density increased, diversity of bird species decreasesd (figure 4). At tree density of 1.0 the bird species diversity recorded at evening was above 4,000; at 2.0 tree density the diversity of bird species was 2,500. It was noted that there was more human disturbance (anthropogenic activity) at the forested area of the lakes. Activities like firewood extraction collection, poaching, bush burning and forest fruit gathering were common. Likewise, more birds were recorded at evening time (>4,000 birds) than during the morning time (3,000 birds) within the vegetation area. This indicated greater bird activities at evening time before nest-roosting than early-morning hours' activity.

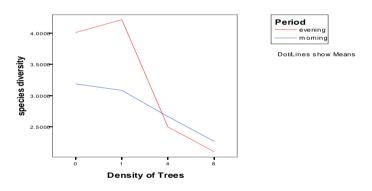


Figure 4: Relationship of tree density and bird species diversity

Checklist of Bird species in Dagona Waterfowl Sanctuary

A total of 135 bird species in 40 families were recorded during the survey (Table 5). Seventy-four percent were found in Gastu Lake, sixty-three percent in Maram Lake and seventy-one percent in Oxbow Lake. More bird species were recorded at disturbed areas (site 1) compared to least disturbed sites (2 and 3).

DISCUSSION

The majority of wetland birds observed during this study were resident species, migratory and palearctic bird species. Some of the palearctic species recorded included the Yellow Wagtail, the Warblers, Northern Shoveler, the Sandpipers and the migrants and residents were also of a considerable number. The species that were winter migrants used the wetlands area for resting and other activities while waiting for favorable condition in their home range. During this time, they store enough fat for the journey back to Europe [10]. Migrant species observed during the study were fairly few, especially the Family *Accipitridae* which were observed to have moved





down South. The period of the study favoured the level of water that is deep enough for wetland birds, especially the water birds to carry out daily activities such as feeding, resting, nesting and predator escape. An important observation is that the bird diversity and abundance (richness) varies across sites and this was influenced by various factors, some of which included: the fact that wetlands provide food for birds in form of plants, vertebrates and invertebrates. Some of them forage for food in wetland soil, some in the water column, and others use the dry landscape, along the streams. They may be affected by quality and quantity of food. Vegetarian birds (follivore) like the White-Faced Whistling duck are likely to be affected by quality of the vegetation as it was observed during this study. Birds that are commonly found at the riparian vegetation need more protein, less of other tannins and poisonous substances which are required by the carnivorous birds such as the herons and the storks. This is because it is the quality of food which is important to the species but not the quantity [11].

The extent to which wetland birds utilize wetland as cover and hiding areas depends and varies among wetland birds; the absence of such hiding cover may result in some species being scarce. Well vegetated wetlands seem attractive to wetland bird species [12].

The absence of a specific and proper nesting site may affect the abundance and diversity of wetland bird species. Ducks nest over the water, while the Spur-winged Goose nests on the sand bars as observed during the study, the Spur-winged Lapwing are on the lake shore as shore feeder. The Jacanas were observed in the vegetated part of the lake at the three sites and so were the lily trotters. The bird species found in wetlands need specific areas to carry out reproductive activities such as roosting and nesting [13].

This study revealed a positive relationship between percentage ground cover, shrub density and tree density to bird recorded. More birds were observed in areas with higher percentage of ground cover (disturbed sites) and shrub density (135 bird species) but fewer birds were observed as tree density increased (71 bird species). This observation indicated that some wetland birds used the trees as roosting site. This was observed with some species such as the Egrets, Ibises, Herons and Storks. These species were found during the survey on the bare ground feeding on the mudflats fish and other vertebrate. Thus, habitat has long been used as a predictor of bird species abundance, and each variety of birds has developed different preferences for habitat [14]. Birds select vegetation variables according to the manner by which an individual habitat affects access to food, mates or its vulnerability to predators [15].

CONCLUSSION

Bird communities are often referred to as an ideal indicator to monitor the ecological condition of any wetlands as they impact on all the trophic levels of an aquatic ecosystem. Dagona Waterfowl Sanctuary is a peculiar example of these bird communities. Aquatic ecosystems have significant impact on migratory birds. Birds carry out diverse ranges of ecological functions among vertebrates. As consumers,





they help regulate populations of smaller animals they prey upon, disperse plant seeds, and pollinate flowering plants. As prey items, birds and bird eggs are consumed by a variety of larger predators. Birds also benefit humans by providing important ecosystem services such as regulating services by scavenging carcasses and waste, by controlling population of invertebrates and vertebrate pests, by pollinating and dispersing the seeds of plants; and supporting services by cycling nutrients. They served as indicators revealing the state of the wetland, as dispersal agents in transferring nutrients and spores from one wetland to another during migration and local movements [16].

Grazing, fishing and logging were the main illegal activities in the Dagona Waterfowl Sanctuary and this might be detrimental to bird species diversity in the long term. Fulani cattle grazers mostly invade the Sanctuary and fell trees to get leaves for their cattle. Several attempts by the authorities to curtail these activities were abortive. Studies have shown that selective logging can affect the diversity of bird species positively [17]. This can be introduced in some parts of the sanctuary that are experiencing fewer disturbances of bird species at sustainable management level.

Bird diversity and abundance are normally distributed among the sites in Dagona Waterfowl Sanctuary and some species are more abundant than others. This is due to the fact that some parts were more disturbed than others as it was observed that Gastu and Oxbow lakes had more disturbance than the Maram lakes. Also, the communities around the Gastu and Oxbow lakes were more than those of Maram, which means reduced human disturbance on the habitat and the bird communities. A check-list of 135 avian composition was generated and it was found that habitat structure affects avian diversity and the species abundance in this study. Therefore, it was recommended that regular monitoring of the site should be carried out so as to control changes in the state of wetland especially on the resident and palearctic species. Thus, protection of this ecosystem (Dagona wetland Sanctuary) will ensure better protection of resource richness (water, soil, animals and plants) and thereby enable future sustainable utilization of the resources. If this ecosystem is under threat by humans and is not properly managed by policy makers, then it will send a serious signal on environmental viability of the region and invariably affect the general ecosystem productivity.





Table 1: One-Sample Kolmogorov Smirnov Test for species diversity of the sites

Site	Morning	Evening				
	Z-sc	ore	Ν		Sig	5.
Gastu	0.6726	0.3680	18	2	0.7562	0.9992
Maram	0.52185	0.5928	10	10	0.8737	0.9482
Oxbow	0.5558	0.9047	33	15	0.9168	0.3862

Table 2: Least Significant Difference for Multiple Comparisons of Species Diversity (Dependent Variable)

		Mean Difference	Std.		95%	Confidence
(I) site	(J) site	(I-J)	Error	Sig.	Interval	
					Lower	Upper
					Bound	Bound
1	2	-0.88419	0.173621	< 0.0001	-1.22711	-0.54128
	3	0.22575	0.135651	0.098056	-0.04217	0.493673
2	1	0.884193	0.173621	< 0.0001	0.541275	1.22711
	3	1.109942	0.155255	3.05E-11	0.803299	1.416585
3	1	-0.22575	0.135651	0.098056	-0.49367	0.042174
	2	-1.10994	0.155255	< 0.0001	-1.41659	-0.8033

Table 3: One-Sample Kolmogorov Smirnov Test for bird species richness in each site

Site	Morning	Evening		
	Z-sc	ore	Ν	Sig.
Gastu	1.049485	0.368049	2 18	0.22 0.99
Maram	0.550998	0.654709	10 10	0.92 0.78
Oxbow	1.869643	0.810866	15 33	0.00 0.53



Table 4: Least Significant Difference for Multiple Comparisons of Species Richness (Dependent Variable)

		Mean	Difference				
(I) site	(J) site	(I-J)		Std. Error	Sig.	95% Confide	nce Interval
						Lower	Upper
						Bound	Bound
1	2	2.04796	9481	2.503185	0.414506	-2.89605	6.99199
	3	4.85070	5329	1.955752	0.014178	0.987916	8.713495
2	1	-2.04796	59481	2.503185	0.414506	-6.99199	2.896051
	3	2.80273	5848	2.238395	0.212377	-1.6183	7.223772
3	1	-4.85070	05329	1.955752	0.014178	-8.71349	-0.98792
	2	-2.80273	35848	2.238395	0.212377	-7.22377	1.6183



Table 5: Checklist of Bird species in Dagona Waterfowl Sanctuary

Family	Scientific name	Common name
1. Accipitridae	Accipiter tachiro	African goshawk
	Circus ranivorus	African marsh harrier
	Accipitridae	Bird of prey
	Elanus caeruleus	Black-shouldered kite
	Melierax metabates	Dark chanting goshawk
	Kaupifalco monogrammicus	Lizard buzzard
	Circus ranivorus	Marsh harrier
	Accipiter ovampensis	Ovambo sparrowhawk
	Circus macrourus	Pallid harrier
	Acccipiter badius	Shikra
2. Alcedinidae	Ceyx lecontei	African dwarf kingfisher
	Halcyon leucocephala	Grey-headed kingfisher
	Ceryle rudis	Pied kingfisher
3. Ardeidae	Egretta ardesiaca	Black heron
	Bubulcus ibis	Cattle egret
	Egretta alba	Great egret
	Ardea cinerea	Grey heron
	Egretta intermedia	Intermediate egret
	Egretta garzetta	Little egret
	Egretta garzetta	Lesser egret
	Ardea purpurea	Purple heron
	Ardeola ralloides	Squacco heron
4. Anatidae	Dendrocygna viduata	White-faced whistling duck
	Anas querquedula	Garganey
	Sarkidiornis melanotos	Knob-billed duck
	Anas clypeata	Northern shoveler
	Plectropterus gambensis	Spur-winged goose



Scholarly, Peer Reviewed Volume 12 No. 5 August 2012 Published by August 2012

Published by

ISSN 1684 5374

ASSCAT

Family	Scientific name	Common name
5. Alaudidae	Galerida modesta	Sun lark
	Eremopterix nigriceps	Black-crowned sparrow lark
	Eremopterix leucotis	Chestnut-backed sparrow lark
	Galerida cristata	Crested lark
6. Bucerotidae	Tokus camurus	Red-billed hornbill
	Tokus nasutus	African grey hornbill
7. Columbidae	Streptopelia hypopyrrha	African collared dove
	Streptopelia decipiens	African mourning dove
	Turtur abyssinicus	Black-billed wood dove
	Streptopelia spp	Dove
	Streptopelia sensgalensis	Laughing dove
	Oena capensis	Namaqua dove
	Streptopelia vinacea	Vinaceous dove
	Streptopelia semitorquata	Red-eyed dove
	Columba guinea	Speckled pigeon
8. Ciconiidae	Anastomus lamelligerus	African openbill stork
	Ciconia nigra	Black stork
	Leptoptilos crumeniferus	Marabou stork
	Anastomus lamelligerus	Open-bill stork
9. Collidae	Urocolius macrourus	Blue-naped mousebird
10. Corvidae	Corvus albus	Pied crow
11. Coraciidae	Coracias abbyssinicus	Abyssian rollerS
12. Capitonidae	Pogoniulus scolopaceus	Yellow-fronted tinkerbird
	Lybius vieilloti	Veillot barbet
13. Charadriidae	Charadrius marginatus	White-fronted plover
	Vanellus spinosus	Spur-winged lapwing
14. Cuculidae	Centropus sensgalensis	Senegal coucal

Published by African Scholarly Science Communications Trust Josem Trust Place, Bunyala Road, Upper Hill, Nairobi P.O. Box 29086-00625 Tel: +254-20-2351785 Fax: +254-20-4444030, Nairobi, KENYA Email: oniango@iconnect.co.ke OR info@ajfand.net www.ajfand.net



Scholarly, Peer Reviewed Volume 12 No. 5 August 2012 Published by August 2012

Published by

ISSN 1684 5374

ASSCAT

Family	Scientific name	Common name		
15. Estrildidae	Euodice cantans	African silverbill		
	Estrilda troglodytes	Black rumped waxbill		
	Amadina fasciatus	Cut-throat		
	Lagonosticta Senegal	Red-billed firefinch		
	Estrilda troglodytes	Black-rumped waxbill		
	Uraeginthus bengalus	Red-cheeked cordon bleu		
	Serinus leucopygius	White rumped seedeater		
16. Falconidae	Falco ardosiaceus	Grey kestrel		
17. Jacanidae	Actophilornis Africana	African jacana		
	Microparra capensis	Lesser jacana		
18. Laniidae	Lanius meridionalis	Southern grey Shrike		
19. Malaconotidae	Laniaruus barbarous	Yellow-crowned gonolek		
20. Motacillidae	Motacilla flava	Yellow wagtail		
	Motacilla flava	Common wagtail		
21. Meropidae	Merops pusillus	Little bee-eater		
	Merops orientalis	Little green bee-eater		
22. Musophagidae	Crinifer piscator	Western grey plantain-eater		
	Crinifer piscator	Plantain eater		
23. Nectariniidae	Cinnyris pulchellus	Beautiful sunbird		
	Hedydipna platura	Pygmy sunbird		
24. Ploceidae	Ploceus spp	Weavers		
	Bubalornis albirostris	Buffalo weaver		
	Plcepasser superciliosus	Chestut-crowned sparrow weaver		
	Anomalospiza imberbis	Cuckoo finch		
	Quelea quelea	Red-billed quelea		
	Ploceidae	Bishop		
	Ploceus luteolus	Little weaver		
	Anaplectes rubriceps	Red-headed quelea		
	Ploceus cucullatus	Village weavers		
	Sporopipes frontalis	Speckle-fronted weaver		



Scholarly, Peer Reviewed Volume 12 No.5 August 2012 Published by August 2012

Published by

ISSN 1684 5374

Family	Scientific name	Common name
25. Passeridae	Passer luteus	Sudan golden sparrow
	Petronia dentate	Bush petronia
	Passer griseus	Northern grey-headed sparrow
26. Phasianidae	Ptilopachus petroosus	Stone partridge
	Francolinus clappertoni	Clapperton's francolin
27. Phalacrocoracidae	Phalacrocorax africanus	Long-tailed comorant
28. Picidae	Dendropicos goertae	Grey woodpecker
29. Psittacidae	Psittacula krameri	Rose-ringed parakeet
	Poicephalus sensgalus	Senegal parrot
30. Phoeniculidae	Phoeniculus purpureus	Green woodhoopoe
31. Pycnonotidae	Pycnonotus barbatus	Common bulbul
32. Recurvirostridae	Himantopus himantopus	Black-winged stilt
33. Sturnidae	Lamprotornis pulcher	Chestnut-bellied starling
	Lamprotornis purpureus	Purple glossy starling
	Lamprotornis caudatus	Long-tailed starling
34. Scolopacidae	Actitis hypoleucos	Common sandpiper
	Calidris minuta	Little stint
	Philomachus pugnax	Ruff
	Tringa glareola	Wood sandpiper
35. Sylviidae	Sylvia communis	Common whitethroat
	Sylvia curruca	Lesser whitethroat
	Hippolias polyglotta	Melodious warbler
	Sylvietta brachyuran	Northern combrec
	Hippolais spp	Sedge wabler
	Acrocephalus schoenobaenus	Tawny-flanked prinia
	Prinia subflava	Warbler
	Sylvia spp	Willow warbler
36. Threskiornithidae	Plegadis falcinellus	Gossy ibis
	Threskiornis aethiopica	Sacred ibis





Family	Scientific name	Common name
37. Timaliidae	Turdoides plebejus	Brown babblers
38. Turdidae	Cercotrichas podobe	Black scrub robin
	Myrmecocichla aethiops	Northern anteater chat
39. Upupidae	Upupa epops	Ноорое
40. Viduidae	Vidua macroura	Pin-tailed whydah
	Vidua orientalis	Sahel paradise whydah
	Vidua chalybeate	Village indigobird
	Euplectes spp	Widow bird





REFERENCES

- 1. **Ramsar Convention Bureau**: Background papers on Wetland values and Function. Gland, Switzerland: Ramsar convention Bureau, <u>http://www.ramsar.org/info/values</u>, 2000. (accessed in August 2011).
- 2. **Ramsar Convention Bureau**: *What is Ramsar convention on Wetlands?* Gland, Switzerland: Ramsar Convention Bureau. 2002.
- 3. **Rana SVS** Essentials of ecology and environmental sciences. Chaudhary Charan Singh University, Prentice- Hall of India, New Delhi-110001. 2005.
- 4. **Niemi GJ** Patterns of morphological evolution in bird genera of New World and Old World Peatland. *Ecology* 66, 1215-28. 1985.
- 5. **Ezealor AU** Hadejia-Nguru Wetlands. Critical Sites for Biodiversity Conservation in Nigeria, Nigerian Conservation Foundation, Lagos. pp 66-68. 2002.
- 6. **Ezealor AU** Nigeria: Important Bird Areas in Africa and associated islands: priority sites for Conservation. BirdLife Conservation series No.11. pp 673-682 in L.D.C and M.L. Evans, eds. Newbury, U.K.: Pisces publications. 2001.
- 7. **Bibby CJ, Burgess N and DA Hill** Bird Census Techniques. Academic Press, London. 2000.
- 8. **Borrow N and R Demey** Birds of Western Africa. Christopher Helm, London. 2001.
- 9. **Yallop ML, Connell MJ and R Bullock** Waterbirds Herbivory on a newly created wetland complex: Potential implication for site management and habitat creation. *Wetland ecology and management* 12:395-408. 2003.
- 10. **Manu SA** Effects of habitat fragmentation on the distribution of forest birds in south western Nigeria with particular reference to the Ibadan Malimbes and other Malimbes, PhD thesis. University of Oxford. 2000.
- 11. **Cody ML** An introduction in habitat selection in birds. *In* Habitat selection in birds (Cody ed.) Academic Press Inc. London pp 191-248. 1985.
- 12. Weins JA The Ecology of Bird Communities. Foundations and patterns Cambridge University Press, Cambridge. Vol 1. Cambridge University press. Pp 539. 1997.
- 13. **Hansen AJ, Knight RL and JM Marzluff** Effects of exurban development on biodiversity: patterns, mechanism and research needs. *Ecological Application* vol.15 pp1893-1905. 2005.





- 14. **Huston MA** Biological Diversity. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge. 1994.
- 15. **Manu SA** Effects of habitat fragmentation on the distribution of forest birds in South Western Nigeria with particular reference to the Ibadan Malimbes and other Malimbes, PhD thesis. University of Oxford. 2000.
- Boecklen WJ Conservation status of insects: mass extinction, scientific interest, and statutory protection. *Entomology serving society: emerging technologies and challenges* (ed.by S.B Vinson and R.L Metcalf) pp 40 57. Entomological society of Africa, Lanham, Maryland. 1991.
- 17. **Birdlife International.** Threatened Birds of the World. BirdLife International, Cambridge. 2nd Edition, 2000.