

More photographic evidence of rufous-morph Bright-rumped Attila (*Attila spadiceus*) with striking pale eyes from Peru.

Boano & Janni (2008) present photographs of a single rufous-morph Bright-rumped Attila (*Attila spadiceus*) with strikingly pale eyes from Depto. Loreto, Peru, and further mention similar birds reported elsewhere within the western Amazon basin, including one from Manu, in southeastern Peru by Paul Coopmans. They discuss eye-color in this species to explore the diversity of phenotypes within Bright-rumped Attilas, as well as to clarify identification issues with the similar looking Dull-capped Attila (*A. bolivianus*). Here, I add to their discussion, providing further photographic evidence of pale-eyed rufous-morph Bright-rumped Attila from southeastern Peru.

I conducted research during 2003 and 2004 at the Centro de Investigación y Capacitación Río Los Amigos (CICRA) located between the Río Madre de Dios and Río Los Amigos (12°34'S, 70°05'W) in Depto. Madre de Dios, in southeastern Peru. More details on this site, mist-net effort, and other findings are available in Lebbin (2007). I captured a rufous-morph Bright-rumped Attila on 15 June 2004 in a mist net located within a *Guadua* bamboo patch (near trail Palmeras) at CICRA. This bird was banded, measured (34.75 g, 83 mm wing chord, 70 mm tail), photographed (Fig. 1), and released. I also captured two Dull-capped Attilas in a different *Guadua* bamboo patch at CICRA (trail Primer Mirador) during June and July 2007. The two Dull-capped Attilas measured 49.25 g and 41.5 g. I photographed one of these (Fig. 2).



Fig. 1. Three images of the same individual rufous-morph Bright-rumped Attila on 15 June 2004 near CICRA, showing the pale pink eye, bicolored mandible, uniform rufous upperparts, two buffy wingbars (right), uniform unstreaked creamy belly (left), and bright yellow rump (inset). Photos by DJL.

The rufous-morph Bright-rumped Attila was identified in the field based on plumage coloration that distinguish this species from the similar Dull-capped Attila, including the bright yellow rump contrasting with rufous back and tail, and presence of two wing bars. The wing chord of this Bright-rumped Attila (83 mm) was very similar to that reported (80 mm) by Boano & Janni (2008). Its mass was less than that of the two Dull-capped Attilas captured at CICRA, and two more I captured on 17 October 2004 (46.5 g and 53.5 g each) along the Río Tahuamanu (11°23'S, 69°32'W) in southeastern Peru. The Bright-rumped Attila at CICRA had strikingly pale pink eyes (Fig. 1), different from the pale whitish eyes in Boano & Janni's (2008) photographs; however, both lacked streaks on their underparts.

The photographs published here add to those of Boano & Janni (2008) to increase the evidence of rufous-morph Bright-rumped Attilas with strikingly pale eyes, as well as expand known variation in eye color (pale pink) among such pale-eyed individuals.



Fig. 2. A Dull-capped Attila captured in 2003 at CICRA. Note the more uniform colored bill, dull gray crown feathers, contrasting paler chin, and lack of buffy wingbars compared to the Bright-rumped Attila in Fig. 1. Photo by DJL.

Acknowledgements

I am grateful to El Instituto Nacional de Recursos Naturales (INRENA) for permission to conduct research in Peru, as well as to the Boletín SAO editorial team and Ottavio Janni for their rapid comments on these photos.

Literature Cited

Boano, G. & O. Janni. 2008. Rufous-morph Bright-rumped Attila (*Attila spadiceus*) with white eyes: photographic evidence from Peru. Boletín SAO 18(1): 16-19.

Lebbin, D. J. 2007. Habitat specialization among Amazonian birds: Why are there so many *Guadua* bamboo specialists? Ph.D. dissertation. Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.

Daniel J. Lebbin

Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14850, USA.

E-mail: djl42@cornell.edu