

THE CHARLES-EUGÈNE JEANNERET COLLECTION OF CUBAN BIRDS

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The bird collections of Charles-Eugène Jeanneret are a lost chapter in Cuba's natural history. Jeanneret, born in 1824, was a friend of Juan Cristobal Gundlach and a disciple of Felipe Poëy. Using the taxidermy and collecting skills he

learned from Gundlach, Jeanneret collected Cuban birds in the nineteenth century. He amassed a large collection of Cuban birds, which is housed at the Museum of Natural History, Neuchâtel (Table 1).

TABLE 1. Summary of the specimens of Cuban birds in the Charles-Eugène Jeanneret collection in the Museum of Natural History, Neuchâtel.

| Family | No. of specimens | No. of species | Family | No. of specimens | No. of species |
|------------------|------------------|----------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|
| Pelicanidae | 1 | 1 | Trochilidae | 7 | 2 |
| Anhingidae | 1 | 1 | Trogonidae | 4 | 1 |
| Fregatidae | 2 | 1 | Alcedinidae | 2 | 1 |
| Ardeidae | 3 | 2 | Todidae | 2 | 1 |
| Anatidae | 8 | 6 | Picidae | 11 | 3 |
| Accipitridae | 10 | 7 | Tyrannidae | 5 | 3 |
| Rallidae | 5 | 4 | Hirundinidae | 2 | 1 |
| Jacaniidae | 1 | 1 | Mimidae | 3 | 2 |
| Charadriidae | 4 | 2 | Sylviidae | 2 | 1 |
| Recurvirostridae | 3 | 1 | Bombycillidae | 1 | 1 |
| Scolopacidae | 2 | 2 | Turdidae | 1 | 1 |
| Laridae | 2 | 2 | Vireonidae | 4 | 2 |
| Columbidae | 4 | 2 | Parulidae | 26 | 13 |
| Psittacidae | 2 | 2 | Coerebidae | 1 | 1 |
| Cuculidae | 3 | 2 | Thraupidae | 3 | 1 |
| Strigidae | 3 | 2 | Icteridae | 17 | 5 |
| Caprimulgidae | 2 | 1 | Fringillidae | 11 | 4 |

For each specimen in the collection we have extracted information on gender and age, as well as bill, wing, tarsus, and tail measurements. In addition, Jeanneret's notes on some

species are available. We are in the process of developing a more detailed description of the Jeanneret collection.

TROPICAL ORNITHOLOGY COURSE

The Instituto de Ecología, A. C. Graduate Program and the Departamento de Ecología y Comportamiento Animal at Xalapa, Veracruz, México will be offering its first course in Tropical Ornithology 24 June–28 July 1996. The course is field oriented and will last five weeks (two weeks at Xalapa City and surroundings, and three weeks at La Mancha Field Station, Veracruz). Course objectives include (1) to expose students to avian studies in the tropics, (2) to integrate evolutionary ecology theory with field research, (3) to use ecological criteria in conservation and sustainable

management of natural resources, and (4) the training of young researchers. Participants will be trained to design and execute field research projects. Lectures and seminars will be given by several professors. Course participation is limited to 15 persons and the cost will be \$650.00 USD. For more information, contact Dr. Juan Francisco Ornelas, Departamento de Ecología y Comportamiento Animal, Instituto de Ecología, A. C., Apdo. 63, Xalapa, Veracruz 91000, México. Telephone: 52-28-18-6000; fax: 52-28-7809; e-mail: ornelasj@sun.ieco.conacyt.mx.