

**NEW BIRDS IN THE PHILATELIC AVIARY**  
**Charles E. Braun -BU 1364**

**Correction**

*Biophilately* 52 (4), page 173 had a writeup of Iberomesornis in which its wingspan was given as eight feet. It should have been eight *inches*. The species was very small for a fossil bird. This subclass (Enantiornithes) contained the most species and was the most diverse of the Cretaceous Period. It was more advanced than *Archaeopteryx*, yet more reptilian than living birds (Subclass Neornithes). There are about 40 known species in seven orders. Iberomesornis is in the Order Iberomesornithiformes. Fossils have been found in North America, South America, Europe, Asia and Australia.

**Ornithological Updates**

*Biophilately* follows the taxonomy in *The Clements Checklist of Birds of the World*, Sixth Edition. Updates since publication that affect bird stamps are reported below:

Bean Goose has been split into Taiga Bean Goose *Anser fabialis* and Tundra Bean-Goose, *Anser serrirostris*.

The correct species name for Black-necked swan is *Cygnus melancoryphus*.

The correct species name for Bonelli's Eagle is *Aquila fasciata*.

The correct species name for Booted Eagle is *Aquila pennata*.

The correct species name for Black-and-white Hawk-Eagle is *Spizaetus melanoleucus*.

The correct species name for Black-and-chestnut Eagle is *Spizaetus isidori*.

The correct English name for *Megapodius pritchardii* is Niuafou Scrubfowl.

The correct species name for Willet is *Tringa semipalmata*.

The correct English name for *Philomachus pugnax* is Ruff.

The correct species name for Belted Kingfisher is *Megaceryle alcyon*.

The correct species name for Ringed Kingfisher is *Megaceryle torquata*.

The correct name of the new family is Sapayoidae.

Kauai Oo and Bishop's Oo are now considered extinct.

The correct species name for Bay-winged Cowbird is *Agelaioides badius*.

Houbara Bustard has been split into Houbara Bustard, *Chlamydotis undulata* and Macqueen's Bustard, *Chlamydotis macqueenii*. Houbara Bustard first appeared on 1961 issues from Spanish Sahara (HB 106, page 74) and also on issues from Libya 1965, Tunisia 1965 and 1995, Morocco 1970 and 2005 and Algeria 1982. MacQueen's Bustard first appeared on Israel 1963 and later on Jordan 1968, Fujeira 1969, Kuwait 1973, Yemen PDR 1988, Bahrein 1990, Pakistan 1991, Saudi Arabia 1992, 1993 and 1994, Yemen Republic 1996, Tajikistan 1996, Pakistan 2001 and Israel 2007.



**HOUBARA BUSTARD**, *Chlamydotis undulata* Otididae  
Libya, 1965, 272, 20 mills

Length: 26 to 30 inches, sexes similar but the female is smaller and has fewer neck plumes, resident. Sandy above and white below with black neck plumes and a white crown.

Habitat: arid regions.

Range: Canary Islands to Egypt.

Reference: del Hoyo, J., A. Elliott and J. Sargatal, Eds. Handbook of the Birds of the World, Volume 3.



**MACQUEEN'S BUSTARD**, *Chlamydotis macqueenii* Otididae  
Jordan, 1968, 558, 50 fils

Length: 26 to 30 inches, sexes similar but the female is smaller and has fewer neck plumes, migratory. Sandy above and white below with black neck plumes and a black-and-white crown.

Habitat: arid regions.

Range: Breeds from eastern Egypt to northern China; winters in China and from Arabia to Pakistan.

Reference: del Hoyo, J., A. Elliott and J. Sargatal, Eds. Handbook of the Birds of the World, Volume 3.

### Asian Scops-Owls

In recent years, ornithologists have been splitting and resplitting the scops-owls, adding fifteen "new" species. Most of the confusion has been in Asian species, although New World species haven't been immune; all New World species are now in the genus *Megascops*. The following should clear up some of the questions concerning Asian species.

Indian Scops-Owl, *Otus bakkamoena* - Only on Tanzania, 1999, 1912c, 250 shillings, This is on a Birds of Japan sheet, and this species doesn't occur there. Apparently the illustrator copied an illustration of a rufous-phase Indian Scops-Owl before the Japanese Scops-Owl was split off.

Collared Scops-Owl, *Otus lettia* - On Laos, 1999, 1600k and Hong Kong 2006 issues.

Sunda Scops-Owl, *Otus lempiji* - Only on Singapore 35 cents aerogramme.

Japanese Scops-Owl, *Otus semitorques* - Probably on Japan, 1973, 1148, 20 yen. It *could* be an Oriental Scops-Owl which is a summer visitor to Japan, but the Japanese Scops-Owl is a permanent resident (This is the species I saw when I birded Japan in the summer). They can be told apart by size and feathering on the toes, neither indicated on the stamp. It is listed as *Otus scops* in Handbook 106.

Oriental Scops-Owl, *Otus sunia* - On many issues, the earliest issue is North Korea, 1961, 5c (*Otus scops* in Handbook 106), but also on Antigua & Barbuda, 1989, \$4, Macao 1993, 3p, South Korea, 1994, 90 won and Central African Republic 1997, 430 francs.



**INDIAN SCOPS-OWL, *Otus bakkamoena*** Strigidae  
Tanzania, 1999, 1912c 250 shillings

Length: 8 inches, sexes alike, resident. Gray-brown or rufous, mottled above and streaky below with prominent ear-tufts.

Habitat: forest.

Range: Southeastern Iran to Nepal and Sri Lanka.

Reference: del Hoyo, J., A. Elliott and J. Sargatal, Eds. Handbook of the Birds of the World, Volume 5.

**COLLARED SCOPS-OWL, *Otus lettia*** Strigidae  
Laos, 1999, 1600k

Length: 10 inches, sexes alike, resident, but northernmost birds move south in winter. Gray-brown or rufous above and pale below with black streaks with buff eyebrows and a pale collar.

Habitat: forest and scrub. Range: Sakhalin to Thailand and eastern India.

Reference: del Hoyo, J., A. Elliott and J. Sargatal, Eds. Handbook of the Birds of the World, Volume 5.



**SUNDA SCOPS-OWL, *Otus lempiji*** Strigidae  
Singapore, aerogramme, 35 cents

Length: 8 inches, sexes alike, resident. Gray-brown or rufous with a whitish forehead, brows and ear-tufts.

Habitat: trees. Range: Southern Thailand to Bali and Borneo.

Reference: del Hoyo, J., A. Elliott and J. Sargatal, Eds. Handbook of the Birds of the World, Volume 5.



**JAPANESE SCOPS-OWL, *Otus semitorques*** Strigidae  
Japan, 1973, 1140, 20 yen

Length: 10 inches, sexes alike, resident. Gray-brown above with coarse buff and blackish markings and black-streaked grayish-buff below with a speckled gray-brown facial disc.

Habitat: forests, parks and gardens.

Range: Southern Kuriles to Ryukyu Islands.

Reference: del Hoyo, J., A. Elliott and J. Sargatal, Eds. Handbook of the Birds of the World, Volume 5.



**ORIENTAL SCOPS-OWL, *Otus sunia* Strigidae**  
 South Korea, 1994, 1720, 90 won

Length: 8 inches, sexes alike, migratory. Largely unmarked gray-brown or rufous above and paler below with black streaks with yellow eyes.

Habitat: mainly forests.

Range: Breeds from Sakhalin to Sri Lanka and Vietnam; winters from China to Sumatra.

Reference: del Hoyo, J., A. Elliott and J. Sargatal, Eds. Handbook of the Birds of the World, Volume 5.

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