



LONG-TAILED PARADISE-WHYDAH, *Vidua interjecta* Viduidae
Congo (Brazzaville), 1993, 1030, 120 f

Length: 15 to 16 inches, resident. The male (shown on the stamp) is black above and whitish below with a black head and a brownish-red neck and breast; the female (5 inches) is black-streaked light brown above and buff below with a pale superciliary.

Habitat: Woodland, bushes and rocky hillsides.

Range: Senegal to Sudan and northeastern Congo.

Reference: del Hoyo, J., A. Elliott and J. Sargatal, Eds. Handbook of the Birds of the World, Volume 15.

TOGO Fossil Dragonfly

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2019 November 5. (Stamperija TG-190556a&b) (Fossils)

b, 800fr *Misofaeschnidium densum* Hagen Caption: *Meganeura monyi* Aeschnidiidae B



Jose Reis questioned the identification on the stamp and contacted Dr. Gunther Bechly, a specialist in this field.

His reply: Indeed the fossil on this stamp is not a *Meganeura* from the Carboniferous, but a female (see ovipositor) specimen of a much more modern dragonfly (Anisoptera) of the extinct family Aeschnidiidae (not to be confused with the living family Aeshnidae). The fossil is not from Jurassic Solnhofen limestone, but most probably from the Lower Cretaceous of China.

Jose: I compared some photos on the Internet and it seems that it is *Sinaeschnidia* (meaning "Chinese *Aeschnidium*") and is a genus of prehistoric dragonfly, possibly *Sinaeschnidia cancellosa*.

Again from Dr. Bechly: I checked the high resolution photo of this specimen at Wikimedia (https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/25/Mesuropetala_koehlerii_-_Museum_fur_Naturkunde%2C_Berlin_-_DSC09919.JPG).

The dragonfly was incorrectly determined and is definitely NOT a *Mesuropetala muensteri*, but again an Aeschnidiidae cf. *Misofaeschnidium densum* Hagen (http://fossilworks.org/bridge.pl?a=taxonInfo&taxon_no=179601) from the Upper Jurassic Solnhofen limestone in Bavaria (Germany). I attached a photo of this species from another collection for comparison. Unfortunately, fossil dragonflies are very often misdetermined even in museum collections, because the determinations were not made by a specialist on the group.

This is a new Family and genus on stamps.