

authority for saying that the type of the latter is not separable from the Guatemala bird *S. guatemalæ*. There remains *S. cassini*, which Mr. Ridgway considers a very distinct species, the only specimens of which he has seen came from the State of Vera Cruz. One of the types (no. 33556) he has kindly sent us for examination, and in our opinion it does not differ more widely from some specimens of *S. guatemalæ* than they do from one another. But as our series of skins from Vera Cruz is limited to a specimen from Huatusco, and one in hepatic plumage from Jalapa, we do not feel in a position to form a decision on the subject. Whether the acquisition of a good series of specimens will show that two species of this form of *Scops* are found in Vera Cruz, we venture to think very doubtful. In the meantime we append Mr. Ridgway's original description of his *Scops brasiliæ*, *c. cassini* *.

The range of *S. guatemalæ* extends over the hotter parts of Southern Mexico, being found, as already stated, in Vera Cruz; it also occurs on the eastern side of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, in Yucatan, all over Eastern Guatemala, and thence southwards, probably uninterruptedly, through the forest-region to Costa Rica, Panama, and Eastern Ecuador. In Guiana an allied form occurs which we described recently as *Scops roraimæ*, and this is found in company with the true *S. brasiliæ*, the two keeping quite distinct.

7. *Scops brasiliæ*.

Strix brasiliæ, Gm. Syst. Nat. i. p. 289¹.

Scops brasiliæ, ScL. & Salv. P. Z. S. 1868, p. 57²; Sharpe, Cat. Birds Brit. Mus. ii. p. 108³; Ridgw. Pr. U. S. Nat. Mus. i. p. 90⁴.

Supra brunneus, fusco vermiculatus et cervino maculatis, plumis omnibus medialiter nigris: subtus albus, plumis omnibus medialiter cervinis, rhachidibus distincte nigris et fasciis angustis nigris irregularibus distincte notatis; faciei lateribus distincte nigro marginatis. Long tota circa 10·0, alæ 6·7, caudæ 3·5, tarsi 1·25. (Descr. maris ex Roraima, Brit. Guiana. Mus. nostr.)

Hab. COSTA RICA, San José (*Zeledon*).—South America generally, from Colombia to South Brazil and Paraguay².

Our authority for the occurrence of this South-American Scops Owl in our fauna is Mr. Ridgway, who states that he has in the United States National Museum a good series of specimens both from Costa Rica and South America, and that he is unable

* "*Habitat*.—Eastern Mexico (Mirador; Jalapa).

"*Diagnosis*.—Wing, 5·80–6·10; tail, 3·20–3·50; culmen, ·45–·50; tarsus, 1·20; middle toe, ·80.

"*Grey phase: adult*.—Above greyish-brown, finely mottled with lighter and darker shades, the general dusky brownish line interrupted by two conspicuous lighter bands, one across the nape, and another across the occiput, where the pale brownish-buff spots are very large and the darker markings correspondingly reduced in size. Beneath whitish, the feathers with ragged mesial streaks of blackish and transverse vermiculations of the same.

"*Rufous phase: adult*.—Above cinnamon-rufous, with blackish shaft-streaks. Beneath white, with blackish mesial streaks and irregular transverse base of rufous and blackish." (Pr. U. S. Nat. Mus. i. p. 102.)

Mr. Ridgway goes on to compare his specimens with *S. brasiliæ* and *S. atricapillus*.