

viz. *Astur* and *Accipiter*, and they are those which chiefly concern us. But to them we add, with considerable doubt, the genus *Geranospizias*.

The Accipitrinæ generally feed chiefly on other birds and mammals, which they capture and devour fresh, never feeding on carrion or refuse.

ASTUR.

Astur, Lacépède, Mém. de l'Inst. iii. p. 506 (1801) ; Sharpe, Cat. Birds Brit. Mus. i. p. 92.

The only species of true *Astur* which is found within our area is *A. atricapillus* of North America, a near ally of the Old-World *A. palumbarius*, the two birds occupying between them most of the temperate and subarctic regions of the northern hemisphere. The other members of the genus, which are very numerous, some forty species having been described, are denizens of more tropical countries and abound in the islands of the Eastern Archipelago, New Guinea, &c., several also occurring in tropical Africa.

Astur has of late years been merged with *Accipiter* by American writers ; but, apart from the difference of size, it may be distinguished by the stouter tarsi covered with short scutella, and by the shorter and stouter toes, the length of the middle toes of the two forms being in especially strong contrast.

— 1. *Astur atricapillus*.

Falco atricapillus, Wils. Am. Orn. vi. p. 80, t. 52. f. 3¹ ; Wagl. Isis, 1831, p. 517².

Astur atricapillus, Bp., Sharpe, Cat. Birds Brit. Mus. i. p. 97³ ; Coues, Birds of the N.-West, p. 338⁴.

Accipiter atricapillus, Fisher, Bull. U. S. Dep. Agr. no. 3, p. 43, t. 6⁵.

Astur palumbarius, var. *atricapillus*, Ridgw. in Baird, Brew., & Ridgw. N. Am. Birds, iii. p. 237⁶.

Astur palumbarius, var. *striatulus*, Ridgw. in Baird, Brew., & Ridgw. N. Am. Birds, iii. p. 240⁷.

Accipiter atricapillus striatulus, Ridgw. Pr. U. S. Nat. Mus. viii. p. 355⁸ ; Bendire, Life Hist. N. Am. Birds, i. p. 199, t. 6. f. 2⁹.

Supra cærulescenti-cinereus, pileo toto nigricante, plumis omnibus ad basin albis ; loris et superciliis albis, nigricante variegatis : subtus griseo-albus, undique griseo transversim irroratus ; rachidibus plumarum omnibus nigris in pectore latioribus ; remigibus nigricantibus, fasciis griseo variegatis ; subalaribus albis, griseo frequenter transfasciatis ; cauda griseo-fusca, fasciis pallidioribus variegatis transfasciata : rostro nigricante, cera et pedibus flavis. Long. tota circa 20·0, alæ 13·5, caudæ 10·0, tarsi 3·0. (Descr. maris ex Sonora, Mexico. Mus. nostr.)

Juv. Supra nigricanti-fuscus, plumis omnibus fulvo limbatis : subtus cervino-albus, plumis omnibus medialiter fuscis ; cauda nigricanti-fusca, apice albicante, fasciis griseis quatuor notata. (Descr. feminae juv. ex Sierra de Nayarit, Jalisco, Mexico. Mus. nostr.)

Hab. NORTH AMERICA generally^{6 7}.—MEXICO (*Wagler*²), Yecæra in Sonora (*W. Lloyd*), Sierra de Nayarit, 8000 feet (*W. B. Richardson*).

The American Goshawk has been divided into two races, now called *Accipiter atricapillus* and *A. a. striatulus*^{7 8}, the latter being the western form. We have examined a fair series of both birds in the British Museum, but fail to appreciate