

First record of Glittering-bellied Emerald *Chlorostilbon aureoventris* for Peru

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Se describe el primer registro confirmado de *Chlorostilbon aureoventris* para el Perú. Muchos avistamientos de un ejemplar hembra fueron hechos en el Amazonia Lodge (12°52'S 71°22'O) en la Reserva de la Biosfera del Manu, a 500 msnm. Estas observaciones representan una extensión considerable en cuanto al rango de distribución de la especie.

Glittering-bellied Emerald *Chlorostilbon aureoventris* is a widespread Neotropical hummingbird, ranging from the eastern Andes of Bolivia to Paraguay and northern Argentina (nominote *aureoventris*), eastern to south-west Brazil (race *pucherani*) and from southernmost Brazil (in Rio Grande do Sul) to Uruguay and north-east Argentina (race *berlepschi*)^{1,4,5}. The species inhabits a wide variety of habitats including semi-arid to moderately humid scrub, savanna, grassland and forest edges, as well as parks and gardens, in the tropical and subtropical zones, from sea level to 3,500 m^{2,4}. In most of its range, the species is apparently sedentary, although movements may occur to an unknown extent, e.g., in Bolivia, where it is apparently an austral migrant³. Here I report the first record for Peru, from Amazonia Lodge, in Manu Biosphere Reserve, dpto. Madre de Dios, which is documented photographically and is c.780 km from Tunary National Park (17°15'S 66°23'W), in Cochabamba, Bolivia, the nearest known site for the species.

Observations

Amazonia Lodge (12°52'S 71°22'W) lies between the rio Alto Madre de Dios and the Piñi Piñi ridge, at km 192 on the Cusco–Shintuya road and within

Manu Biosphere Reserve; the altitude is 500 m. The lodge garden is surrounded by a mature secondary forest and *várzea*. Thirty-six species of hummingbirds have been recorded at the lodge (www.amazonialodge.com/birds.html).

On 19 June 2007, at 10h30, in the garden of the lodge I spotted a unfamiliar hummingbird feeding at verbena flowers (*Stachytarpheta cayennensis*: Verbenaceae). The following field marks were noted: size approximately as male Golden-tailed Sapphire *Chrysoronia oenone*; bill basally reddish, becoming dark brown distally; forehead, crown and



Figures 1–3. Glittering-bellied Emerald *Chlorostilbon aureoventris*, Amazonia Lodge, Manu Biosphere Reserve, Madre de Dios, Peru, 19 June 2007 (Virgilio Yábar Calderón)

upperparts slightly golden-green; bright white ear-coverts and blackish-grey cheeks; uppertail-coverts grass green; underparts whitish, becoming grey on the breast and belly, with some green spots on the flanks; tail slightly forked, the rectrices basally green and distally blue, with pale grey tips, all of which features are visible in Figs. 1–3.

Similar species that occur in the area include Blue-tailed Emerald *Chlorostilbon mellisugus*, of which the female is smaller with a short black bill and short blue tail, whilst some subspecies not present in Peru possess a partially red bill or red lower mandible, and longer tail fork, but all these forms have blue tails^{1,4}. Female Violet-headed Hummingbird *Klais guimeti pallidiventris* has a blue crown and short black bill^{4,6}. However, the observed characters and size indicate that the bird in question was a female or subadult male of the nominate race of Glittering-bellied Emerald *Chlorostilbon a. aureoventris*.

The bird only visited verbena flowers. Sometimes other trochilids, such as Golden-tailed Sapphire and Blue-tailed Emerald attempted to chase it, unsuccessfully. The bird remained in the area until the evening of 1 July 2007, during which period I obtained many photographs and video to document the record.

Discussion

This is the first record of Glittering-bellied Emerald for Peru. The nearest known sites for the species are in Bolivia, in Tunary National Park (17°20'S 66°18'W; 2,200–4,400 m), Amoro National Park (17°43'–17°55'S 60°39'–64°04'W; 300–3,200 m), Sama Ridge Biological Reserve (21°15'–21°50'S 64°50'–65°52'W; 1,900–4,700 m), and Toro Toro National Park (18°07'S 65°46'W; 1,900–3,600m); see www.fundesnap.org/fundesnap/sistema_nal_de_areas_protegidas_es.html. The bird clearly resembled *C. a. aureoventris*, which race occurs in Bolivia, Paraguay and Mato Grosso, Brazil. Manu Biosphere Reserve, including Amazonia Lodge, is one of the best-studied sites in western South America. The single observation suggests the species is only a vagrant or accidental visitor to

Peru. Other southern birds recently recorded at Manu include White-browed Blackbird *Sturnella superciliaris* and the *boliviana* subspecies of Burrowing Owl *Athene cunicularia* (see messages to the Birdingperu Yahoo group).

2007 was colder than usual in south-west Peru and Bolivia, and in June 2–3 cold fronts from the south reached the Manu area. Variations in the anticyclonic circulation system and wind variations in the Pacific Ocean in June 2007 led to these colder conditions in Bolivia and southern Peru (www.senamhi.gob.pe/pdf/enfen/inf_tec_jun07.pdf), and might have been responsible for the appearance of this hummingbird at Manu.

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