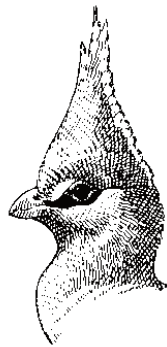
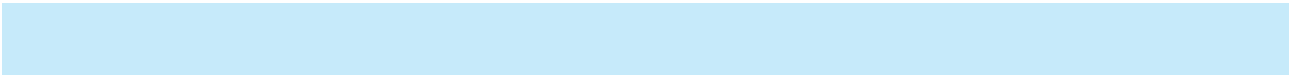


Ornithological expedition to Togo 2010-2011

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by Françoise Dowsett-Lemaire & Robert J. Dowsett

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In 2010-2011 we spent five weeks exploring various parts of the country. Our main interest was to see what was left of the forest remnants of the western highlands (or “Togo Plateau”) and its avifauna. Cheke & Walsh (1996) illustrated extensive deforestation taking place on the plateau in the late 1980s, but no-one has described the state of affairs since these authors last visited the country in 1990. Bird-wise they reported a number of species which we were unable to find on the Ghana side close to the border (an area surveyed several times from 2004-2011), and we were especially keen to look for them in Togo. The results are given in Part one. Part two deals with a short visit to the lower Mono River. Part three, written in French for the benefit of the Park’s staff, presents an annotated checklist of the birds of the Parc National de la Kéran, based on personal observations from two visits and on the literature. We are grateful to Johannes and Sharon Merz for sending us some of their records from the Kéran and from Dzogbégan (Danyi Plateau).

Part 1 A visit to the high plateau of western Togo, February 2010, March-May 2011

Apart from four days spent at Klouto in 2010, our main visit was in 2011, when we entered the country at the northern border post of Sansanné-Mango. After spending a couple of days in Kéran N.P. (cf. Part three), we drove south to Sokodé on 16 March (“La Bonne Auberge” on the main road is excellent value, for both accommodation and food). We spent three weeks birding on the plateau, in and around Assoukoko forest and in the Badou area before driving on to Bénin (Tohoun border post) on the 4th of April. We returned at the end of April to visit the Danyi Plateau in early May. Most of our locations were chosen in relation to those cited frequently in Cheke & Walsh (1996). Priority was given to Assoukoko forest, as it was obvious from satellite pictures (Google Earth) that this is where the largest area of rain forest remains in Togo. Coordinates are given for our main stop-overs. Other localities cited can be found in the gazetteer of Cheke & Walsh (1996) and on the IGN map (1: 500.000). Fig. 1 shows the main locations and rivers cited and indicates the position of the Assoukoko forest and its extensions.

One botanical paper resulting from a PhD thesis (Akpagana 1992) describes a number of forest patches on the plateau, from the edge of Assoukoko forest south to Klouto and Mont Agou.

1. Location and vegetation of the “Togo Plateau”

From about 6°50’N to 8°30’N the border between Togo and Ghana follows to a large extent the watershed between the western scarp and the high plateau of western Togo. In places, narrow river valleys form the border (e.g. the Wawa river north of Badou, the Koué river in the north of Kyabobo National Park), between hill ranges. The high “Togo Plateau” (= “Monts Togo”) is broadest at the level of Badou, being about 60 km wide between Badou through Kougnohou and the scarp east of Ounabé (west of Atakpamé). To the south the highlands narrow down on the Danyi Plateau to a width of 15 km at the level of Adéta and 10 km at the level of Klouto, to peter down to a narrow hill range into Ghana at Amedzofe, with a thin, parallel range to the east almost all the way down to the town of Ho. North of the road Badou-Atakpamé, the plateau remains rather broad and narrows down suddenly at the latitude of Wadanyi (25 km at 7°50’N). To the north, a couple of north-south parallel hill ranges enclose the

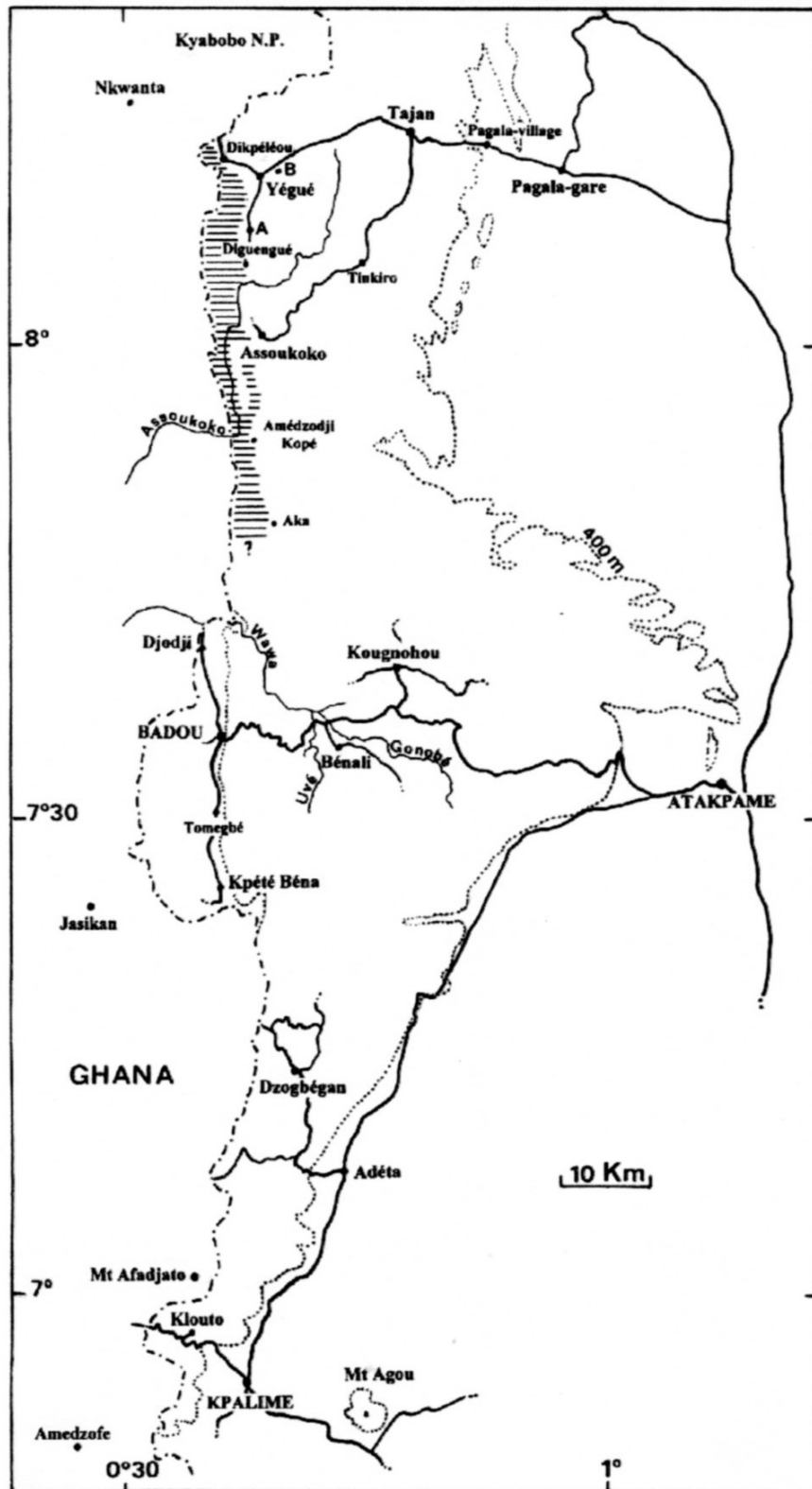


Figure 1. Map of the Togo Plateau, with main locations and rivers mentioned in the text. The Assoukoko forest is shown with horizontal hatching (Forêt Classée as well as extensions towards Dikpéléou and Aka).

A = Aboussoum Kopé; B = old Bismarckburg.

Assoukoko forest, at best 5 km wide, north to Yégué.

Most of this vast area is in fact steeply undulating, and forest was the dominant vegetation in gullies and on hill slopes, with transition or ordinary woodland or pebbly grassland on the highest ridges. Peaks are around 750-950 m. The Badou area was probably the most forested in the past. From Kougnohou eastwards savanna vegetation becomes gradually dominant over forest. East of Assoukoko forest, woodland is widespread and there are still some big hills covered in transition woodland (such as “Nyangpong” east of Tinkiro). To the north of the Yégué to Pagala road, the Tchountchoun Mountains form a block of transition woodland and dry forest just to the south of the Fazao Mountains.

The vegetation on the Tchountchoun Mts and in Fazao N.P. is still largely intact, although there is some encroachment in the south-east of the park (pers. comm. by the park’s staff at Sokodé), but on the main high plateau defined above the landscape has been modified by man beyond recognition. Hill slopes have been cultivated almost everywhere, often on gradients so steep that landslides are frequent and the only vegetation growing back may consist of just bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*. The forest cannot come back. The lack of terracing, in fact of any attempt at conserving soils, is mind-boggling. A large part of the wettest plateau, north and south of Badou, has been devoted to cocoa plantations; these are grown under scattered tall trees (the more valuable timber trees have been taken out), so at least some open forest canopy remains. There are almost no forest reserves. In the south the “Forêt Classée de Misahöhe” near Klouto has been destroyed in part. Nothing has been put aside in the Badou area: even the “Forêt des deux Béna”, at Akloa waterfalls, a tourist spot, has been destroyed. To the north, the “Forêt Classée d’Assoukoko” remains the most important block of nearly intact forest anywhere. The boundaries were officially re-aligned in 2003, and the reserve extends from Amézodji Kopé north to Aboussoum Kopé. It is 25 km north-south and 2-2.5 km wide on average, thus covering *c.* 60 km². There is more forest to the north, from Aboussoum Kopé to Yégué and Dikpéléou, on the Ghana border; similarly there is some forest to the south as far as Aka and Yala, but it is largely cultivated underneath with coffee. Forest staff at Kougnohou informed us that this block was protected for the moment by the Chef de canton in the area, but the future is uncertain. Assoukoko itself is about 90% intact: there is a number of very small farms inside, but some moved out after the reserve was officially designated. There is local interest in the forest *per se* especially in Assoukoko village, where the village committee is keen to get financing for a rest house in order to attract ecotourists.

2. Itinerary and site description (roughly from north to south)

Before visiting the Assoukoko forest, we called at the Forestry office at Sokodé (18 March). The official there phoned his junior staff at Blitta, who himself phoned the “poste forestier” at Tajan (Kidjan on the IGN map). Once we reached Tajan, the chef de poste (Mr Bali) was very helpful and accompanied us to our various destinations in turn to introduce us to the village chiefs. Although this was the recommended mode of action, it was not absolutely necessary to work via Forestry; as long as village chiefs were informed of our intention, there was never any problem locally. On our way to Dikpéléou we crossed the old Bismarckburg locality, a German collecting site, where Büttner operated in 1890-91. It is a site now called Konkoa, near Katchenké, *c.* 2 km east of Yégué (letter B in Fig 1).

On the way out of Assoukoko we stopped briefly at Tinkiro (as this was a locality in Cheke & Walsh) and at another similar patch in the next village; the area east of Assoukoko is dominated by savanna woodland, including around the Bismarckburg area (the forest is confined to the valley bottom around a stream). While at Atakpamé (27/28 March) we contacted the local Forestry official. This was a bit of a waste, as the staff at the Post of Badou was much less keen to accompany us than at Tajan. One guard came with us to Djodji for an hour or so.

2.1. Dikpéléou (north of Assoukoko forest): 8°13’N, 0°37’E, 770 m. The coordinates are of our camp site, 2 km beyond the village, right on the Ghana border at the end of the small paved road. We spent two nights there (18 to 20 March 2011) on the ridge, a very quiet spot. A small path goes north into Ghana towards Killinga (near Kyabobo N.P.), mainly through gardens and transition woodland. Another path goes west and down into a forested valley (with stream) to a small cocoa farm. We explored this path on two mornings, and the ridge in the afternoon (farnbush, thickets, degraded forest and a very small bit of woodland). Between the border and the village there is another path crossing the forested hills all the way to Nkwanta in Ghana; it looks worth exploring for those

with more time and energy (FDL was just recovering from malaria). There was a big storm on the afternoon of the 18th and 19th.

2.2. Diguengué (Assoukoko forest): 8°04'N, 0°38'E, 440 m. We camped 1 km south of the village, at the end of the road, near a stream, from 20-23 March. But the villagers are in the process of building a road to liaise with Assoukoko. There is some degraded tall forest right by the road, between the village and the stream, and a clear path leads from the village westwards towards Ghana. This goes up a first range of hills (reaching the alt. of 750 m) and the forest starts on the ridge, then the path goes down into the big forest, with the Boa stream flowing south. We did not cross it, but one can continue westwards and up another range of hills; the Ghana border is on the ridge there (we could see transition woodland on top). To the south of Diguengué it is also possible to walk along the Assoukoko river (with some good forest, albeit of limited extent) for about 1 km. We spent nearly a whole day in the big forest (down to the Boa stream), and the rest of the time around the camp site and the river. RJD started malaria on the 23rd. There was heavy rain on the afternoon of 20 and 21 March.

We employed a guide (Nkiboiri Kwaku Albert) who happened to speak more English than French as he was educated in Ghana.

2.3. Assoukoko: 8°01'N, 0°38'E, 460 m (camp west of village). To reach Assoukoko we drove back to Tajan and then south-west through Tinkiro (also spelt Tentkro (IGN) and Tinchro, but Tinkiro in Cheke & Walsh 1996). Assoukoko is a rather big town (c. 6000 people) and we camped about 2 km west of it, in a cocoa plantation with some forest, from 23-27 March. In front of our camp site there was a clear path crossing the forest towards Ghana. It enters the forest reserve near a small stream (Ngogo) that flows into the Assoukoko river, then crosses the river in a wide open area on a temporary bridge (regularly destroyed by flash floods). There are some small waterfalls just below the crossing ("Chutes Maria" on the IGN map), then the path follows the river in forest for a while before crossing the Boa river and turning north into the big forested valley. This is the most interesting section of the forest (alt. around 300 m), where the *Cercococcyx* cuckoos occur. The path continues uphill into Ghana. FDL visited this area on two mornings (24-25 March), and we both returned to the river on the 26th. We employed a guide (Yao Dankoa), who knows a lot about the wildlife, including birds (some by call). He is very keen to see the forest protected and has often accompanied an ethno-botanist (François Couplan).

2.4. Djodji (= Kessibo-Wawa): 7°41'N, 0°35'30"E, 230 m. We camped on the edge of the village, in a "cocoa forest" (cocoa plantation under forest trees), from 28-30 March. There was heavy rain just before we reached Djodji. Djodji (as in Cheke & Walsh 1996) has been officially renamed Kessibo-Wawa (as on the IGN map), but the local people still call it Djodji. It is 2 km from the Wawa river which forms the boundary with Ghana. We employed a guide (Sédamé Koudjo) who on the first day took us through cocoa forest to a hillside with impenetrable thickets (degraded forest) then on to the Wawa river. We spent the second day in secondary but very tall forest on the way to the Wawa river and along the river (where the forest is being cut in places for gardens on very steep slopes).

2.5. Kpété Béna: 7°26'N, 0°36'E, 280 m. After lunch in Badou (the hotel Abuta produced a very good steak), and a heavy storm (30 March), we proceeded south to Tomegbé, where we considered staying. However, any forest left is rather far from the village, and we were advised instead to continue to Kpété Béna, where we camped just behind the police station (a quiet area), from 30 March to 1 April. The local forest guard (Mr Gnassigbé) was keen to accompany us on walks but, being rather new to the area, he brought along a friend (Paul) who acted as our guide. We spent both mornings walking through extensive cocoa forest (a guide is essential to avoid getting lost) and up a hill (430 m) with fantastic views. The main natural forest left is in the form of small patches along gullies, with thickets. It rained again on the afternoon of 31 March.

Back to Badou (more rain) on 1 April then eastwards on the main road, where we stopped briefly at old Tasso (now Klabé Azafi) on the Uvé (Ové in Cheke & Walsh) stream, the locality where Cheke & Walsh reported an Adamawa Turtle Dove.

2.6. Bénali: 7°35'N, 0°44'E, 540 m. The forest guard posted at Zogbégan (on the Badou road) advised us to visit Bénali rather than Todomé (both localities are in Cheke & Walsh) as there is more forest around Bénali. We camped

next to the local rest house from 1-3 April and employed a guide (Kouglénou Kwami Dieudonné). He took us first to small forest areas along a stream and through farmbrush to the edge of a very big patch (possibly over 1 km²) nearly 2 km south of the village, which is left intact as considered difficult to enter and is also partly sacred (7°34'N, 0°44'E, 560 m). On the second day we also visited forest along the Gonobé river to the east-south-east, at 7°35'N, 0°46'E (570 m). We reached it from the next village south of Bénali. We had rain on the afternoon of 2 April.

2.7. 10 km east of Kougnohou: 7°38'N, 0°51'E, 770 m. The region east of Kougnohou (with very steep hills) is mainly savanna and farms, but there are two big patches of forest respectively 10 and 11 km on the road east to Atakpamé. This is the old German road which has become impassable after about 12 km; bridges are broken (at Klabé Apégamé), the broken tar forming bumps in the middle of the road is also a problem. The locality of Idi-fiou (in Cheke & Walsh) further east on this road may have become inaccessible. We went to the patch 10 km east of Kougnohou because of some interesting species found there by Cheke & Walsh, and it is still largely intact. We camped on the edge of the forest in front of a single farm building (the farmer has cut down some forest for his gardens), on 3/4 April.

We left in mid-morning for Atakpamé and the Bénin border via Notsé.

2.8. Dzogbégan (Danyi): 7°14'N, 0°42'E, 790 m. The best accommodation on the Danyi Plateau is provided by the Monasteries of Benedictines (both the Monks and Nuns offer several rooms for visitors). We stayed at both, from 1-5 May, but the Monks' place is infinitely more interesting as their land has substantial patches of protected forest. The two monasteries are only 1.5 km distant, on either side of Dzogbégan village. The scarp west of Adéta has some extensive forest but it remains largely inaccessible; once on the plateau cultivation of slopes is widespread, and most patches are left in gullies and forest may be rather degraded; some hilltops have rocky woodland. The largest remnants are on two private properties, on the land of the "Conservatoire de Plantes médicinales, JCPMA-COA" and the immediately adjacent Monks' Monastery. The owner of the Conservatoire welcomes visitors and took us around his forest; it is equally easy to walk around the forests on the Monastery's land. Some patches have been enriched with native *Terminalia superba*. We spent most of our time there, but also in farmland near the Nuns', and (on 4 May) around the hills towards the Ghana border (7°15'30"N, 0°40'E, 710 m). There was a violent storm on the night of 3/4 May.

2.9. Klouto (Misahöhe): 6°57'30"N, 0°34'30"E, 630 m. We spent four nights at Campement de Klouto from 20-24 February 2010. The "Mont de Kouto", at 741 m, is a short stroll away. In the immediate vicinity forest patches in gullies are very degraded and cultivation is widespread on the slopes. Ridges near Mont de Klouto have some short woodland. The best forest area close-by is at the foot of the hill leading to the "Château" (now owned by the Presidency). We hired a guide on the first morning to take us to an area with more forest, and this was a good idea; we returned to that same area about an hour's walk away the next day. Official guides have some training, and this one knew quite a few trees (with their scientific names). We also explored what is left of the forest along the road (on foot) between Klouto and Kpalimé (via Agomé Tomwé), and right around the border post. We also spent a little time in Kpalimé, where we had lunch once (Hôtel Royal). In March 2009, we spent a night at that hotel on our way to Ghana. It is recommended for its Austrian cuisine.

3. Forest structure and floristics

All forest on the Togo Plateau is similar to semi-deciduous (or semi-evergreen) rain forest found in adjacent eastern Ghana, it is floristically impoverished and has generally a broken canopy. However, it is wetter in the broader section of the highlands around Badou. Some of it, on hill slopes or thinner soils, suffers from dry-season fires and dominant large trees belong to secondary or pioneer species such as *Ceiba*, *Albizia* spp., *Cola* spp., *Musanga*, *Ricinodendron*, *Sterculia* spp. etc. Because of this broken canopy, the understorey is often very dense, with impenetrable thickets.

Assoukoko forest. Even the most luxuriant section, in the valley north of the Assoukoko river, or along the Boa stream, where the trees reach over 40 m, is dominated by secondary species and the canopy is very open. Common trees in Assoukoko include *Albizia adianthifolia*, *A. glaberrima*, *A. zygia*, *Antiaris toxicaria*, *Canarium*

schweinfurthii, *Ceiba pentandra*, *Cola gigantea*, *Elaeis guineensis*, *Erythrophleum suaveolens*, *Ficus mucoso*, *Milicia excelsa*, *Musanga cecropioides*, *Pentaclethra macrophylla*, *Piptadeniastrum africanum*, *Pycnanthus angolensis*, *Ricinodendron heudelotii* and *Sterculia tragacantha*. On streamsides characteristic species on the Assoukoko river include *Berlinia grandiflora*, *Dialium guineense*, *Erythrophleum suaveolens*, *Ficus vogelii* (a strangler), *Gardenia imperialis* (Boa), *Maranthes kerstingii*, *Pandanus* sp., *Parkia filicoidea*, *Pentadesma butyracea*, *Pterocarpus santalinoides*, *Spondias mombin*, *Synsepalum brevipes*, *Syzygium guineense*, *Vitex doniana*. Native bamboos *Oxytenanthera abyssinica* occur on rocky banks (near Maria falls) and also in transition woodland on slopes. *Raphia* palms are rare or absent (one seen on the Assoukoko near Diguengué) but are said to be more common in riverine forest east of Assoukoko/Diguengué.

The Badou area (Djodji to Kpété Béna, Bénali). This area is wetter, but most of the natural forest has given way to “cocoa forest”, where the most valuable timber has been taken out (*Khaya*, the larger *Milicia*, *Terminalia*, *Triplochiton* and others). The viewpoint from the hill near Kpété Béna allowed wide views of the cocoa forest where the single most numerous canopy tree today is *Ficus mucoso*. It is unlikely this fig was dominant in the original forest. It is, however, good for birds, being full of caterpillars and the fruits are popular with various frugivores. Characteristic large trees in the area include *Albizia adianthifolia*, *A. glaberrima*, *A. zygia*, *Alstonia boonei*, *Antiaris*, *Aubrevillea kerstingii* (fruiting in late March), *Ceiba*, *Cola gigantea*, *Cordia* (probably *C. millenii*), *Ficus macro-sperma* (with enormous pegs on trunk and branches), *F. mucoso*, *Klainedoxa gabonensis*, *Milicia excelsa*, *Musanga*, *Piptadeniastrum africanum*, *Pterygota macrocarpa*, *Pycnanthus angolensis*, *Ricinodendron*, *Spathodea campanulata* (in fruit and leafless late March), *Sterculia tragacantha*, *Terminalia superba*, *Triplochiton scleroxylon*, *Zanthoxylum gillettii*. A common medium-sized *Canthium* (flowering March-April) is *C. vulgare* (= *Psydrax parviflora*). *Elaeis* palms are frequent and also planted. In the deeper soils trees can reach heights of 5060 m (as near Bénali). At Bénali where the altitude is higher, *Polyscias fulva* appears.

The forest along the Wawa river (Djodji) is drier, merging into transition woodland on the slopes on the Ghana side: *Azelia africana*, *Alstonia boonei*, *Berlinia grandiflora*, *Erythrophleum suaveolens*, *Ficus mucoso*, *F. vogelii*, *Manilkara multinervis*, *Pandanus* sp., *Pterocarpus santalinoides*, *Pycnanthus angolensis* and *Vitex doniana* were noted on the riverside, and *Hildegardia barteri* on rocky slopes.

Danyi Plateau to Klouto. At higher altitude the vegetation in this area is distinctive: for instance *Polyscias fulva*, a montane near-endemic, is common. A list of characteristic trees should include: *Albizia adianthifolia* and others, *Alstonia boonei*, *Antiaris*, *Aubrevillea kerstingii*, *Berlinia grandiflora* (common even away from streams on the plateau at Klouto), *Ceiba*, *Dracaena arborea*, *Erythrophleum suaveolens*, *Ficus mucoso*, *Funtumia africana*, *Khaya grandifoliola* (Klouto), *Macaranga hurifolia*, *Maranthes kerstingii* or *glabra* (Dzogbégan), *Milicia excelsa*, *Parkia filicoidea*, *Piptadeniastrum africanum*, *Pycnanthus angolensis*, *Tabernaemontana pachysiphon* and *Triplochiton*. *Pandanus* sp., *Pentadesma butyracea* and *Uapaca guineensis* are also common along streams, as further north. One *Parinari excelsa* was seen at Dzogbégan. *Terminalia superba* is planted widely on the Danyi Plateau but it does not occur naturally above 500 m (Akpagana 1992). The last author has described a forest type dominated by *Parinari excelsa* to the south of Dzogbégan near Ndigbé, alt. 700 m.

4. Annotated bird list

The year is 2011 unless otherwise stated; species in [] were not seen by ourselves but reported by guides or villagers. Some of them, tested with tapes and asked to describe what they saw, gave convincing descriptions.

Dwarf Bittern *Ixobrychus sturmii*. One on a tiny pool on the road leaving Djodji, 30 Mar.

White-crested Tiger Heron *Tigriornis leucolopha*. One seen on the Assoukoko river near Diguengué, 23 Mar.
A new locality.

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*. One on the Danyi Plateau (1 May), said to come to the Assoukoko area in the dry season; had already left by late Mar.

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*. One in flight over cocoa forest, Kpété Béna, 31 Mar.

Hamerkop *Scopus umbretta*. A few on the Assoukoko river in the south, and on an affluent at Diguengué.

European Honey Buzzard *Pernis apivorus*. One near Dikpélou, 19 Mar; two singles near Djodji, 29 Mar. One

above Kpalimé, 23 Feb 2010.

Bat Hawk *Macheiramphus alcinus*. One pair at dusk at Bénali, 1 Apr. Douaud (1956) saw one at dusk at Yégué (*Alauda* 24: 223).

Black-shouldered Kite *Elanus caeruleus*. One near Campement de Klouto, Feb 2010. Also noted by J&S Merz at Dzogbégan (1 Feb 2007).

Yellow-billed/Black Kite *Milvus migrans*. Small numbers around villages on the plateau and Kpalimé to Adéta; none in the Assoukoko area.

Hooded Vulture *Necrosyrtes monachus*. Widespread commensal species: Sokodé, Tajan to Dikpéléou, Badou to Djodji, Kpété Béna, Anié, Atakpamé, Bénali, Dzogbégan, Kpalimé, Klouto.

African Harrier Hawk (Gymnogene) *Polyboroides typus*. Uncommon: Djodji and Dzogbégan. Reported from Kpalimé by W. Plomp (*in litt.*).

Red-thighed Sparrowhawk *Accipiter erythropus*. Pair seen at Kpété Béna and Dzogbégan. Likely occurs in Assoukoko forest as collected at "Bismarckburg". Widespread in the forest zone (Cheke & Walsh 1996).

African Goshawk *Accipiter tachiro*. Common in the forest zone, from Assoukoko to Klouto.

Shikra *Accipiter badius*. In farmbush around villages (even right in the forest zone as at Kpété Béna), and in patches of woodland in the forest/farmbush/savanna mosaic, e.g. Dzogbégan and Klouto.

Grasshopper Buzzard *Butastur rufipennis*. One near Blitta (road to Pagala), 18 Mar.

Lizard Buzzard *Kaupifalco monogrammicus*. Very common in farmbush, forest edges and savanna.

Red-necked Buzzard *Buteo auguralis*. Usually in farmbush or degraded forest: pairs near Diguengué, Djodji, Badou, Bénali (several, very noisy), and near Kougnohou.

Ayres's Hawk Eagle *Hieraaetus pennatus*. One well seen near Djodji on the Wawa river. A new locality.

Cassin's Hawk Eagle *Hieraaetus africanus*. One at Djodji; a pair at Kpété Béna singing high up (13h50) and chasing a third one across the road.

Long-crested Eagle *Lophaetus occipitalis*. One at Bénali, 2 Apr.

[Crowned Eagle *Stephanoaetus coronatus*. Has certainly existed in Assoukoko forest, but testimonies vary as to whether this large eagle is still extant. Villagers at Diguengué thought yes, but Yao Dankoa at Assoukoko thought not. Yao saw one killed in the village about 30 years ago, which had tried to catch a chicken]

Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*. Seen in Tajan (ex-Kidjan) and Badou; also Sokodé and near Sotouboua (local race).

Grey Kestrel *Falco ardosiaecus*. On the Danyi Plateau, between Dzogbégan and the Ghana border.

African Hobby *Falco cuvieri*. Singles at Kpété Béna, Kpalimé and Klouto.

Lanner Falcon *Falco biarmicus*. One pair at Bénali (village) and one at Kougnohou.

Double-spurred Francolin *Francolinus bicalcaratus*. Widespread in fields and farmbush; but not at Kpété Béna (too much cocoa forest?).

Ahanta Francolin *Francolinus achantensis*. Throughout, from Dikpéléou to Klouto, forest and farmbush.

[Latham's Forest Francolin *Francolinus lathamii*. A young male was collected at "Bismarckburg" (Reichenow 1891: 374) meaning perhaps Assoukoko forest, as Bismarckburg itself had little forest, but this is among the specimens of Büttner's that can no longer be traced in Berlin (RJD). It is still known from Assoukoko forest, from Yégué south to Assoukoko, many villagers know this small species and its voice. Presumably we missed it because of its nocturnal calling habits]

Stone Partridge *Ptilopachus petrosus*. On hills outside Assoukoko forest, in (transition) woodland. Also at Djodji and east of Kougnohou.

[Crested Guineafowl *Guttera pucherani*. Well known to villagers from Assoukoko forest, including the southern section (south of Assoukoko). We have no reason to doubt it still exists in the area, and we saw the species in Kyabobo N.P. to the north (Dowsett-Lemaire & Dowsett 2007)]

Nkulengu Rail *Himantornis haematopus*. Heard at night near Assoukoko and Kpété Béna (forested gully). Also well known to our guide at Bénali (often sings in forest on the stream below his house). Yao Dankoa spontaneously produced a good imitation of the duet of this species which he considers common in Assoukoko forest. Our guide at Klouto was also very familiar with this bird. Several new localities for this species, previously known from only one old specimen at Misahöhe.

- White-spotted Flufftail *Sarothrura pulchra*. Very common and heard many times at all forest localities, usually but not always near streams. Since Cheke & Walsh (1996) mentioned only a few specimens for the forest zone, they did not apparently know its voice; the bird Cheke or Walsh thought he flushed in the far north of Togo (Domaine Gravillou near Sansanné-Mango, see Cheke & Walsh 1996) was certainly not that, as there is no suitable habitat for this species (i.e. no forest). Borrow & Demey (2001 and subsequent editions) have plotted this record in all their editions.
- African Finfoot *Podica senegalensis*. Seen in the Assoukoko river near Assoukoko, and also in the Wawa near Djodji.
- Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*. A couple on rocks in the Wawa river near Djodji, 29-30 Mar.
- Western Bronze-naped Pigeon *Columba iriditorques*. Based on singing birds common in Assoukoko forest, fewer Djodji, Bénali, 10-11 km east of Kougnohou; none in cocoa forest around Kpété Béna. Curiously no record on the Danyi Plateau (May) but one singing at Klouto (Feb).
- Laughing Dove *Streptopelia senegalensis*. Absent from villages on the plateau, recorded only from the plain to the east, as along the road from Atakpamé to Kpalimé and at Blitta.
- Red-eyed Dove *Streptopelia semitorquata*. Widespread on the plateau, in open forest, farmbush and transition woodland.
- Blue-spotted Wood Dove *Turtur afer*. Small numbers at forest edges and farmbush, but not singing much in Mar (thus overlooked Djodji and Bénali); sings more in May (Danyi) and Feb (Klouto).
- Tambourine Dove *Turtur tympanistria*. Common in Assoukoko forest, fewer in Badou area (Djodji, not found in cocoa forest at Kpété Béna), Bénali and 10 km east of Kougnohou. Only one singing at Dzogbégan on 2 May (thus nearly silent by May) but singing much at Klouto in Feb. This species tends to stop singing for a couple of months in the early rains.
- African Green Pigeon *Treron calvus*. Widespread, Assoukoko to Klouto.
- Green Turaco *Tauraco persa*. Widespread, all localities.
- Violet Turaco *Musophaga violacea*. Virtually absent from the plateau; heard near Tajan on 18 Mar.
- [Great Blue Turaco *Corythaëola cristata*. Said to survive in Assoukoko forest by several villagers and our guide Yao Dankoa. But likely extinct everywhere else in the area concerned; was collected at Bismarckburg in 1891 and Misahöhe in 1893.]
- Western Grey Plantain-eater *Crinifer piscator*. Observed in transition woodland near Dikpéléou, reappears at Klouto, otherwise absent from the main plateau.
- Levaillant's Cuckoo *Clamator levaillantii*. One seen at forest edges between Klouto and Kpalimé (23 Feb) was probably a migrant, and one singing briefly on 24 Feb near Klouto. But one singing loudly in Assoukoko forest near Dikpéléou (20 Mar) sounded like a local territorial bird. We have a few similar records of very noisy birds in some forests of eastern Ghana where Capuchin Babbler is common: in the absence of *Turdoides* babblers, could the Capuchin be a host for this cuckoo?
- Thick-billed Cuckoo *Pachycoccyx audeberti*. Widespread in the forest zone, in Assoukoko forest, Djodji, Kpété Béna, Bénali, Dzogbégan and Klouto. Usually sings in flight; pairs seen occasionally. Somewhat overlooked by Cheke & Walsh (1996) who gave very few localities in Togo.
- Red-chested Cuckoo *Cuculus solitarius*. A few singing in Assoukoko forest (on the Boa river near Diguengué, and near Assoukoko, 21-25 Mar). Cheke (1982) heard one in the south of Assoukoko forest, 40 km north of Badou, May 1980. Normally very noisy at the start of the rains, but the fact that we heard none in May on the Danyi Plateau suggests it is absent there. Its localized presence in the east of Ghana and in western Togo may be related to the presence of the alethe *Alethe diademata*, a known host. This alethe is locally common in Assoukoko forest.
- Black Cuckoo *Cuculus clamosus*. A few heard in Assoukoko forest (Dikpéléou, Assoukoko) and Bénali. Very common on the Danyi Plateau where sang for hours every day, 1-5 May. Is known from the Klouto area (Cheke & Walsh 1996) but none heard in Feb 2010.
- Common (European Grey) Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*. One on 22 Feb at Klouto. Curiously, Cheke & Walsh (1996) had only autumn records (Oct-Dec).
- Dusky Long-tailed Cuckoo *Cercococcyx mechowi*. A persistent singer in Assoukoko forest north of the Assoukoko river (8°1'N), 24-25 Mar, throughout the morning, and one also singing persistently in the big patch south of

Bénali, 2-3 Apr; both gave short and long songs. Reacted not only to playback of its own song, but to tapes of Olive Long-tailed. The first time FDL played the latter in Assoukoko, the bird (which was singing distantly) flew over the observer, landed nearby and gave the long song. On 25 Mar seemed to interact with a more distant Olive Long-tailed Cuckoo, and indeed all attempts to bring the Olive Long-tailed closer in order to tape it failed, apparently because of the aggressive behaviour of this Dusky Cuckoo. The species was collected both at "Bis-marckburg" and Misahöhe in the past. Given the level of destruction around Klouto/Misahöhe, it probably does not survive there. Both Assoukoko and Bénali are new localities; Cheke/Walsh heard it near Badou in Mar 1990, but there has been a lot of forest destruction around Badou.

Olive Long-tailed Cuckoo *Cercococcyx olivinus*. One bird singing distantly but clearly in Assoukoko forest north of the Assoukoko river (8°1'N) on 25 Mar, giving the three-note descending song. Seemed to be kept at bay by the neighbouring Dusky Long-tailed (see above). Villagers questioned at Diguengué and our guide Yao Dankoa are familiar with the voice of both *Cercococcyx*. Our guide at Bénali also knew both species although we heard only Dusky Long-tailed there. NEW for Togo, but was expected to occur as does so in adjacent eastern Ghana (near Shiare, and Kabo River Forest Reserve).

African Emerald Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx cupreus*. Common in Assoukoko forest; a few elsewhere on the plateau, south to Dzogbégan and Klouto.

Yellow-throated Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx flavigularis*. One calling (two-note whistle) in secondary forest near our camp site at Assoukoko and then flying over, 26 Mar. One giving the full song in the afternoon of 3 Apr, 11 km east of Kougnohou, the last song being tape-recorded. Both are new localities and range extensions, for a species previously known only from two old specimens at Misahöhe and vicinity.

Klaas's Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx klaas*. Widespread in forest and farmbush throughout.

Didric Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx caprius*. Vocal in Mar-May throughout the plateau, around villages (colonies of Village Weavers) and in farmbush and at forest edges. Still silent at Klouto end Feb.

Yellowbill (Green Coucal or Malkoha) *Ceuthmochares aereus*. Forest and thickets in farmbush, throughout.

Black-throated Coucal *Centropus leucogaster*. Very few records in Cheke & Walsh, but this species was found widespread and locally common at all localities from Dikpéléou to Klouto. Its deep song is easily distinguished from that of Senegal Coucal; more care must be taken in respect of Blue-headed Coucal, but the distinctive fast, deep-throated "doucdoucdoucdoucdoucdouc..." eliminates all confusion.

Senegal Coucal *Centropus senegalensis*. Throughout, in dry farmbush and transition woodland.

Blue-headed Coucal *Centropus monachus*. Probably under-recorded (voice intermediate in pitch or timbre between Senegal and Black-throated, but there are some fast songs as in Senegal Coucal), but seen occasionally and found widespread in farmbush from Assoukoko south to Klouto. Appears more common than Black-throated Coucal in the degraded patches around Klouto.

Barn Owl *Tyto alba*. Heard at our camp site near Assoukoko, and at Klouto.

African Scops Owl *Otus senegalensis*. Heard on a hilltop near Dzogbégan, and at Klouto (in short woodland).

Northern White-faced Owl *Ptilopsis leucotis*. Heard at Klouto (road to Mont Klouto) in Feb.

Spotted (Greyish) Eagle Owl *Bubo africanus cinerascens*. Heard and seen near Klouto, on the way to Mont Klouto.

[Fraser's Eagle Owl *Bubo poensis*. This species is known from the forests of eastern Ghana, including Kyabobo N.P. Thus it is not surprising that Yao Dankoa saw one in the middle of Assoukoko forest (8°01'N): this was during the day, when one was mobbed by small birds. A large eagle owl in forest, with barred underparts, and a rattle call. NEW for Togo]

African Barred Owlet *Glaucidium capense*. Heard in cocoa forest at Djodji and Kpété Béna (at our respective camp sites), and Yao Dankoa knows the song and habits of this owlet well from Assoukoko forest. Very widespread on the Ghana side, and more localities should be found in Togo. This bird was identified many years after he heard it by R.A. Cheke from Djodji (Cheke 2008).

African Wood Owl *Strix woodfordii*. Throughout, in forest.

Black-shouldered (Fiery-necked) Nightjar *Caprimulgus pectoralis nigriscapularis*. In eastern Ghana this nightjar stops singing from late Mar or early Apr until mid-July; thus still singing regularly around Klouto in Feb 2010, but very few heard near Assoukoko until 27 Mar and none after that date. Previously known from only two specimens (Cheke & Walsh) and later heard in Fazao N.P. (Radley & Campbell 2008).

- Long-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus climacurus*. One singing on the ridge (in woodland) near Dikpéléou, 18-20 Mar, and one singing in grassland outside forest 10 km east of Kougnohou (4 Apr). Also heard and seen (3-4) at Klouto in Feb on the way to Mont Klouto. Known from the Danyi Plateau (collected Apéryémé by De Roo), but would probably be silent by May.
- Standard-winged Nightjar *Macrodipteryx longipennis*. One male on the road to Mont Klouto, 21 Feb. This is apparently an extension south, as Cheke & Walsh (1996) write that they know of no record south of 7°30'N.
- African Palm Swift *Cypsiurus parvus*. Small numbers locally in villages, from Dikpéléou to Kpété Béna; also at Kpalimé. Often associated with Coconut palms in the forest zone. More common in savanna country (e.g. Sokodé) around *Borassus*.
- Alpine Swift *Tachymarptis melba*. Passage suddenly very noticeable on the ridge near Dikpéléou after the afternoon storm of 19 Mar, dozens flying across to Ghana, in a north-north-west direction. Several seen passing over the ridge towards Ghana west of Diguengué, 21 Mar; one at Yégué on 23 Mar. Several near Badou on 30 Mar, Kpété Béna on 31 Mar and 1 Apr (dozens), and several on 2 Apr at Bénali.
- Mottled Swift *Tachymarptis aequatorialis*. Several passing over the hill above Kpété Béna on 31 Mar and 1 Apr, and at Bénali on 2 Apr. (This was followed by intense passage of larger numbers over south-central Benin in mid-Apr).
- Pallid Swift *Apus pallidus*. Some identified among European Swifts, Kpété Béna, 31 Mar.
- Common (European) Swift *Apus apus*. Some passing over Djodji, Kpété Béna and Bénali, late Mar-early Apr.
- Little Swift *Apus affinis*. Local, around some villages and occasionally wandering over forest, from Dikpéléou to Djodji, Badou, Kpété Béna, Dzogbégan and Kpalimé.
- White-rumped Swift *Apus caffer*. One pair at a culvert on the road just east of Pagala-gare, 27 Mar.
- Narina's Trogon *Apaloderma narina*. Fairly common in Assoukoko forest, singing late Mar in all localities visited there. One singing on the Wawa river near Djodji. These are new localities; there are old and recent records from Misahöhe/Klouto (Cheke & Walsh 1996).
- Shining-blue Kingfisher *Alcedo quadibrachys*. Met with on the Assoukoko river on forested banks near Diguengué and Assoukoko. Also along the Wawa river near Djodji.
- White-bellied Kingfisher *Alcedo leucogaster*. One seen and heard in deep shade on a small stream inside Assoukoko forest (north of Assoukoko river and past the confluence with the Boa stream), 24 Mar. Previously known from only two specimens collected at Ahouè-houè in 1968 (De Roo *et al.* 1969).
- African Pygmy Kingfisher *Ispidina picta*. One at Djodji, one at Kpété Béna, in fields or farmbush. Also at Klouto (thickets). Noted at Dzogbégan by J&S Merz 10 Jun 2004.
- Grey-headed (Chestnut-bellied) Kingfisher *Halcyon leucocephala*. One pair alarm-calling around a nest on stream-bank south of Diguengué 20-22 Mar, apparently at the nestling stage, the habitat being forest and farmbush. One singing on hillside with thickets near Djodji (29 Mar) and another singing on bare hillside on Ghana side, 30 Mar.
- Blue-breasted Kingfisher *Halcyon malimbica*. Throughout, in forest and degraded areas. At Dzogbégan one used to sing on top of the Monastery at dawn.
- Woodland Kingfisher *Halcyon senegalensis*. In open areas such as fields and open cocoa forest, from Djodji and Kpété Béna to Bénali, the Danyi Plateau and Klouto. Probably resident in this area, as in eastern Ghana.
- Striped Kingfisher *Halcyon chelicuti*. In short woodland on the way to Mont Klouto.
- [Giant Kingfisher *Megaceryle maxima*. Well known from the Assoukoko river by Yao Dankoa]
- Little Bee-eater *Merops pusillus*. One pair in tall grass by main road below Klouto.
- White-throated Bee-eater *Merops albicollis*. Widespread in the forest zone, from Dikpéléou to Klouto. Still common early May (Dzogbégan).
- European Bee-eater *Merops apiaster*. Active passage north over Assoukoko forest, Djodji, Kpété Béna late Mar-early Apr. Present at Klouto late Feb.
- Rosy Bee-eater *Merops malimbicus*. Some calling, high over Kpété Béna, on 31 Mar. A new locality and unlikely to occur much further north, as not found north of Amedzofe on the Ghana side.
- Blue-bellied Roller *Coracias cyanogaster*. Largely absent from the plateau, but seen on the plain to the east, as

near Adéta on the road to Kpalimé, and near Blitta. However, J&S Merz saw one in farmland near Dzogbégan, 1 Feb 2007.

Purple (Rufous-crowned) Roller *Coracias naevius*. Absent from the plateau, but seen on the plain to the east, between Adéta and Kpalimé.

Broad-billed Roller *Eurystomus glaucurus*. Widespread in farmbush, open-canopy forest and cocoa forest (from Assoukoko forest to Klouto). Numbers may have increased with deforestation, to the detriment of its congener the Blue-throated Roller.

Blue-throated Roller *Eurystomus gularis*. Widespread in Assoukoko forest and elsewhere (Djodji, Bénali, Kpété Béna), but outnumbered by Broad-billed Rollers in “cocoa forest”; was not located in four days on the Danyi Plateau, nor at Klouto. There are previous records from Misahöhe (Cheke & Walsh) but deforestation and competition with congener pose problems; in the middle of Assoukoko forest both species seemed to interfere with each other, calling and chasing. One occupied nest in a crack in a dead tree (forest gully near Kpété Béna), 1 Apr, with both adults incubating in alternation.

Green Wood Hoopoe *Phoeniculus purpureus*. Met with once in scattered forest trees (wooded grassland) near Dzogbégan, 3 May.

Black Wood Hoopoe (Scimitarbill) *Phoeniculus aterrimus*. One pair in thickets on the ridge near Dikpéléou, and in dry forest on the ridge in Assoukoko forest above Diguengué (playback of the song was used to verify that it was not a Forest Wood Hoopoe instead). Also in a patch of forest near Klouto. Was known from both Bismarckburg and Misahöhe on the basis of old specimens.

White-crested Hornbill *Tropicranus albocristatus*. Met with twice in Assoukoko forest. Our guide from Bénali knew it well too. Was known from Klouto etc. (Cheke & Walsh) but must have decreased considerably in the southern sector of the plateau, following deforestation.

[Black Dwarf Hornbill *Tockus hartlaubi*. It was apparently seen at three locations by Cheke & Walsh: Klouto (Misahöhe), forest patch 10 km east of Kougnohou and forest near the Gonobé river at 7°N. This latitude is incorrect as the Gonobé is a small river flowing well north of 7°30'N (cf. Fig. 1). We visited all sites and failed to find it. We spent 2 hours in the patch east of Kougnohou playing the tape of its song (this species reacts very well to tape playback). We also visited the Gonobé river east of Bénali (where the latitude is more correctly 7°35'N) and tried the tape, but the forest has been partly damaged by cultivation. Unknown from eastern Ghana.]

African Pied Hornbill *Tockus fasciatus*. Common throughout.

African Grey Hornbill *Tockus nasutus*. In thickets near Dikpéléou, several in savanna country near Tinkiro and east of Kougnohou. Several on the eastern scarp of the Danyi Plateau (farmbush) and at Klouto and Kpalimé. Apparently absent from the wettest forest area.

Piping Hornbill *Bycanistes fistulator*. Well known from Assoukoko forest (all villagers interviewed knew it) and we saw and heard some near Dikpéléou. Also a few at Djodji, including a male carrying food (to a nest?) on 30 Mar, and some heard near the Wawa river. These are new localities. Is still known from Bénali (guide).

[Yellow-casqued Hornbill *Ceratogymna elata*. Older villagers from Diguengué and Assoukoko remember this species but are pretty sure it has become extinct (hunted out) for some years. Büttner had collected a pair at Bismarckburg (Reichenow 1891), examined in Berlin (RJD). Was still recorded from the Koué river to the north by Cheke & Walsh in 1988]

Naked-faced Barbet *Gymnobucco calvus*. All birds of this genus which have been well seen were definitely *calvus*: Diguengué, Djodji, Kpété Béna and Bénali. Heard but not seen near Dzogbégan. Eats figs of *Ficus mucoso*.

Speckled Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus scolopaceus*. Widespread, all localities visited.

Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus chrysoconus*. Heard at Kpalimé (hotel garden). Douaud (1956) heard it in savanna east of Katchenké (near old Bismarckburg).

Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus bilineatus*. Common at all localities, all habitats.

Yellow-throated Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus subsulphureus*. A small population was discovered in cocoa forest near Kpété Béna, with up to 3-4 individuals heard each morning (some tape-recorded). Also one heard in forest at Klouto (below the “castle”). Both are new localities. Was previously known from a single sound record in 1989, at Ayagba north of Kougnohou (Cheke & Walsh). It is not known how this was identified,

and Ayagba is in an area where savanna vegetation becomes predominant (pers. comm. by Forestry staff at Kougnohou, and pers. obs. near Kougnohou); indeed on p. 153 Cheke & Walsh (under Black-winged Oriole) write about Ayagba: “forest outlier(s) in the savanna”.

Hairy-breasted Barbet *Tricholaema hirsuta*. Widespread at all forest localities from Diguengué to Klouto. Particularly noisy at Dzogbégan in May.

Vieillot's Barbet *Lybius vieilloti*. One pair duetting in farmbush near Assoukoko.

Double-toothed Barbet *Lybius bidentatus*. One pair on partly deforested hill above Kpété Béna, in *Ficus mucosa*, and one in riparian forest on the Gonobé river near Bénali.

Yellow-billed Barbet *Trachylaemus purpuratus*. Widespread, all localities. In farmbush and degraded forest.

Spotted Honeyguide *Indicator maculatus*. Some singing in all parts of Assoukoko forest visited; also in the big patch near Bénali, in a patch near Klouto, and in forest above Kpalimé.

Lesser Honeyguide *Indicator minor*. Widespread: heard at Diguengué (one bird using several tall trees in farmbush, including a big *Ceiba*), inside Assoukoko forest, near Djodji (Wawa river), Bénali (Gonobé river), Dzogbégan and Klouto (two different birds). Curiously, Cheke & Walsh mention it only from savanna.

Willcocks's Honeyguide *Indicator willcocksii*. The distinctive song of this small honeyguide was heard at Diguengué (behind our camp site, in a big *Piptadeniastrum*), starting at 8h20 (dawn being at 5h30), on 22 Mar. Also near Kpété Béna on 1 Apr (10h25), and between Klouto and Kpalimé (near Agomé Tomwé) on 23 Feb 2010 (8h05). Cheke & Walsh believe one of the two specimens collected by Baumann, viz. that at “Agomé Tongwé”, is *I. willcocksii*, following Friedmann (1955) who listed “Togoland” under *I. exilis willcocksii*. It is not clear how Friedmann came to that conclusion. These were re-examined by RJD in Berlin (May 2011) who found there was no evidence in favour of *I. willcocksii*: they are both rather damaged, especially around the face, but that from Misahöhe has a distinctive white supra-loral stripe and suggestion of dark moustache that places it in *I. exilis*; the other (Agomé “Tongbé”) is too damaged to be sure of the species.

Cheke & Walsh (1996) situate Agomé Tongwé (or Tongbe) in Ghana near the border with Togo, but there is no locality of that name in Ghana, and in any case the forest stops within 100 m of the border crossing (pers. obs.). We feel it is far more likely that Agomé Tongwé is in Togo, and probably the same as Agomé Tomwé, which is sign-posted on the road between Klouto and Kpalimé, and is also on the IGN map. Some of Baumann's specimens in Berlin are labelled from “Misahöhe, Agomegebirge”, i.e. Agomé hills (RJD). NEW for Togo.

Little Spotted (Green-backed) Woodpecker *Campethera cailliautii*. A noisy bird, found rather commonly in the forests of western Togo: from Assoukoko forest (Diguengué and Assoukoko), Djodji, Kpété Béna, Bénali and Dzogbégan. All these localities are new, for a species previously known to Cheke & Walsh from just two sites (Kirikri and Misahöhe/Klouto) and later found in Fazao by Radley & Campbell (2008).

Buff-spotted Woodpecker *Campethera nivosa*. A discreet understorey species, found locally in Assoukoko forest, Bénali, Dzogbégan and Klouto.

Gabon Woodpecker *Dendropicos gabonensis*. In tall trees, locally in Assoukoko forest, Djodji, Kpété Béna, Bénali, Dzogbégan and Klouto.

Fire-bellied Woodpecker *Thripias pyrrhogaster*. The most widespread forest woodpecker, all localities. Often located from its loud drumming.

Rufous-sided Broadbill *Smithornis rufolateralis*. One in full display in deep shade in Assoukoko forest (north of the river and past the confluence with the Boa stream) on 24 Mar, 8h30-8h45. Seen and tape-recorded. Previously known from two old specimens from Bismarckburg and Misahöhe. One nest of broadbill seen on the edge of a forested gully near Kpété Béna was not identified to species, as tape playback was unproductive.

Fanti Saw-wing *Psalidoprocne obscura*. Locally common: 5 plus 2 near Dikpéléou (on the ridge) 19 Mar; a few pairs along the stream at Diguengué, probably breeding in the bank there; 8 drinking in the Wawa river near Djodji, 30 Mar; common on the Danyi Plateau (streams, road banks on the scarp to Ghana), 1-5 May.

Mosque Swallow *Hirundo senegalensis*. At least three on road to Mont Klouto, 21 Feb.

Lesser Striped Swallow *Hirundo abyssinica*. Very widespread in the area (Tajan and Dikpéléou to Klouto), breeding in villages and under bridges: nest-building observed on 1 Apr (Kpété Béna), 4 Apr (Ounabé), 4-5 May (several pairs Dzogbégan and Ndigbé).

- Red-rumped Swallow *Hirundo daurica*. One or two seen on the slope above Diguengué (path to As-soukoko forest), in farmbush, 21 Mar. Pale below, not clear whether local or Palaearctic race. The race *togoensis* was named by Reichenow (1891) on the basis of Feb specimens collected by Büttner at Anyanga, near Bismarckburg; Reichenow (1903) treats it as syn. of *domicella*. These specimens are in very poor condition.
- Preuss's Cliff Swallow *Hirundo preussi*. Over 50 at a bridge near Tajan (= Kidjan) on 18 Mar. Near Assoukoko one came to drink in the river above Maria falls, 28 Mar. Also seen near Sokodé.
- Rock Martin *Hirundo fuligula*. One at Kpété Béna after a storm, with many other swallows and swifts, 31 Mar.
- Pied-winged Swallow *Hirundo leucosoma*. Danyi Plateau: one pair seen over a mosaic of maize fields, grass and scattered trees (near Nuns' Monastery); one collecting mud for its nest on 4 May (Dzoghégan), and another getting mud on the road near Ndigbé (5 May). Also several near Klouto, especially along the road to Mont Klouto.
- Ethiopian Swallow *Hirundo aethiopica*. A group of 4 around the church at Bénali, 3 Apr. On the Danyi Plateau breeds in several villages, including Dzoghégan and the Nuns' Monastery (seen carrying mud to nest, 4 May). Seen around Klouto and Kpalimé. It is odd that Cheke & Walsh (1996) write that this is a rare dry-season visitor, as birds nest-building in May would be around for several more months. Besides, we found them common near the coast, between Anécho and Avévé (Mono river) on 29 Apr and east of Tsévié (between the Mono River and Tsévié, via Tabligbo and Ahépé-Tchekpo) on 30 Apr, especially around bridges and culverts.
- Barn (European) Swallow *Hirundo rustica*. Large numbers at times feeding around storms in Mar-early Apr, and on passage north. None seen in early May.
- Red-chested Swallow *Hirundo lucida*. A northern commensal species, the northern replacement of Ethiopian Swallow. Common around Sokodé etc. Reaches Dikpéléou and Assoukoko village (one pair breeds in the chief's house). No observations south of 8°N.
- Common House Martin *Delichon urbicum*. Large numbers feeding low down after storms, as near Tajan on 18 Mar, and on following days (numerous at Diguengué 21 Mar, 100s at Yégué 23 Mar); also numerous at Kpété Béna 31 Mar. Some over Bénali early Apr.
- African Pied Wagtail *Motacilla aguimp*. Common commensal species throughout the area, also occasionally on rocky rivers like the Assoukoko (*per* Yao Dankoa) and two pairs seen on the Wawa river near Djodji. Carrying food to nest in a roof at Bénali, 3 Apr.
- Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis*. Several in degraded bush and burnt savanna on the road to Mont Klouto, 21 Feb. One on the ridge near Dikpéléou, 19 Mar; several in fields and woodland above Diguengué, 21 Mar; one in field near Bénali, 3 Apr.
- Purple-throated Cuckoo-shrike *Campephaga quiscalina*. Very widespread species of tall trees, found at all localities from near Dikpéléou (Ghana border) south to Klouto. Surprisingly, Cheke & Walsh cited only two old specimens and two sight records. One male carrying nest-building material near Bénali, 2 Apr.
- Little Greenbul *Andropadus virens*. Throughout, in forest and farmbush.
- Little Grey Greenbul *Andropadus gracilis*. Previously known from only three records (two specimens, Cheke & Walsh) but clearly overlooked: common in and around Assoukoko forest, Djodji, Bénali, 10 km east of Kougnouhou, Danyi Plateau (Dzoghégan) and Klouto. Song tape-recorded several times.
- Cameroon Sombre Greenbul *Andropadus curvirostris*. Common in thickets, throughout the forest zone (Dikpéléou to Klouto). The song consists of three sluggish whistles, as in eastern Ghana (race *leoninus*).
- Slender-billed Greenbul *Andropadus gracilirostris*. Common canopy species, throughout.
- Yellow-whiskered Greenbul *Andropadus latirostris*. Common understorey species, throughout. In Mar, not very vocal in some places (probably in moult) but very noisy by early May.
- Honeyguide Greenbul *Baeopogon indicator*. Very common species in western Togo (as in eastern Ghana), throughout.
- Simple Leaflove *Chlorocichla simplex*. Species of farmbush and low thickets, not very common near Dikpéléou but otherwise widespread, south to Klouto.
- Swamp Palm Bulbul *Thescelocichla leucopleura*. Common in Assoukoko forest (usually near streams), more local near Djodji and Bénali.

- Leaflove *Pyrrhurus scandens*. Very common throughout the region, one of the dominant and noisiest species in forest, even degraded patches and *Terminalia* enriched (as at Dzogbégan).
- Baumann's Greenbul *Phyllastrephus baumanni*. Throughout, in low thickets under broken forest canopy and in farmbush 2-6 m high. Most often located from its early morning song; tape-recorded several times. Previously known only from specimens (including the type, obtained by Baumann at Misahöhe).
- White-throated Greenbul *Phyllastrephus albigularis*. Throughout, in thick forest understorey. Usually separated from Baumann's, but found side by side in the patch 10 km east of Kougnohou and in an open section of Assoukoko forest. Noisy and tape-recorded several times.
- Grey-headed Bristlebill *Bleda canicapillus*. Throughout, in dense forest understorey, Dikpéléou to Klouto.
- Western Bearded Greenbul *Criniger barbatus*. Previously known from a single specimen collected by Baumann at Misahöhe in 1893! Found in a patch of forest on a stream near Klouto, 21-22 Feb 2010 (in song) and also in dense forest understorey at Dzogbégan (May 2011), in forest protected on the Monastery's land. Sang exactly like birds in eastern Ghana, and birds were called up in seconds with a tape from Togo Plateau F.R. near Jasikan; thus seen at a range of 3 m.
- Red-tailed Greenbul *Criniger calurus*. Several in Assoukoko forest (as along the Boa stream near Diguengué), Bénali (narrow forest on stream, and also in the big patch south of the village), Dzogbégan (together with *C. barbatus* in the Monastery's forest) and near Klouto (together with congener).
- Common Bulbul *Pycnonotus barbatus*. Throughout, all habitats. Finishing a nest in a *Gmelina*, 2 May. Western Nicator *Nicator chloris*. Very common throughout, any thickets, Dikpéléou to Klouto.
- Finsch's Flycatcher Thrush *Stizorhina fraseri finschi*. Apparently rather uncommon: one singing near the stream in forest near Dikpéléou (Ghana border). One taped near Kpété Béna, singing while crossing some cocoa forest (probably an unmated, unfixed bird). Also found in forest patches near Klouto, on streams. Only one previous sight record in Cheke & Walsh, near Kougnohou.
- West African Thrush *Turdus pelios*. Common in farmbush, gardens, cocoa plantations, as long as there is some clear ground.
- White-tailed (Fire-crested) Alethe *Alethe diademata*. Fairly common in Assoukoko forest, especially in deep shade along the Assoukoko river (8°1'N), also near Dikpéléou, on a stream.
- Forest Robin *Stiphrornis erythrothorax*. Previously known from only two old specimens, but found commonly at all localities, from Assoukoko forest south to Klouto. In heavily cultivated areas (as near Kpété Béna) is confined to forest remnants in gullies. Always located by its song and calls: rather vocal in Mar, even more so in May (Dzogbégan), including alarm-calls (probably breeding by then).
- Common Nightingale *Luscinia megarhynchos*. Many on 21-24 Feb (Klouto) in any thickets, calling and singing. Probably a common wintering species throughout, but largely gone by mid-Mar: one seen on the ridge near Dikpéléou on 19 Mar, hopping briefly on the road after rain before fleeing back into thicket. Heard at Dzogbégan by J&S Merz on 2 Feb 2007.
- Blue-shouldered Robin Chat *Cossypha cyanocampter*. Previously known from only one specimen, collected at Misahöhe (De Roo *et al.* 1971). Some singing individuals found in thickets on slopes near Djodji (including one taped and called up into view); also heard in gully near Kpété Béna, and at forest edge near Bénali. Not unexpected as rather common on the Ghana side. This robin does respond to human whistles and often mimicks some tunes produced by the local farmers!
- Snowy-crowned Robin Chat *Cossypha niveicapilla*. A few in low thickets or farmbush on the edge of Assoukoko forest, Djodji, Bénali, 10 km east of Kougnohou, Dzogbégan and Klouto. At Djodji a bird imitated the song of Cassin's Hawk Eagle, Stone Partridge and of Red-billed Helmet Shrike. Probably less common than in the dry season when more birds "winter" in the area. Indeed, by early May only one was found near Dzogbégan (alarm-calling).
- Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra*. Some near Tinkiro, in savanna, 26 Mar. One very late migrant (female) west of Dzogbégan in grassland, 4 May, may have been grounded by heavy nocturnal storm.
- African Moustached Warbler *Melocichla mentalis*. In grassland near Dikpéléou, east of Badou, Dzogbégan and Klouto.
- European Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*. One near Dikpéléou, 19 Mar.
- Great Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus arundinaceus*. At least three in grassland and thickets by the road (between

- Klouto and Kpalimé) on 23 Feb, singing and calling (and seen).
- Melodious Warbler *Hippolais polyglotta*. Common in thickets etc. at Klouto (Feb); a few near Dikpéléou on the ridge, 19 Mar. A late migrant (silent) west of Dzogbégan on 4 May.
- Rufous-crowned Eremomela *Eremomela badiceps*. Only one observation, of at least one in tall trees (in farm-bush) at Bénali.
- Green Crombec *Sylvietta virens*. Throughout forest and farmbush, all localities.
- Grey Longbill *Macrosphenus concolor*. Previously known from just three localities, but probably under-recorded as found commonly in Assoukoko forest and Klouto, heard also in forest 10 km east of Kougnohou, seen at Dzogbégan when (May) was not singing.
- Kemp's Longbill *Macrosphenus kempii*. Common in Assoukoko forest and other patches (Diguengué etc.), also in farmbush with thickets, at Djodji, Bénali (including one singing all afternoon behind our camp site, perhaps unmated) and Klouto (Feb 2010). Not found on the Danyi Plateau in May, but should be expected to occur there too. Tape-recorded several times. Commonly found in eastern Ghana but appears to be NEW for Togo.
- Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*. Several at Klouto in Feb, and on the ridge north of Dikpéléou 19 Mar. Seen at Dzogbégan by J&S Merz on 2 Feb 2007.
- Wood Warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*. Many in Assoukoko forest and at edges, often in song, 19-27 Mar; also common at Djodji, Kpété Béna, Bénali (until Apr), and at Klouto (Feb). One late migrant at Dzogbégan, 2 May.
- Green Hylia *Hylia prasina*. Throughout. One feeding a juvenile 24 Mar (Assoukoko).
- Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin*. Common in thickets at Klouto (Feb). Probably a common wintering species throughout the forest zone, but largely gone by mid-Mar: a late one singing near Diguengué on 21 Mar.
- Short-winged Cisticola *Cisticola brachypterus*. In grassland on the Danyi Plateau, in open woodland. Noted by Douaud (1956) in savanna at Katchenké (near old Bismarckburg).
- Rock-loving Cisticola *Cisticola aberrans*. Grassland on a rocky hill west of Dzogbégan (near the Ghana border), 4 May. Already known from the Ghana side (above Likpe Todome) just a few km away (pers. obs. 2010). Previously no record in Togo south of Aledjo (9°15'N).
- Whistling Cisticola *Cisticola lateralis*. Common in woodland and farmbush, throughout except Kpété Béna (where most land is under cocoa).
- Red-faced Cisticola *Cisticola erythrops*. Widespread in farmbush, throughout the area (including small farms at Kpété Béna), also in grassland in degraded areas, even on ridges (e.g. Klouto).
- Singing Cisticola *Cisticola cantans*. Not encountered on the plateau, but just east of Pagala-gare.
- Tawny-flanked Prinia *Prinia subflava*. Small numbers throughout, farmbush with some grass, and in savanna. Alarming and carrying food 4 May (Dzogbégan).
- Red-winged Warbler *Heliolais erythropterus*. Apparently absent from the plateau: heard east of Pagala-gare, in savanna.
- Sharpe's Apalis *Apalis sharpii*. Previously known from a single sight record (Cheke & Walsh), but found to be common in Assoukoko forest (tape-recorded several times) and also in forest remnants at Djodji, Bénali, Dzogbégan and Klouto.
- Grey-backed Camaroptera *Camaroptera brachyura*. Common throughout, any thickets, also in forest understorey.
- Yellow-browed Camaroptera *Camaroptera superciliaris*. Previously known from three specimens and one sight record, but found throughout, in thickets in open forest and farmbush, from Dikpéléou south to Klouto.
- Olive-green Camaroptera *Camaroptera chloronota*. Very widespread and usually common, Assoukoko forest to Klouto. Singing much in Feb-May.
- White-browed Forest Flycatcher *Fraseria cinerascens*. One seen and singing along the Assoukoko river in deep shade in Assoukoko forest, 24 Mar. Only the second Togo record of a species discovered in Fazao in 2005 (Radley & Campbell 2008).
- Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula hypoleuca*. One at Klouto 21 Feb, several in savanna top of ridge near Dikpéléou and above Diguengué, 19-21 Mar.
- Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*. Several at Klouto in farmbush and forest edges, 21-23 Feb. Singles at

Kpété Béna and east of Kougnohou, 1 and 3 Apr.

Little Grey Flycatcher *Muscicapa epulata*. One pair seen well in top of medium-sized tree in farmbush, Kpété Béna, 1 Apr. Obviously a rare species in Togo (two previous sight records), not even found in adjacent eastern Ghana.

Ashy Flycatcher *Muscicapa caerulescens*. Easily overlooked when not singing: one on a small forested stream on the way to Assoukoko forest, seen and tape-recorded. One heard near Dzogbégan in *Terminalia* enriched forest, and another in a gully; one west of Klouto in forest on a stream at the border post.

Lead-coloured Flycatcher *Myioparus plumbeus*. In farmbush and transition woodland: near Dikpéléou (singing 19 Mar), hill above Diguengué (21 Mar), silent but seen in farmbush at Kpété Béna (31 Mar), one singing at Bénali 2 Apr. Could be widespread on the Danyi Plateau but probably silent by then.

Shrike-Flycatcher *Megabyas flammulatus*. Canopy species of open forest, including “cocoa forest”, found throughout, from Assoukoko south to Klouto. The local dialect consists of a high dry trill “tictic-tictic” and thin whistles.

Black-and-white Flycatcher *Bias musicus*. Throughout, in farmbush with tall trees and in open-canopy forest, north to Diguengué.

Senegal Batis *Batis senegalensis*. In a bit of woodland on the ridge north of Dikpéléou, and in similar habitat on the way to Mont Klouto.

Red-cheeked Wattle-eye *Dyaphorophya blissetti*. Only three records in Cheke & Walsh, all from the Kpalimé/Klouto area. However, this is one of the most regularly encountered species of thickets in farmbush and in forest, common in Assoukoko, Djodji, Kpété Béna, Bénali, 10 km east of Kougnohou, Danyi Plateau (Dzogbégan etc.) and Klouto. Located by its song and tape-recorded several times. At Kpété Béna one female was begging food from her mate (thus at incubation stage), 1 Apr.

Chestnut Wattle-eye *Dyaphorophya castanea*. More local than congener: a few in the moister sections of Assoukoko forest, patch at 10 km east of Kougnohou, and near Klouto. Also seen at Dzogbégan near the stream by J&S Merz on 11 Jun 2004.

Common Wattle-eye *Platysteira cyanea*. Heard below Klouto, in secondary thicket.

Blue-headed Crested Flycatcher *Trochocercus nitens*. A few (singing) in Assoukoko forest, including near Dikpéléou on the Ghana border; one or two singing in big patch of forest south of Bénali. Sight records from Fazao (according to an unpublished report in Cheke & Walsh) are invalid as the species does not even appear in the report’s list (cf. Dowsett-Lemaire & Dowsett 2007: 85). Thus Dikpéléou is the new northern limit for the species.

African Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone viridis*. This is the common forest species in the north of the range, i.e. the north of Assoukoko forest (Diguengué to Dikpéléou), and indeed only this species is present in the forests of Kyabobo N.P. (Dowsett-Lemaire & Dowsett 2007: 77). Not encountered elsewhere in Mar-May, but some at Klouto in Feb, including a male with white tail.

Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone rufiventer*. The common forest *Terpsiphone*, from the middle of Assoukoko (present on the Assoukoko river and on the ridge near Diguengué) to Klouto. Common, even in cocoa forest.

Brown Illadopsis *Illadopsis fulvescens*. Throughout, forest and thickets in farmbush. Common and noisy.

Puvel’s Illadopsis *Illadopsis puveli*. More ecologically-restricted than its congener and always in forest at least 10-12 m tall. Thus not in low thickets in farmbush. Otherwise very widespread, from Assoukoko forest to Klouto. Tape-recorded several times (Assoukoko, Bénali, 10 km east of Kougnohou). Previously known from only two records, including a specimen initially mis-identified as Rufous-winged Illadopsis *I. rufescens* (Cheke & Walsh).

Capuchin Babbler *Phyllanthus atripennis*. Fairly common in Assoukoko forest (encountered several times near Diguengué and Assoukoko, a good location being the top of the hill above Diguengué, on the path to Ghana, where the forest starts). A group near Djodji. We did not find it at Dzogbégan but Cheke & Walsh did, and we probably heard it briefly near Klouto, from where it is already known.

Yellow-chinned or Green Sunbird *Anthreptes rectirostris*. At least one male in a patch of forest near Klouto, 21 Mar 2010. Is very uncommon on the Ghana side of the border (just two records, from Afadjato and Kyabobo). NEW for Togo.

- Collared Sunbird *Anthreptes collaris*. Common throughout the forest zone; male feeding a juvenile 23 Mar, Diguengué.
- Little Green Sunbird *Anthreptes seimundi*. Uncommon or discreet, in degraded forest near Assoukoko (2+), one near Kpété Béna, one at Bénali. Known from only two specimens, both from Klouto/Misahöhe. Unlike Yellow-chinned Sunbird, this small species is rather more widespread on the Ghana side.
- Olive Sunbird *Nectarinia olivacea*. Throughout the area and very common. One feeding a fledgling 3 May (Dzogbégan).
- Green-headed Sunbird *Nectarinia verticalis*. At the margins of the forest zone, mainly in thickets, riparian forest and farms: Dikpéléou and Assoukoko, on the Danyi Plateau (common) and at Klouto.
- Blue-throated Brown Sunbird *Nectarinia cyanoaema*. Rare, with only one previous record (pair seen at Djodji in Oct 1985, RAC in Cheke *et al.* 1986). One heard and seen briefly inside a tuft of mistletoes on the Assoukoko river near Diguengué, 23 Mar (FDL); one heard near Kpété Béna, 31 Mar, visiting mistletoes again. The call of the species is very characteristic, being a high-pitched trill, on an even or descending pitch. Birds in Togo and adjacent Ghana (Amedzofe) produce trills on an even pitch.
- Buff-throated Sunbird *Nectarinia adelberti*. Small numbers almost throughout, from Assoukoko to Dzogbégan. We missed it at Klouto, from where it is well known.
- Variable Sunbird *Nectarinia venusta*. In degraded woodland on the way to Mont Klouto (male in breeding dress, Feb). Seen at Dzogbégan by J&S Merz on 1 Feb 2007. Probably more widespread but can be very discreet in early rains as opposed to late rains when singing a lot. Douaud (1956) had indeed found it singing at Yégué and Katchenké in Jul.
- Olive-bellied Sunbird *Nectarinia chloropygia*. Although Cheke & Walsh write it is “not uncommon”, we found it rather rare. One in thickets on the ridge north of Dikpéléou; one in a neglected field near Bénali, and a few at Dzogbégan and Klouto (forest edges and farmbush).
- Tiny Sunbird *Nectarinia minulla*. First encountered at Klouto, one male seen and singing in forest at the foot of the hill supporting the “castle”, 22 Feb 2010. At least two individuals singing in patches of secondary forest amid cocoa forest near Kpété Béna, 31 Mar and 1 Apr 2011, tape-recorded. The small size, slightly shorter and straighter bill (compared to that of Olive-bellied), greyer belly and sweet, musical song are all good features of this species. Also found in eastern Ghana at Amedzofe and Afadjato. NEW for Togo.
- Copper Sunbird *Nectarinia cuprea*. Mainly on the eastern/southern sides of the plateau, where savanna vegetation becomes more important, in farmbush and transition woodland, near Dikpéléou, Danyi Plateau (common) and Klouto. Also Kpalimé gardens.
- Slendid Sunbird *Nectarinia coccinigaster*. Very widespread and common, in farmbush, riparian forest, gardens, woodland and very degraded forest, including cocoa forest. Female nest-building 2 May (Dzogbégan).
- Superb Sunbird *Nectarinia superba*. Small numbers throughout (Assoukoko to Klouto), in forest, tall trees in farmbush.
- Yellow White-eye *Zosterops senegalensis*. Much the same distribution as Copper Sunbird: in thickets, forest edges and woodland, near Dikpéléou, Assoukoko, Danyi Plateau and Klouto (and Kpalimé). Apparently absent from wetter forest areas, even if largely deforested.
- African Golden Oriole *Oriolus auratus*. In woodland on the hill above Diguengué; also in transition woodland and at forest edges near Klouto.
- Western Black-headed Oriole *Oriolus brachyrhynchus*. In fairly well-preserved forest, and always less common than Black-winged Oriole. In Assoukoko, does not reach the latitude of Dikpéléou (and indeed appears absent from Kyabobo N.P. to the north), but found in the main forest in the centre and south. Probably one heard in the big patch near Bénali; none found at Djodji (too dry and deforested?) but some present in cocoa forest near Kpété Béna (well seen). On the Danyi Plateau, just one in one of the larger fragments of forest on the Monastery’s land. Klouto: survives in a few patches in gullies, apparently occupying the same niche as Black-winged Oriole. By sound, is best identified from its rolled, nasal calls and some of its song-types (of well-detached notes). But some more fluid songs are very difficult to tell apart from those of Black-winged Oriole.
- Black-winged Oriole *Oriolus nigripennis*. More common and widespread than last, at all localities.
- Northern Puffback *Dryoscopus gambensis*. In moist woodland, thickets in farmbush, tree clumps, riparian and

degraded forest, throughout from Dikpéléou and Assoukoko to Danyi Plateau and Klouto.

Marsh Tchagra *Tchagra minutus*. In low thickets in farmbush, secondary grassland, abandoned fields (with *Chromolaena*): seen and heard near Dikpéléou, Diguengué, Djodji, Danyi Plateau (common) and Klouto.

Brown-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra australis*. Very common in low thickets and farmbush throughout the area, all localities from Dikpéléou to Klouto.

Black-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra senegalus*. Less common than last, not found in farmbush at Kpété Béna but otherwise widespread in farms and woodland from Dikpéléou to Klouto.

Tropical Boubou *Laniarius aethiopicus*. At the margins of the forest zone: thus on ridges (transition woodland, thickets) at Dikpéléou and near Diguengué and Assoukoko, absent further south except around Klouto, where common.

Sooty Boubou *Laniarius leucorhynchus*. The only Togo record (in Fazao) was considered “very doubtful” (cf. Dowsett-Lemaire & Dowsett 2007: 85), and indeed that area is probably too dry for the species. We found it first near Klouto, in thickets in degraded forest, on 22 Feb 2010: two pairs calling, one of which was attracted into (brief) view with playback of its song. Reacted with various rattles. In 2011 two pairs heard in degraded forest in gullies on the scarp west of Dzogbégan (7°16'N, 0°40'E), 4 May. Occurs in similar habitat in eastern Ghana (Amedzofe to Kabo River F.R. north of Jasikan). NEW for Togo.

Sulphur-breasted Bush Shrike *Malaconotus sulfureopectus*. Around Klouto, even in small forest patches next to Many-coloured. Collected at Bismarckburg, and observed by Douaud (1956) in bush at Katchenké and between Katchenké and Pagala, so present also in the habitat mosaic in the north of the area.

Many-coloured Bush Shrike *Malaconotus multicolor*. Very common in Assoukoko forest; also heard near Djodji and on the Wawa river nearby, forest at Dzogbégan (Monastery's land) and near Klouto. Birds seen in Assoukoko and Djodji (three) belonged to the red-breasted morph; of six specimens in the collections in Berlin, five are of the red morph and one of the black morph (RJD), but Tervuren holds one alcohol specimen apparently of the yellow morph (M. Louette *in litt.* 2011). Thus the red-breasted morph is clearly dominant.

Fiery-breasted Bush Shrike *Malaconotus cruentus*. The yellow morph of this species may be difficult to distinguish from Lagden's Bush Shrike *M. lagdeni*, a species normally of more mature forest. The voice of Fiery-breasted consists of a series of a few monotonous whistles, at the rate of about one/sec. Lagden's produces longer and more modulated whistles, but occasionally may also sound like Fiery-breasted (as one did in Bobiri in Ghana, photographed by N. Borrow in 2010). These are shy birds, rarely seen for long, so details of plumage may not always be obvious.

What sounded like Fiery-breasted was heard many times in Assoukoko forest, and given the size of the forest, the local population must be in the range of many hundreds of pairs. It was also heard near Djodji and in the big patch south of Bénali. At Dzogbégan, two pairs were calling to each other in the patch of forest below the cattle barn on the Monastery's land; eventually one of the singing males was seen (FDL), just the front half, showing yellow underparts and grey head (wings not visible). At Klouto in 2010 three yellow-breasted birds were seen close to each other (below the “castle” and further). The first two were hiding in thick vegetation, the third one came into the open to chase a Gabon Woodpecker (!). Two Fiery-breasted of the yellow morph (M. Louette *in litt.* 2011) were collected in the same area (De Roo *et al.* 1971), and we saw red-breasted Fiery-breasted at Amedzofe and Afadjato to the west in 2010 and (Amedzofe again) 2011. Is the identification of Lagden's on the Pagala road (near Yégué, on the edge of Assoukoko forest) by J.P. Taylor correct? (in Cheke & Walsh, without a description). In western Togo and eastern Ghana altogether we saw 7 yellow-breasted birds and 4 red-breasted: if these are all *cruentus* then the yellow morph is clearly dominant.

Grey-headed Bush Shrike *Malaconotus blanchoti*. Noted near Dikpéléou (on the ridge), 10 km east of Kougnohou (in woodland), and at Dzogbégan (garden of the Monastery). Thus at the margins of the plateau.

Red-billed Helmet Shrike *Prionops caniceps*. Common in Assoukoko forest and generally widespread (south to Klouto), even in cocoa forest at Kpété Béna. Feeding fledglings near Dikpéléou on 19 Mar.

Square-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus ludwigii*. This is the common forest drongo throughout, from Assoukoko forest to Klouto. Around Badou and Djodji it is absent from cocoa forest but present in small patches in gullies or on slopes. At Dzogbégan present also in forest enriched with *Terminalia*. At Klouto one was also found in a patch of mixed Mango and *Ceiba* forest. Very noisy, with a characteristic motif, a loud descending rolled

“triuurr”, heard throughout and also in adjacent Ghana. This can be combined into songs with series of rattles or trills.

Fork-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus adsimilis* (*sensu lato*). Although Cheke & Walsh (1996) suggest that this drongo is absent from the forest zone, this is not so, and specimens were collected by Baumann at Misahöhe, Podji and Koussounto (all around present-day Klouto) and were published by Reichenow (1897: 34) under *D. “coracinus”*, and in his book “*Die Vögel Afrikas*” (1903) as *D. afer*; *i.e. adsimilis*, both references seen by Cheke & Walsh. The three specimens are still in the Museum für Naturkunde, Berlin (RJD, 2011). They possibly belong to the race *atactus* (type locality Fanti in south-west Ghana) or else to *adsimilis*, but material in Berlin was too limited for comparison (RJD). The race *atactus* is a forest form of Fork-tailed Drongo, often included in Velvet-mantled Drongo *D. modestus*.

We encountered Fork-tailed Drongos *sensu lato* very locally between Tomegbé and Kpété Béna, and around Klouto. The first pair we saw north of Kpété Béna was sitting on a dead tree in the middle of an open field. We also observed a pair in scattered trees over cocoa (“cocoa forest”) and one was calling in fields on the edge of the village of Kpété Béna (there is no natural savanna in the vicinity). In and around Klouto it is not uncommon in farmbush with scattered trees, in wooded grassland and at forest edges, but was not found inside any patch of forest (all occupied by Square-tailed Drongos). It was also seen near the hotel garden at Kpalimé (Hôtel Royal), not far from the start of the hill towards Klouto. The characteristic dawn or dusk call of this drongo heard at Kpété Béna was a loud “tcheee-prruurr” or “tsi-tcheee-prruurr”, the last note lower-pitched (four or five tones lower). An identical motif was heard in eastern Ghana (e.g. Kalakpa) in savanna woodland, where only *D. adsimilis* occurs. On the basis of ecology and voice, it would be difficult to separate this drongo from the savanna form *adsimilis*. At Klouto in particular woodland is so intermingled with forest that it is impossible to ascertain that these drongos are there because of the woodland or instead of degraded forest. They are in any case absent from the interior of forest, even in the canopy, although this may be the result of competition with Square-tailed Drongos, which occupy all levels of the forest habitat. Similarly in eastern Ghana, we have found “Fork-tailed Drongo” locally at forest edges and farmbush, never inside proper forest. In south-west Ghana *atactus* (*D. modestus*) is far more common and occurs throughout the rain forest, in canopy and emergents, and also in farmbush with tall trees. Its only congener there is Shining Drongo, restricted to under-storey of closed-canopy forest, thus the upper tree layers, and broken or degraded forest generally are available to *atactus*. Unlike Togo there are some vocal differences with the savanna birds found in woodland on the margin of the forest zone. It would be useful to examine genetic material from several populations of Upper Guinea *atactus* and Lower Guinea *coracinus* as well as populations in the Dahomey Gap to sort out this mess.

Pied Crow *Corvus albus*. A few pairs around villages, widespread on the plateau. Nest-building on 5 May at Adéta (plain).

Forest Chestnut-winged Starling *Onychognathus fulgidus*. Rare in Togo, as Cheke & Walsh mentioned it only for Misahöhe. RJD saw one pair fly overhead near Assoukoko (camp site) on 26 Mar, a big range extension to the north, and one was calling in forest at Dzogbégan, 2 May.

Splendid Glossy Starling *Lamprolornis splendidus*. Widespread in small numbers, from Assoukoko forest to Klouto. Appears rare on the Danyi Plateau (May). At Kpété Béna a pair was taking food to a nest in a broken branch of *Ficus mucoso*, 1 Apr.

Grey-headed Sparrow *Passer griseus*. Appears to be absent from many villages (where African Pied Wagtail, on the other hand, is present), for instance all along the eastern side of Assoukoko forest. Was noted in Badou, Bénali, Kougnohou, Dzogbégan (village and Nuns’ Monastery) and Kpalimé.

Black-necked Weaver *Ploceus nigricollis*. Small numbers in thickets and bush, from Dikpéléou, Assoukoko to Djodji, Kpété Béna (cocoa farm), Danyi Plateau and Klouto; isolated old nests seen in a couple of places, in low spiny bush.

Vieillot’s Black Weaver *Ploceus nigerrimus*. Some in farmbush and thickets outside Assoukoko forest.

Village Weaver *Ploceus cucullatus*. Common in villages and farmbush throughout, with active colonies in Mar-May.

Yellow-mantled Weaver *Ploceus tricolor*. In very small numbers in Assoukoko forest as found only in one *Ficus mucoso* inside the reserve (8°01’N), with two groups of three nests in the crown, one bird entering and brooding (25 Mar). Djodji: a few birds around 6 nests in the crown of a *Ficus mucoso* (45 m tall), in

cocoa forest at Kpété Béna, with more nests seen in *Ficus mucoso* on a nearby hill. At Bénali a full-grown immature was quivering wings and following an adult, 3 Apr. Also recorded at Dzogbégan and Klouto.

Compact Weaver *Ploceus superciliosus*. Dikpéléou, one eating *Hyparrhenia* seeds on the ridge.

Blue-billed Malimbe *Malimbus nitens*. On the Assoukoko river near Diguengué and inside the big forest also along the river (with nests seen over the water). Near Djodji, several with nests along the Wawa river.

Bénali on the Gonobé stream, and Klouto. The only malimbe species collected at or near Bismarckburg.

Crested Malimbe *Malimbus malimbicus*. Pair seen in Assoukoko forest near the Boa stream, with an old nest hanging at the end of an *Elaeis* palm frond. Djodji, in thickets near the Wawa river and in secondary tall forest. Also at Kpépé Béna (with a nest in *Elaeis*), Bénali (two nests on tip of *Acacia* liane), Dzogbégan and Klouto. One pair nest-building, tearing strips from *Elaeis* fronds on 2 Apr (Bénali).

Red-headed Malimbe *Malimbus rubricollis*. Not found in Assoukoko, but fairly common in forest remnants and even in cocoa forest from Djodji and Kpété Béna to Bénali, Dzogbégan and Klouto. Some nests in crown of *Ficus mucoso*, next to those of Yellow-mantled Weaver (Kpété Béna).

Red-headed Quelea *Quelea erythropis*. At least two in rank grass along the road between Kpalimé and Klouto, 23 Feb (non-breeding dress).

Grey-crowned Negrofinch *Nigrita canicapillus*. Common and throughout from Assoukoko forest to Klouto.

Chestnut-breasted Negrofinch *Nigrita bicolor*. Heard and seen in Assoukoko forest (including Diguengué) and from there all the way to Klouto, often near streams.

Western Bluebill *Spermophaga haematina*. We saw this species in a mixed party near Klouto, but missed it elsewhere. Also known from Bismarckburg, Djodji, Badou. Can be very discreet outside the breeding season (in the late rains).

Red-billed Firefinch *Lagonosticta senegala*. Essentially in dry savanna country (e.g. Sokodé town), but surprisingly one pair in the village of Assoukoko.

Blue-billed Firefinch *Lagonosticta rubricata*. Not very common, noted in grassland and *Chromolaena* near Dikpéléou, Djodji, 10 km east of Kougnohou and Klouto.

Bar-breasted Firefinch *Lagonosticta rufopicta*. Absent from the plateau itself, but present in gardens in Kpalimé (Hôtel Royal).

Orange-cheeked Waxbill *Estrilda melpoda*. Fairly widespread, farmbush and secondary grassland.

Bronze Mannikin *Spermestes cucullata*. Local around Diguengué and Kpété Béna. Common on the Danyi Plateau and Klouto.

Black-and-White Mannikin *Spermestes bicolor*. Noted at Djodji, Kpété Béna, common on the Danyi Plateau and Klouto.

Pin-tailed Widow (Whydah) *Vidua macroura*. Doubtless overlooked in Mar (not yet in breeding dress) but in full breeding dress and displaying at Dzogbégan early May, in open grassland. Likely more widespread.

5. Conclusion

The status of many species in the forests of western Togo is better known as a result of these preliminary surveys, but much more remains to be done. Six species were found for the first time in Togo: Olive Long-tailed Cuckoo, Willcocks's Honeyguide, Kemp's Longbill, Green (Yellow-chinned) Sunbird, Tiny Sunbird and Sooty Boubou. All of these were also found in the forests of eastern Ghana, so this does not come as a big surprise. Some species known from the Ghana side have not yet been found in Togo: Congo Serpent Eagle *Dryotriorchis spectabilis*, Buff-spotted Flufftail *Sarothrura elegans*, Fraser's Forest Flycatcher *Fraseria ocreata*, Dusky-blue Flycatcher *Muscicapa comitata* and White-breasted Negrofinch *Nigrita fusconota*, while we now know that Fraser's Eagle Owl occurs in Assoukoko forest (based on a description by our guide Yao Dankoa). These five species are likely to occur, but the negrofinch and flycatchers are inexplicably rare east of the Volta and it may take for ever to find them on the Togo side. Assoukoko forest is probably the best place to look for Serpent Eagle as this raptor requires forest of a reasonable size. The flufftail could be anywhere, even in thickets, but sings mainly at night and in the rains, which are limiting factors.

Cheke and/or Walsh passed by the Assoukoko forest as they reported a few observations from Abous-

soum Kopé and Diguengué in Mar 1990, and R.A. Cheke visited the south of Assoukoko in May 1980, but presumably they did not enter the big forest. A large number of birds found in Assoukoko forest at the level of Assoukoko and Diguengué and north to Dikpéléou are new for the area and their known ranges have thus been extended northwards, including Nkulengu Rail, Yellow-throated Cuckoo, Black-throated and Blue-headed Coucals, African Barred Owlet, White-crested Hornbill, Little Grey, Cameroon Sombre and Slender-billed Greenbuls, Simple Leaflove, Baumann's Greenbul, Finsch's Flycatcher Thrush, Grey Longbill, Sharpe's Apalis, Yellow-browed Camaroptera, Many-coloured Bush Shrike, Red-billed Helmet Shrike, Forest Chestnut-winged Starling, Yellow-mantled Weaver, Crested Malimbe and Chestnut-breasted Negrofinch.

Many other species were known from just one or two specimens or sight records, when they are in fact common or at least widespread, for example Forest Robin, Sharpe's Apalis, Red-cheeked Wattle-eye and Puvel's Illadopsis. Among rarer species, new localities were found for, *inter alia*, Yellow-throated Cuckoo (collected twice before), White-bellied Kingfisher (collected once before), Yellow-throated Tinkerbird, Western Bearded Greenbul and Blue-shouldered Robin Chat (last two collected only once before), White-browed Forest Flycatcher, Little Grey Flycatcher and Blue-throated Brown Sunbird.

Much work remains to be done, especially to clarify the status of some forest species claimed by Cheke & Walsh. The occurrence of some appears unlikely, including Black Spinetail (and perhaps also Cassin's), Yellow-spotted Barbet, Red-rumped Tinkerbird, Square-tailed Saw-wing, White-throated Blue Swallow, Blue Cuckoo-shrike, Ansorge's Greenbul, Cassin's Grey Flycatcher, Ussher's Flycatcher, Rufous-winged Illadopsis, Sabine's Puffback and Shining Drongo. Confirmation is desirable for a number of others, including Long-tailed Hawk, Golden Greenbul and Copper-tailed Starling. Dusky Blue Flycatcher is no longer on the Togo list for the moment. The Adamawa Turtle Dove was probably a Red-eyed Dove with a strange song.

A handful of species recorded from western Togo have not been found in the eastern highlands of Ghana, the most remarkable being Dusky Long-tailed Cuckoo. The fact that most of the "dry forest" on the Ghana side is more transition woodland than forest (latter often limited to gullies) is probably the reason. This cuckoo is very local in Ghana, being common only in the extreme west and south-west, in the wettest forests of Ankasa and Tano Ofin. In the recent past it must have been widespread on the whole of the Togo Plateau, as there are specimens from Misahöhe. Today the main population must be in Assoukoko forest. Other species concerned include Black Dwarf Hornbill, Bristle-nosed Barbet (which could have been overlooked as not all *Gymnobucco* barbets could be seen for identification), Little Grey Flycatcher and more surprisingly Forest Chestnut-winged Starling, albeit this one is certainly rare in Togo. The question of forest spinetails and several other species remains unresolved.

6. Large mammals

Thomas's Galago *Galagoides thomasi* and an undescribed species of *Dendrohyrax* characterize the forests of the Dahomey Gap. On the Ghana side, the galago is found north to Kyabobo (S. Bearder) and the hyrax frequently north to Odomi and Togo Plateau Forest Reserves near Jasikan (pers. obs.).

In Togo, we heard Thomas's Galago near the Assoukoko forest at both our camp sites at Diguengué and Assoukoko. We also heard it in the forested garden of the Monastery at Dzogbégan.

Dendrohyrax sp. does not appear to reach Assoukoko and was not known to the local people. We heard a distant one at Kpété Béna (forested gully), where the cocoa plantations must have destroyed a lot of habitat. We also heard it at Bénali and at Klouto.

Monkeys have been exterminated; some remain in Assoukoko forest, although we saw none along the public paths to Ghana. Our guides and villagers reported the following: Green Monkey *Cer-copithecus aethiops*, Mona Monkey *C. mona* (both of which we have seen in Kyabobo) and Spot-nosed Monkey *C. petaurista*. Black-and-white Colobus *Colobus vellerosus* is well known, but most people think it is now hunted out (it survives in Kyabobo N.P., L. Kanton *in litt.* 2011). More surprisingly, Chimpanzees *Homo troglodytes* are said to survive in the southern sector of Assoukoko forest (south of 8°N), between Assoukoko village and Amézodji Kopé. Both our guide Yao Dankoa and the chief of Assoukoko had seen them, as well as nests, and as recently as in 2010. Patas Monkeys *Erythrocebus patas* occur in the savanna to the east (near Tinkiro etc.).

Buffaloes *Syncerus caffer* also occur in the south of Assoukoko, Red River Hogs *Potamochoerus porcus* are common. *Crossarchus* mongooses and Palm Civet *Nandinia binotata* are other species mentioned from Assoukoko by Yao Dankoa and others.

Part 2

A visit to the lower Mono river near Avévé, 29-30 April 2011

The main reason for choosing this area was an old record of White-throated Blue Swallow, a pair of which Brunel (1958) collected in the 1950s on the Mono river on the Togo/Benin border. This suggests that there was proper forest along the lower Mono, but we know almost nothing about the avifauna of this area, even in the past. After crossing the border from Benin at Aného on 29 April we drove on to Avévé on the river (6°24'N, 1°46'E), which we reached at 13h.

Some tourists go there to see Hippopotamus, and indeed a couple of Hippos were present in the river at the level of the “embarcadère” (boat harbour), something that thoroughly displeased the local people. We made an arrangement to camp there (outside the village) and hired a guide to take us through the countryside both in the evening (for 2 hours) and in the early morning (3 hours). Villagers were quite friendly, albeit rather noisy until dusk, when the Hippos finally left the area. We walked for several km along the river, through what is essentially an enormous *Elaeis* oil palm plantation, with small neglected clearings invaded by lianes or thickets. A few large forest trees remain (*Ceiba pentandra* and *Cola gigantea*), but our guide pointed out that they would soon be taken to make canoes. In fact, all the large forest trees have been used to that effect, but none have been planted for the future generation of fishermen. Other habitats were small plantations of Eucalyptus, a narrow strip of *Alchornea* thickets along the water, with scattered *Pterocarpus santalinoides*, a large grassy area (that would become flooded), and fields, some overgrown. The water level had gone up, and we did not see any major sandbar in the river. The river was also completely free of fallen logs, the natural nesting habitat of Blue Swallow.

We recorded 72 species, as follows: Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*, Yellow-billed/Black Kite *Milvus migrans*, Lizard Buzzard *Kaupifalco monogrammicus*, Ahanta Francolin *Francolinus achantensis* (calling mainly on the Benin side, less disturbed by people), Black Crake *Amaurornis flavirostris*, Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus* (pond on the way), African Jacana *Actophilornis africanus*, Senegal Thick-knee *Burhinus senegalensis* (heard), Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*, Laughing Dove *Streptopelia senegalensis*, Vinaceous Dove *S. vinacea*, Red-eyed Dove *S. semitorquata*, Blue-spotted Wood Dove *Turtur afer*, African Green Pigeon *Treron calvus*, Red-headed Lovebird *Agapornis pullarius* (one and two), W. Grey Plantain-eater *Crinifer piscator*, Klaas's Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx klaas*, Yellowbill *Ceuthmochares aereus*, Black Coucal *Centropus grillii* (still in non-breeding dress), Black-throated Coucal *C. leucogaster* (more on the Benin side), Senegal Coucal *C. senegalensis*, African Pygmy Kingfisher *Ceyx pictus*, Blue-breasted Kingfisher *Halcyon malimbica*, Woodland Kingfisher *H. senegalensis*, White-throated Bee-eater *Merops albicollis*, African Pied Hornbill *Tockus fasciatus*, African Grey Hornbill *T. nasutus*, Little Spotted/Green-backed Woodpecker *Campethera cailliautii* (one calling in a Eucalyptus plantation!), Grey Woodpecker *Dendropicos goertae*, Rufous-chested Swallow *Hirundo semirufa*, Ethiopian Swallow *Hirundo aethiopica*, Plain-backed Pipit *Anthus leucophrys*, Little Greenbul *Andropadus virens*, Cameroon Sombre Greenbul *Andropadus curvirostris* (local), Simple Leaflove *Chlorocichla simplex*, Yellow-throated Leaflove *C. flavicollis* (local), Common Bulbul *Pycnonotus barbatus*, Western Nicator *Nicator chloris* (local), West African Thrush *Turdus pelios*, Snowy-crowned Robin Chat *Cossypha niveicapilla*, African Moustached Warbler *Melocichla mentalis*, Green Crombec *Sylvietta virens*, Red-faced Cisticola *Cisticola erythrops*, Winding Cisticola *C. galactotes*, Tawny-flanked Prinia *Prinia subflava*, Grey-backed Camaroptera *Camaroptera brachyura*, Oriole-Warbler *Hypergerus atriceps* (rare), Common Wattle-eye *Platysteira cyanea*, African Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone viridis*, Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher *T. rufiventer*, Olive Sunbird *Nectarinia olivacea*, Olive-bellied Sunbird *N. chloropygia* (common), Copper Sunbird *N. cuprea*, Splendid Sunbird *N. coccinigaster*, Fiscal Shrike *Lanius collaris*, Northern Puffback *Dryoscopus gambensis*, Black-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra senegala*, Yellow-crowned Gonolek *Laniarius barbarus*, Grey-headed Sparrow *Passer griseus* (even in Eucalyptus), Black-necked Weaver *Ploceus nigricollis*, Vieillot's Black Weaver *P. nigerrimus*, Village Weaver *P. cucullatus*, Compact Weaver *P. superciliosus*, Black-winged Bishop *Euplectes hordeaceus*, Grey-crowned N-grofinch *Nigrita canicapillus*, Western Bluebill *Spermophaga haematina* (heard and seen in two places), Bar-breasted Firefinch *Lagonosticta rufopicta*, Blue-billed Firefinch *L. rubricata*, Orange-cheeked Waxbill *Estrilda melpoda*, Bronze Mannikin *Spermestes cucullatus*, Black-and-white Mannikin *S. bicolor*, Pin-tailed Widow (Whydah) *Vidua macroura* (in full breeding dress).

Species of interest include Ahanta Francolin, Black-throated Coucal (previously unreported from south-

east Togo and adjacent Benin), Red-headed Lovebird (also found by W. Plomp at the level of Lokossa, 3 June 2011), Green-backed Woodpecker, Cameroon Sombre Greenbul, Western Nicator and Western Bluebill.

The palm plantation seems to follow the whole length of the river down to the coast (fishermen's reports, pers. obs. at Grand-Popo) and all the way up to at least the level of Dédé and Lokossa (W. Plomp *in litt.*), so there is little chance of finding birds of proper forest along the Mono today, including Blue Swallows. The stretch at the level of Ablahoué is worth exploring to confirm this.

After leaving Avévé we drove north and west through Tabligbo and Ahépé to Tsévié. Very degraded farmland and grassland with little of interest, but Ethiopian Swallow was unexpectedly common all the way; some Red and Black-winged Bishops in partial breeding dress (30 Apr), also White-rumped Swift, Rufous-chested Swallow (before Tabligbo) and Compact Weavers....

Part 3

Liste préliminaire des oiseaux du Parc National de la Kéran

Le Parc est à cheval sur les Régions de la Kara et des Savanes, et est traversé d'est en ouest par la rivière Koumongou, résultant de la confluence de la Kéran et de la Koumongou juste à l'est de Naboulgou. La rivière Koumongou se jette dans l'Oti à l'ouest du parc. Le centre administratif du Parc est à Naboulgou (10°09'N, 00°49'E), entre les deux ponts (l'ancien et le nouveau) sur la rivière. Le parc est traversé du nord au sud par la route nationale No. 1, fréquentée par de nombreux camions roulant à grande vitesse. La gestion du Parc a connu beaucoup de problèmes, et la superficie a été diminuée de moitié en 2003; depuis des années le personnel n'a aucun moyen pour contrôler le braconnage, les feux etc. Le Parc continue d'être envahi par des petits villages de pêcheurs et cultivateurs. L'hôtel touristique (situé près de Naboulgou) a été détruit par les villageois en 1990 et jamais reconstruit.

Les rivières Kéran et Koumongou sont bordées d'une forêt sèche par endroits très luxuriante, avec des arbres atteignant 30 à 40 m: *Celtis integrifolia* et *Cola laurifolia* sont particulièrement bien développés, ainsi qu'*Anogeissus leiocarpus*, tandis que le cordon ripicole est dominé par *Pterocarpus santalinoides* et des fourrés bas de *Combretum acutum*. Il y a de nombreuses lianes (*Combretum paniculatum*, *Hippocratea* sp., *Saba* spp., *Paullinia pinnata*, *Quisqualis indica*, *Uvaria chamae* etc.). *Pouteria (Malacantha) alnifolia* est un arbre moyen assez commun, on trouve aussi quelques gros *Kigelia africana*, *Diospyros mespiliformis*, *Acacia sieberiana* etc. La rivière est large de 20 à 50 m ou plus, et parsemée de bancs de sable et de zones rocheuses. Le reste du Parc est assez boisé; il y a une grande plaine d'herbe rase dans la plaine d'inondation de la rivière Oti à la limite nord du Parc (hors Parc depuis 2003 si pas déjà avant, cf. la carte IGN). Une petite zone aquatique appelée la "Mare aux lions" près de Koumongou (lisière occidentale) n'a pas été visitée.

Nous avons séjourné dans le Parc du 29 (après-midi) au 31 janvier 2010, et du 14 au 16 mars 2011. On a essuyé un orage très violent le 14 mars après-midi, et ce n'était pas le premier du mois. A chaque fois, nous avons campé sur la rivière à 12 km au sud-est de Naboulgou (sur une boucle de la Kéran à l'est de la route, Camp No. 1) et sur le vieux pont à Naboulgou. On a passé peu de temps en savane boisée, principalement près de notre campement No. 1.

Nous présentons une liste des oiseaux basée sur nos deux visites (avec 174 espèces en tout), ainsi que des données supplémentaires fournies par Johannes & Sharon Merz obtenues lors de brefs arrêts de passage, et les données de la littérature, soit en tout 251 espèces. L'ouvrage principal reste le livre de Cheke & Walsh (1996, et références incluses); quelques espèces supplémentaires sont mentionnées dans le chapitre "Togo" des *Important Bird Areas in Africa and associated islands* rédigé par Cheke (2001). Le Parc est considéré comme une "Zone Importante pour la Conservation des Oiseaux (ZICO)", mais l'impact des changements subis par la région depuis 1990 n'a pas été étudié pour l'avifaune.

Un * indique les espèces non observées par nous. Deux espèces sont "nouvelles" pour le Togo, le Pic à queue dorée *Campethera abingoni* (une espèce sédentaire surtout repérée à son cri) et le Travailleur à bec rouge *Quelea quelea*. Ce dernier est régulier en saison sèche au nord de 10°N au Ghana voisin (obs. pers.), et le Pic est répandu dans les pays voisins dans ce genre de forêt ripicole (obs. pers.). Naboulgou/Kéran est une nouvelle localité pour plusieurs espèces (voir Cheke & Walsh 1996 et Cheke 2001), notamment le Souimanga à tête verte *Nectarinia verticalis* et le Drongo de Ludwig *Dicrurus ludwigii*, pour lesquels on n'avait pas de données aussi septentrionales.

Cormoran africain *Phalacrocorax africanus*. En petits nombres sur la rivière.

*Blongios nain *Ixobrychus minutus*. Noté par Cheke & Walsh (1996) à Naboulgou, date incertaine (entre février et mai).

Bihoreau gris *Nycticorax nycticorax*. Plusieurs entendus la nuit sur la rivière en 2010.

Bihoreau à dos blanc *Gorsachius leuconotus*. Entendu la nuit sur la Kéran (2011, Camp No. 1). Une première donnée pour le Parc.

*Crabier chevelu *Ardeola ralloides*. Un ex. près de Naboulgou le 24 mai 1980 (Cheke 1982) et un ex. le 12 juin 1983 (Cheke & Walsh 1984).

Héron garde-boeufs *Bubulcus ibis*. Répandu, mares, rivière et plaine.

Héron vert ou strié *Butorides striata*. Répandu en végétation ripicole.

Aigrette garzette *Egretta garzetta*. Une ou deux sur la rivière, janvier-mars. Aussi notée en octobre 1981 (Cheke 1982) et juin 1983 (Cheke & Walsh 1984).

Héron pourpré *Ardea purpurea*. Deux sur une mare à *Mitragyna*, 31 janvier 2010.

Héron cendré *Ardea cinerea*. Quelques-uns sur la rivière.

Héron mélanocéphale *Ardea melanocephala*. Un ex. sur la plaine au nord du Parc, 2010.

Ombrette *Scopus umbretta*. Commune le long de la rivière; gros nid au Camp No. 1.

*Tantale ibis *Mycteria ibis*. Une colonie a existé à Mango pendant de nombreuses années (elle comportait 20-25 nids en 1987-89). Elle n'était pas occupée en 1993 (T. Crisler in Cheke & Walsh 1996) et a en effet disparu, d'après le Conservateur du Parc. Toutefois, l'espèce serait encore vue autour des mares du Parc (com. pers. du Conservateur aux Merz, 2011). A confirmer.

*Bec-ouvert africain *Anastomus lamelligerus*. Cette cigogne est mentionnée par Cheke & Walsh (1996), avec 60 ex. à Koumongou en avril (sans année), à la lisière occidentale du Parc.

Cigogne épiscopale *Ciconia episcopus*. Un ex. à Naboulgou le 31 janvier 2010. Observée au même endroit dès 1980 (mai, max. 5: Cheke 1982).

Cigogne blanche *Ciconia ciconia*. Un ex. sur la plaine au nord du Parc, 29 janvier 2010.

*Jabiru du Sénégal *Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis*. A niché dans le Parc en 1986-89 (Cheke & Walsh 1996). Couple à Naboulgou le 19 mai 1980 (Cheke 1982).

*Marabou *Leptoptilos crumeniferus*. Une seule donnée: un couple en février 1988 près de Mango (Walsh *et al.* 1990), maintenant hors Parc. Le Conservateur actuel ne l'a jamais vu dans le Parc (com. pers. aux Merz, 2011).

Ibis hagedash *Bostrychia hagedash*. Plusieurs le long de la rivière, aux deux sites.

*Ibis sacré *Threskiornis aethiopica*. Très rare: un ex. avril 1979 (Cheke & Walsh 1996). L'observation est de E. Rougement (in Cheke & Walsh 1980).

Dendrocygne veuf *Dendrocygna viduata*. Entendu la nuit au-dessus de Naboulgou (janvier).

*Canard pilet *Anas acuta*. Une 50e au sud-est de Koumongou en décembre 1987 et 10 couples en février 1988 (Walsh *et al.* 1990).

*Sarcelle d'été *Anas querquedula*. Deux à Naboulgou le 10 octobre 1981 (Cheke 1982).

*Anserelle (Oie) naine *Nettapus auritus*. Un couple à Naboulgou le 25 mai 1981 (Cheke 1982), dans une mare sans doute; 4 près de Naboulgou en juillet 1983 (Cheke & Walsh 1984).

Baza coucou *Aviceda cuculoides*. Vu en mars 2011 (un au Camp No. 1 et couple à Naboulgou).

*Elanion blanc *Elanus caeruleus*. Un ex. noté le 27 avril 2008 par J&S Merz entre Naboulgou et le carrefour de Gando.

Milan noir/à bec jaune *Milvus migrans*. Commun.

*Palmiste africain *Gypohierax angolensis*. Noté par Cheke & Walsh (1996) à Naboulgou (sans date), mais en l'absence de *Raphia*, ne peut être qu'un visiteur irrégulier.

Vautour charognard *Necrosyrtes monachus*. Un ex. en 2011 (plus commun en ville).

*Vautour africain *Gyps africanus*. Présent dans le Parc dans le passé; a niché au moins une fois (un nid dans un Baobab, janvier 1989: Cheke & Walsh 1996).

*Vautour de Rüppell *Gyps rueppellii*. Visiteur de saison sèche, avec max. 30 ex. en mars 1990 (Cheke & Walsh 1996), sans doute disparu aujourd'hui.

[*Vautour fauve *Gyps fulvus*. Une seule donnée au Togo, d'un égaré dans le nord du Parc, 21 février 1988 (Cheke

& Walsh 1996). Espèce à confirmer.]

*Circaète de Beaudouin *Circaetus (gallicus) beaudouini*. Observé dans le Parc en août (Cheke & Walsh 1996), et peut-être en janvier 2008 (J&S Merz). La forme paléarctique *gallicus* (très semblable) pourrait aussi s'y rencontrer.

*Circaète brun *Circaetus cinereus*. Noté près de Naboulgou, et aussi transportant des brindilles (mars) (Cheke & Walsh 1996).

Circaète cendré *Circaetus cinerascens*. Bien présent en forêt ripicole: avec chants tôt le matin (perché) ou en vol en milieu de journée.

Aigle bateleur *Terathopius ecaudatus*. Un ex. en 2011.

Gymnogène d'Afrique *Polyboroides typus*. Un ex. à Naboulgou, 2010.

Busard des roseaux *Circus aeruginosus*. Adultes des deux sexes, vus aux deux visites.

*Busard pâle *Circus macrourus*. Mentionné par Cheke (2001).

*Autour chanteur *Melierax metabates*. Observé près de Naboulgou (octobre, janvier, mars) par Walsh *et al.* (1990).

[*Autour tachiro *Accipiter tachiro*. Cette espèce forestière aurait été vue en forêt ripicole par Cheke et/ou Walsh (Cheke & Walsh 1996), sans aucun détail fourni de date, observateur etc. A confirmer.]

Epervier shikra *Accipiter badius*. Naboulgou.

*Epervier de l'Ovampo *Accipiter ovampensis*. Vu deux fois par Cheke & Walsh 1996 (janvier, avril).

Buse des sauterelles *Butastur rufipennis*. Plusieurs aux deux visites. A niché dans le passé, deux couples en avril-juin 1990, respectivement près de Naboulgou et 6 km à l'ouest de Sagbiégou (Cheke & Walsh 1996). Cette espèce niche normalement dans le Sahel plus au nord.

Buse (ou Autour) unibande *Kaupifalco monogrammicus*. Commune partout.

[*Buse féroce *Buteo rufinus*. Cheke & Walsh (1996) rapportent l'observation d'un immature égaré à Naboulgou, 17 mars 1990. Espèce très difficile à identifier (même sur photo, cette espèce a été confondue avec d'autres Buses) et cette donnée ne peut être acceptée sans une description convaincante.]

Aigle ravisseur *Aquila rapax*. Un ex. est venu boire à la rivière au Camp. No. 1, et un couple perché au bord de la rivière, Naboulgou, 2010.

*Aigle huppard *Lophaetus occipitalis*. Un ex. à Naboulgou le 30 août 1984 (Cheke *et al.* 1986).

*Aigle martial *Polemaetus bellicosus*. Noté comme pas rare dans le Parc par Cheke & Walsh (1996), ce qui n'est peut-être plus le cas aujourd'hui.

*Messager serpenteaire *Sagittarius serpentarius*. Cheke & Walsh (1996) le mentionnent comme visiteur de saison sèche, cette information venant du personnel du Parc (Walsh *et al.* 1990). Espèce quasi éteinte dans cette partie de l'Afrique, mais le Conservateur actuel dit qu'il existe toujours (com. pers. aux Merz, 2011).

*Faucon renard *Falco alopex*. Mentionné par Cheke (2001); cette espèce fréquente normalement les collines et escarpements rocheux, un milieu non rencontré dans le Parc, mais peut être sujette à des mouvements locaux, notamment pour suivre des feux de brousse.

Faucon ardoisé *Falco ardosiaceus*. Forêt ripicole (Camp No. 1).

Francolin à double éperon *Francolinus bicalcaratus*. Commun.

Poule(tte) de roche *Ptilopachus petrosus*. En forêt sèche près de la rivière.

Pintade commune *Numida meleagris*. Au Camp No. 1. S'est beaucoup raréfiée et ne peut être qualifiée d'abondante comme dans les années 1970s (Cheke & Walsh 1980).

Râle à bec jaune *Amaurornis flavirostris*. Au bord de la rivière.

*Talève d'Allen *Porphyrio alleni*. Notée par E. Rougement en avril 1979 (*in* Cheke & Walsh 1980).

Poule d'eau *Gallinula chloropus*. Une sur la rivière (mare tranquille) au Camp No. 1, janvier 2010.

*Grue couronnée *Balearica pavonina*. Cette espèce fort chassée a probablement disparu du Togo: dans le passé, a atteint des nombres impressionnants, max. 180 en avril 1986 et 430 en avril 1990 (Cheke & Walsh 1996). N'a pas été vue dans les années récentes par le Conservateur (com. pers. aux Merz, 2011).

Grébifoulque d'Afrique *Podica senegalensis*. Vu sur la rivière à nos deux campements.

*Outarde de Denham *Neotis denhami*. Visiteur de saison sèche (novembre-avril), max. 5 ex. le 21 février 1988, plaine au sud de Mango, où elle a d'ailleurs niché en 1990 (Cheke & Walsh 1996).

*Outarde à ventre noir *Eupodotis melanogaster*. Une donnée par Cheke & Walsh (1996).

Oedicnème du Sénégal *Burhinus senegalensis*. Sur les berges de la rivière à Naboulgou. Couple avec 2 poussins

- le 26 avril 1987 (Walsh *et al.* 1990).
- Pluvian d'Égypte *Pluvianus aegyptius*. Un ex. sur banc de sable à Naboulgou, mars 2011.
- Vanneau du Sénégal *Vanellus senegallus*. Un couple sur banc de sable à Naboulgou, janvier 2010.
- Vanneau à tête blanche *Vanellus albiceps*. Commun le long de la rivière, aux deux campements. Couple avec un petit poussin le 11 avril 1987 (Walsh *et al.* 1990).
- *Vanneau à tête noire *Vanellus tectus*. Un couple dans le nord du Parc, février 1987 (Walsh *et al.* 1990).
- Vanneau éperonné *Vanellus spinosus*. Sur banc de sable près de Naboulgou, janvier 2010.
- *Chevalier gambette *Tringa totanus*. Ce chevalier essentiellement côtier aurait été vu une fois à Naboulgou sur la rivière, le 7 décembre 1981 (Cheke 1982).
- *Chevalier stagnatile *Tringa stagnatilis*. Un ex. vu par J&S Merz le 22 Mars 2010 à Naboulgou (rivière).
- Chevalier aboyeur *Tringa nebularia*. Un ex. Naboulgou (rivière) le 15 mars 2011.
- Chevalier culblanc *Tringa ochropus*. Quelques-uns sur la rivière, janvier-mars.
- Chevalier guignette *Actitis hypoleucos*. Plusieurs le long de la rivière, janvier-mars.
- *Ganga à ventre brun *Pterocles exustus*. Une observation dans le Parc: plusieurs le 12 décembre 1978 (Cheke & Walsh 1980), à la limite méridionale au Togo.
- Ganga quadribande *Pterocles quadricinctus*. Plusieurs visitant la rivière pour s'abreuver, soir et matin (à l'aube), janvier-mars. Normalement présent à partir de novembre.
- Pigeon roussard *Columba guinea*. Un ex. sur le vieux pont à Naboulgou, 2011.
- *Tourterelle des bois *Streptopelia turtur*. Huit dans le Parc, février 1987 (Walsh *et al.* 1990).
- Tourterelle maillée *Streptopelia senegalensis*. Répandue (rivière, campement de Naboulgou).
- *Tourterelle pleureuse *Streptopelia decipiens*. Espèce rapportée par Cheke & Walsh (1996), mais doit être rare. La forêt sur la Kéran est fort luxuriante pour cette espèce, de savane plus sèche. Statut à confirmer.
- Tourterelle vineuse *Streptopelia vinacea*. Commune.
- Tourterelle à collier *Streptopelia semitorquata*. Commune en forêt ripicole.
- Tourtelette d'Abyssinie *Turtur abyssinicus*. Commune en forêt ripicole et en savane.
- Tourtelette améthystine *Turtur afer*. Quelques ex. en forêt ripicole (Camp No. 1), chantent bien en janvier 2010, beaucoup moins en mars 2011.
- Tourterelle masquée *Oena capensis*. Plusieurs en janvier 2010. Notée aussi par J&S Merz le 6 juin 2010.
- Pigeon vert (Colombar) à front nu *Treron calvus*. Commun en forêt ripicole.
- *Pigeon vert (Colombar) waalia *Treron waalia*. Noté par J&S Merz plusieurs fois.
- Perroquet youyou *Poicephalus senegallus*. Répandu; vu mangeant des graines de *Pterocarpus* (31 janvier) et de *Combretum* (mars) en savane boisée.
- *Inséparable à tête rouge *Agapornis pullarius*. Noté par J&S Merz: 2 ex. en vol à Naboulgou le 18 mars 2010; et aussi par Cheke & Walsh (1996): 8 ex. 10 km au nord de Naboulgou, février 1987.
- Touraco violet *Musophaga violacea*. Commun en forêt ripicole.
- Touraco gris *Crinifer piscator*. Répandu.
- Coucou de Levailant *Clamator levaillantii*. Non contacté en janvier (migrateur intra-africain) mais bien en mars 2011, chantant en forêt ripicole (Camp No. 1).
- Coucou d'Audebert *Pachycoccyx audeberti*. Deux ex. vus en vol au-dessus de la rivière Kéran au Camp No. 1, 30 janvier 2010.
- *Coucou solitaire *Cuculus solitarius*. Absent en saison sèche (migrateur intra-africain), mais entendu à Naboulgou par J&S Merz le 7 juillet 2010. Noté d'avril à septembre par Cheke & Walsh (1996).
- Coucou gris africain *Cuculus gularis*. Non entendu en janvier, mais très bruyant en mars.
- [*Coucou foliotocol *Chrysococcyx cupreus*. Un ex. entendu à Naboulgou en août 1989 est la seule donnée au nord du Togo pour cette espèce de la zone forestière (Cheke & Walsh 1996). A confirmer.]
- Coucou de Klaas *Chrysococcyx klaas*. Chantait en forêt ripicole en mars (non entendu en janvier, bien que sédentaire).
- Coucou didric *Chrysococcyx caprius*. Un ex. vu en janvier 2010.
- Coucal du Sénégal *Centropus senegalensis*. Commun.
- Chouette effraie *Tyto alba*. Présente à Naboulgou.
- Petit-duc africain *Otus senegalensis*. Entendu au Camp No. 1.

Petit-duc à face blanche *Ptilopsis leucotis*. Entendu au Camp No. 1.

*Grand-duc africain (du Sahel) *Bubo africanus cinerascens*. Mentionné pour Naboulgou en 1978 (Cheke & Walsh 1980).

Chevêchette perlée *Glaucidium perlatum*. Présente aux deux sites, forêt ripicole.

Engoulevent pointillé *Caprimulgus tristigma*. Cette espèce de zones rocheuses occupe les ruines de l'hôtel, avec un ex. entendu chaque année, qui semblait non accouplé (chantait à longueur de nuit!).

Engoulevent à longue queue *Caprimulgus climacurus*. Entendu dans les environs de Naboulgou, mars 2011.

Engoulevent à balanciers *Macrodipteryx longipennis*. Un couple vu au crépuscule en savane boisée au Camp No. 1, mars 2011.

*Martinet d'Ussher *Telacanthura ussheri*. Deux couples près de Naboulgou en octobre 1979 (Cheke & Walsh 1980). Vu aussi par J&S Merz en janvier 2010.

[*Martinet alpin *Tachymarptis melba*. J.F. Walsh in Cheke & Walsh (1984) mentionne avoir vu une 100e de ce grand martinet près de Naboulgou le 3 juin 1983. Cette date, pour un migrateur paléarctique qui rentre tôt en Europe, apparaît anormalement tardive. Il ne niche pas au Sahel, contrairement au Martinet marbré *T. aequatorialis*, et on peut se demander s'il n'y a pas eu confusion (cf. Dowsett & Dowsett-Lemaire 2005b).]

*Martinet noir *Apus apus*. Cheke & Walsh (1984) mentionnent c. 40 ex. près de Naboulgou le 3 juin 1983. Cette date est très tardive (sans doute s'agit-il d'individus sub-adultes non nicheurs). Une 100e vus au passage par J&S Merz le 27 mai 2010 tombe aussi à une date tardive. Le passage de printemps s'observe normalement en avril-début mai.

*Martinet cafre *Apus caffer*. Vu en juin-juillet-août à Naboulgou (Cheke & Walsh 1980, 1984; Cheke *et al.* 1986).

Martinet des maisons *Apus affinis*. Quelques ex. autour du vieux pont, janvier 2010.

*Trogon narina *Apaloderma narina*. Noté par Cheke & Walsh (1996) comme présent dans la forêt ripicole le long de la rivière Koumongou. Espèce très discrète en dehors de la saison des pluies, quand elle chante.

Martin-pêcheur azuré *Alcedo quadibrachys*. Vu sur la Kéran à chaque visite, à l'abri de la végétation ripicole dense.

Martin-pêcheur huppé *Alcedo cristata*. Vu sur la Kéran.

Martin-chasseur pygmée *Ceyx pictus*. En forêt ripicole en mars 2011, très actif au Camp No. 1 (non noté en janvier). Normalement commun en saison des pluies.

Martin-chasseur à tête grise *Halcyon leucocephala*. Occupe les berges de la rivière près de Naboulgou (mars 2011).

Martin-chasseur à poitrine bleue *Halcyon malimbica*. Commun en forêt ripicole.

Martin-chasseur du Sénégal *Halcyon senegalensis*. Noté à Naboulgou en saison des pluies (juillet-août) par Cheke & Walsh (1980) et Cheke *et al.* (1986).

Martin-chasseur strié *Halcyon chelicuti*. En savane boisée (Camp No. 1).

Martin-pêcheur géant *Megaceryle maxima*. Présent sur la rivière aux deux sites.

Martin-pêcheur pie *Ceryle rudis*. Comme le précédent.

*Guêpier à queue d'hirondelle *Merops hirundineus*. Un ex. près de Naboulgou le 26 mai 1980 (Cheke 1982).

Guêpier à gorge rouge *Merops bulocki*. Quelques ex. se nourrissant le long de la rivière, aux deux sites visités. Connu pour nicher dans le Parc (berges), avec trois colonies actives en février 1987 (Walsh *et al.* 1990).

Guêpier d'Europe *Merops apiaster*. Oiseau commun au passage: le 15 mars 2011, le passage (vers le nord) a commencé à 9h20.

Guêpier écarlate *Merops nubicus*. Sur la plaine au nord du Parc (certains chassaient perchés sur des chèvres ou des vaches), et vu aussi le long de l'Oti (coin nord-ouest du Parc), où il niche (Cheke & Walsh 1996).

Rollier d'Abyssinie *Coracias abyssinica*. Endroits ouverts (plaine au nord du Parc), janvier et mars. Vu jusque début juin près de Naboulgou (Cheke & Walsh 1984).

*Rollier varié *Coracias naevius*. Noté par J&S Merz en janvier 2008.

Rollier à ventre bleu *Coracias cyanogaster*. Un couple en savane (Camp No. 1 aux deux visites). Une nouvelle donnée pour le Parc (cf. Cheke 2001).

Rolle violet *Eurystomus glaucurus*. Non noté en janvier 2010 mais en mars 2011, le long de la Kéran (couple chassant un voisin). Les Merz l'auraient vu le 7 janvier 2008 à Naboulgou, ce qui est exceptionnellement tôt pour ce migrateur de la saison pluviale.

- Irrisor moqueur *Phoeniculus purpureus*. Répandu.
- Irrisor noir *Phoeniculus aterrimus*. En savane boisée près du Camp No. 1.
- *Huppe fasciée *Upupa epops*. Un ex. de la race apparemment paléarctique vu près de Naboulgou, février 1987 (Walsh *et al.* 1990).
- *Bucorve d'Abyssinie *Bucorvus abyssinicus*. Ce grand calao terrestre a existé dans le Parc (Cheke & Walsh 1996), mais a-t-il résisté aux changements et au braconnage?
- Calao à bec rouge *Tockus erythrorhynchus*. Répandu.
- Calao à bec noir *Tockus nasutus*. Répandu.
- Barbion à front jaune *Pogoniulus chrysoconus*. Répandu.
- Barbican de Vieillot *Lybius vieilloti*. Répandu.
- Barbican à poitrine rouge *Lybius dubius*. Répandu.
- Grand Indicateur *Indicator indicator*. Entendu aux deux visites.
- Petit Indicateur *Indicator minor*. Un chantait près de Naboulgou le 15 mars 2011, à partir de 7h15 (seulement 1 heure et 35 minutes après l'aube).
- Pic à taches noires *Campethera punctuligera*. Près du Camp No. 1.
- Pic à queue dorée *Campethera abingoni*. Entendu et vu en forêt ripicole sur la Kéran et à Naboulgou. Un ex. agité criant plusieurs fois le 16 mars 2011 (Camp No. 1) a été enregistré.
- Pic cardinal *Dendropicos fuscescens*. En forêt ripicole à Naboulgou.
- Pic goertan *Dendropicos goertae*. En forêt ripicole aux deux sites.
- *Alouette à queue rousse *Pinarocorys erythropygia*. Notée par Walsh *et al.* (1990) en février et avril à Naboulgou.
- Cochevis modeste *Galerida modesta*. Un ex. sur herbes courtes près du Camp No. 1, sur une route de latérite, 30 janvier 2010 (pas revu en 2011 à cet endroit). Une nouvelle donnée pour le Parc (cf. Cheke 2001).
- *Cochevis huppé *Galerida cristata*. Noté dans le nord du Parc (plaine rase) par Cheke & Walsh (1996), sans dates, à moins qu'il ne s'agisse de la mention d'un ex. près de Mango en février 1988 (Walsh *et al.* 1990). Station la plus méridionale pour cette espèce essentiellement du Sahel en Afrique occidentale.
- Moinelette à oreillons blancs *Eremopterix leucotis*. Plusieurs ex. dans la plaine près de la rivière Oti, 29 janvier 2010. Walsh *et al.* (1990) la notent comme abondante en janvier-mars 1986, 1987, 1988 et novembre-décembre 1987.
- *Hirondelle à ventre roux *Hirundo semirufa*. Notée à Naboulgou en février (Walsh *et al.* 1990).
- Hirondelle striée *Hirundo abyssinica*. Commune à Naboulgou, et niche dans les anciens bâtiments de l'hôtel en ruine.
- *Hirondelle rousseline *Hirundo daurica*. Quelques ex. près du carrefour de Gando, 18 novembre 2009 et 12 décembre 2010 (J&S Merz).
- Hirondelle de Preuss *Hirundo preussi*. Un ex. a visité la rivière à Naboulgou le 30 janvier 2010. Notée aussi par J&S Merz le 27 avril 2008.
- Hirondelle à longs brins *Hirundo smithii*. Un couple sur la Kéran au Camp No. 1, et un couple à Naboulgou (vieux pont).
- *Hirondelle à ailes tachetées *Hirundo leucosoma*. Au moins deux données dans Cheke & Walsh (1996), février (Mare aux Lions) et Septembre (Naboulgou).
- *Hirondelle rustique (de cheminée) *Hirundo rustica*. Vue au passage par J&S Merz le 18 mars 2010.
- Hirondelle à gorge rousse *Hirundo lucida*. Plusieurs couples à Naboulgou; niche dans l'hôtel en ruine.
- *Hirondelle de fenêtre *Delichon urbicum*. Vue au passage par J&S Merz, le 6 avril 2011.
- Pipit des arbres *Anthus trivialis*. Un ex. en savane boisée le 15 mars 2011.
- *Pipit à gorge rousse *Anthus cervinus*. Un ex. près de Naboulgou en février 1988 (Walsh *et al.* 1990).
- Echenilleur à épaulettes rouges *Campephaga phoenicea*. Ce migrateur intra-africain n'a pas été vu en janvier, mais en mars (forêt ripicole sur la Kéran, au moins deux mâles chanteurs).
- Echenilleur à ventre blanc *Coracina pectoralis*. Vu en lisière de plantation de tecks à Naboulgou, 2011.
- Bulbul à gorge claire *Chlorocichla flavicollis*. Commun en forêt ripicole sur la Kéran (attiré par la repasse et bien vu). Sur la Koumongou, on a peut-être entendu le Bulbul à queue rousse *Pyrrhurus scandens*, à vérifier.
- Bulbul des jardins *Pycnonotus barbatus*. Commun partout.

- Merle africain *Turdus pelios*. Répandu, forêt ripicole, plantation de tecks...
- Cossyphes à calotte neigeuse *Cossypha niveicapilla*. En forêt ripicole: déjà 2 ex. le 30 janvier 2010 sur la Kéran, et entendu à Naboulogou. Plus nombreux en mars.
- Cossyphes à calotte blanche *Cossypha albicapillus*. Commun en forêt ripicole.
- *Rougequeue à front blanc *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*. Une femelle à Naboulogou, le 27 janvier 1989 (Cheke & Walsh 1996).
- *Traquet motteux *Oenanthe oenanthe*. Une femelle près de Koumongou le 18 mars 1990 (Cheke & Walsh 1996).
- *Traquet à poitrine rousse *Oenanthe bottae (heuglini)*. Un ex. dans le nord du Parc le 21 février 1988 (Cheke & Walsh 1996).
- *Traquet à front blanc *Myrmecocichla albifrons*. Noté près de Naboulogou en 1984 (Cheke *et al.* 1986). Espèce de savane boisée.
- Mélocichle à moustaches *Melocichla mentalis*. Commune dans les herbes non brûlées en savane ou près de la rivière; chantait déjà fin janvier (à l'aube).
- Hypolais polyglotte *Hippolais polyglotta*. Commune en forêt ripicole et *Anogeissus*, janvier-mars.
- *Hypolais pâle *Hippolais opaca*. Un ex. à Naboulogou un 18 mars (Cheke & Walsh 1996).
- Erémomèle à dos vert *Eremomela pusilla*. Répandue.
- Crombec sittelle *Sylvietta brachyura*. Lisière de forêt ripicole et en savane boisée.
- Pouillot fitis *Phylloscopus trochilus*. Présent janvier-mars (avec chants en mars).
- Cisticole rousse *Cisticola rufus*. Quelques ex. en savane boisée près du Camp No. 1: repérées à leurs cris fins, 15-16 mars 2011.
- Cisticole à ailes courtes *Cisticola brachypterus*. Présente près du Camp No. 1, savane ouverte.
- Cisticole à face rousse *Cisticola erythrops*. Présente dans les buissons au bord de la rivière.
- Cisticole chanteuse *Cisticola cantans*. Répandue.
- Prinia modeste *Prinia subflava*. Répandue.
- Apalis à gorge jaune *Apalis flavida*. Très commune (et bruyante) dans les fourrés ripicoles partout. La suggestion par Cheke & Walsh (1996) que cette espèce serait migratrice apparaît sans fondement (les auteurs avaient peu de données en saison sèche, ce qui est difficile à expliquer).
- Camaroptère à tête grise *Camaroptera brachyura*. Commune en forêt ripicole, et autres fourrés.
- Noircap loriote *Hypergerus atriceps*. En forêt ripicole, chante peu en saison sèche.
- Gobemouche drongo *Melaenornis edolioides*. En forêt ripicole et en forêt sèche à *Anogeissus*. Chantait plus en mars qu'en janvier.
- Gobemouche noir *Ficedula hypoleuca*. Janvier-mars: particulièrement commun dans les *Anogeissus*. En mue en mars, évoluant vers le plumage nuptial.
- Gobemouche des marais *Muscicapa aquatica*. Un chanteur au bord de la rivière à Naboulogou, janvier 2010 (chante toujours assez bas, près de l'eau).
- Gobemouche mésange *Myioparus plumbeus*. Assez commun en lisière de forêt ripicole; ne chantait pas encore fin janvier (cris seulement), mais chantait régulièrement mi-mars.
- Pririt du Sénégal *Batis senegalensis*. En savane boisée.
- Pririt à collier *Platysteira cyanea*. Commun en forêt ripicole.
- Tchitrec bleu *Elminia longicauda*. Plutôt local: trouvé en forêt sèche près du vieux pont à Naboulogou en mars 2011.
- Tchitrec d'Afrique *Terpsiphone viridis*. Déjà plusieurs fin janvier 2010, en forêt ripicole, et mars 2011. Cheke & Walsh (1996) le considèrent en effet comme sédentaire, mais c'est un migrateur de la saison pluviale à la même latitude au Ghana. La végétation luxuriante des forêts ripicoles de la Kéran contraste avec la végétation plus sèche au Ghana. Plusieurs mâles de plumage noir et blanc.
- Cratérope brun *Turdoides plebejus*. Surtout écotone de forêt ripicole et savane.
- Cratérope à tête noire *Turdoides reinwardtii*. Commun en forêt ripicole.
- *Mésange à épaulettes blanches *Parus leucomelas guineensis*. Notée en savane boisée (Naboulogou) par Cheke & Walsh (1996).
- *Grimpereau tacheté *Salpornis spilonotus*. La seule donnée pour le Togo provient de Naboulogou, avril 1990 (Cheke & Walsh 1996).

- Souimanga violet *Anthreptes longuemarei*. Vu près du Camp No. 1 en janvier 2010.
- Souimanga pygmée *Anthreptes platurus*. Vu au Camp No. 1 en janvier 2010.
- Souimanga à tête verte *Nectarinia verticalis*. En forêt ripicole à Naboulgou (aux deux visites).
- Souimanga à poitrine rouge *Nectarinia senegalensis*. Commun.
- Souimanga cuivré *Nectarinia cuprea*. En forêt sèche ou en lisière, noté aux deux visites, janvier et mars. Cheke & Walsh mentionnent qu'ils n'ont aucune donnée en dehors de mars-septembre dans les savanes du nord (dont Mango), ce qui paraît bizarre (il est également commun en janvier au nord du Ghana).
- Souimanga éclatant *Nectarinia coccinigaster*. Un ex. chantait le 30 janvier 2010 en forêt sèche (Camp No. 1).
- Souimanga à longue queue *Nectarinia pulchella*. Commun en forêt ripicole, butinant les fleurs d'*Acacia sieberiana* et *Gmelina* (mars). Mâle en plumage partiel (mars). Plusieurs aussi en janvier. Cheke & Walsh (1996) écrivent que l'espèce est migratrice, présente seulement de février à août, ce qui est contredit sur la page suivante (p. 147) par le fait qu'ils ont aussi une donnée de nidification en octobre! Considéré comme sédentaire au Ghana.
- Zostérops jaune *Zosterops senegalensis*. Répandu. Butinait les fleurs de *Senna (Cassia) singueana* (mars).
- Loriot doré *Oriolus auratus*. Noté en janvier 2010 (Camp No. 1), mais curieusement pas en mars 2011.
- Corvinelle à bec jaune *Corvinella corvina*. Répandue, milieux assez ouverts.
- Brubru africain *Nilaus afer*. En savane boisée.
- Cubla de Gambie *Dryoscopus gambensis*. Commune en forêt ripicole.
- Tchagra à tête noire *Tchagra senegalus*. Commune en savane boisée.
- [*Gonolek d'Abyssinie *Laniarius aethiopicus*. Cheke & Walsh (1996) le mentionnent pour Naboulgou: les détails sont un ex. vu le 25 mai 1980 par Cheke (1982). Nous ne l'avons pas entendu en 4 jours d'observation dans la zone, alors que cette espèce bruyante passe difficilement inaperçue. Espèce de la zone de transition et des savanes humides, pour laquelle Naboulgou apparaît trop au nord. S'agissait-il d'un égaré?]
- Gonolek de Barbarie *Laniarius barbarus*. Commune en fourrés ripicoles.
- Gladiateur soufré *Malaconotus sulfureopectus*. En forêt ripicole, ne chantait pas beaucoup en janvier-mars, mais c'est tout de même surprenant que Cheke & Walsh (1996) ne l'ont notée qu'en avril-août. Espèce bien sédentaire.
- Gladiateur de Blanchot *Malaconotus blanchoti*. Répandue, très vocale en janvier déjà.
- Bagadai casqué *Prionops plumatus*. Un groupe au Camp No. 1.
- Drongo de Ludwig *Dicrurus ludwigii*. Un couple assez bruyant en forêt ripicole dense au Camp No. 1, mars 2011. En 2010, n'a pas été entendu en janvier, mais lors d'une brève halte à midi le 19 février.
- Drongo brillant *Dicrurus adsimilis*. Répandu; le 15 mars on a observé un couple (qui devait avoir un nid) chassant à plusieurs reprises un Coucou africain (espèce parasite).
- *Piapiac africain *Ptilostomus afer*. Noté par Cheke (2001). Normalement en association avec de grands mammifères, y compris le bétail.
- Corbeau pie *Corvus albus*. Sur l'Oti et parfois à Naboulgou, près des habitations.
- Choucador (Merle métallique) pourpré *Lamprotornis purpureus*. Noté vers l'Oti au nord.
- *Choucador à queue violette *Lamprotornis chalcurus*. Une seule observation: 1 ex. le 13 août 1989 à Naboulgou (Cheke & Walsh 1996).
- Choucador à longue queue *Lamprotornis caudatus*. Quelques-uns venant boire dans la Kéran au Camp No. 1, aux deux visites.
- *Choucador à ventre roux *Lamprotornis pulcher*. Un ex. noté par J&S Merz le 25 novembre 2007 entre le carrefour de Gando et Naboulgou. (Hors Parc, ils l'ont vu aussi près de Gando en juin et août 2010).
- Spréo améthyste *Cinnyricinclus leucogaster*. Un couple près du vieux pont le 31 janvier 2010 est une donnée précoce pour ce migrateur. Plus visible et bruyant en mars 2011.
- *Piqueboeuf à bec jaune *Buphagus africanus*. A existé dans le Parc, en association avec Buffle, Antilope cheval et Phacochère (Cheke & Walsh 1996), mais la disparition des grands mammifères l'a peut-être mené à l'extinction, sauf s'il s'est adapté au bétail. A été vu sur un âne à l'extérieur du Parc, sur la route vers Gando, le 19 mai 2011 (J&S Merz).
- Moineau gris *Passer griseus*. Noté à Naboulgou.

Petit Moineau *Petronia dentata*. Commun.

Mahali à calotte marron *Plocepasser superciliosus*. Noté à chaque visite en lisière de forêt sèche près du vieux pont, et aussi au Camp No. 1 (savane non brûlée).

Tisserin minule *Ploceus luteolus*. Commun en forêt ripicole; 2 vieux nids dans un *Acacia gourmaensis* avec nids de guêpes. Le 15 mars 2011 un mâle était presque en plumage nuptial (à 90%). L'espèce aime à se nourrir dans les *Acacia sieberiana*.

Tisserin à cou noir *Ploceus nigricollis*. En forêt ripicole au Camp No. 1.

*Tisserin vitellin *Ploceus vitellinus*. Noté comme nicheur au bord de la rivière à Naboulgou, août, par Cheke & Walsh (1996).

*Tisserin masqué *Ploceus heuglini*. Mentionné pour Naboulgou par Cheke & Walsh (1996).

Tisserin gendarme *Ploceus cucullatus*. Répandu, souvent en groupes, ne nichait pas encore en janvier-mars.

*Tisserin écarlate *Anaplectes rubriceps*. Vieux nids vus près de Naboulgou par Cheke & Walsh (1996). Espèce discrète (insectivore).

Travailleur à tête rouge *Quelea erythrops*. Bandes de non-nicheurs venant boire en mars 2011, Naboulgou.

Travailleur à bec rouge *Quelea quelea*. Bandes de non-nicheurs venant boire au Camp No. 1 les 29-30 janvier 2010.

Euplecte vorabé *Euplectes afer*. Bandes de non-nicheurs venant boire le soir.

Euplecte franciscain *Euplectes franciscanus*. Bandes de non-nicheurs venant boire le soir.

*Euplecte à dos d'or *Euplectes macrourus*. Noté par J&M Merz en août 2010.

*Beaumarquet aurore *Pytilia phoenicoptera*. Renseigné par Cheke & Walsh (1996).

Amarante pointé *Lagonosticta rufopicta*. En lisière de forêt ripicole sur la Kéran, janvier 2010.

Amarante du Sénégal *Lagonosticta senegala*. Commun, milieux semi-ouverts.

Amarante masqué *Lagonosticta larvata*. En lisière de forêt ripicole, Camp No. 1.

Astrild queue-de-vinaigre *Estrilda caerulescens*. Sous-bois de forêt sèche, aux deux sites visités.

Astrild à joues oranges *Estrilda melpoda*. Commun.

*Astrild cendré *Estrilda troglodytes*. Mentionné par Cheke (2001).

Cordonbleu à joues rouges *Uraeginthus bengalus*. Commun, fourrés.

*Capucin bec-d'argent *Euodice cantans*. Une donnée de 6 ex. en avril 1990 à Naboulgou (Cheke & Walsh 1996).

Capucin nonnette *Spermestes cucullata*. Commun.

*Amadine cou-coupé *Amadina fasciata*. Mâle adulte vu dans le Parc le 9 juillet 1979 par Demey (1998), près de la route nationale.

*Combassou du Sénégal *Vidua chalybeata*. Espèce parasite des nids de *Lagonosticta senegala*, observée en plumage nuptial à Naboulgou en novembre (Cheke & Walsh 1996).

*Veuve dominicaine *Vidua macroura*. Notée en saison des pluies par J&S Merz.

*Veuve nigérienne *Vidua interjecta*. Un mâle en plumage nuptial vu le 19 mai 1980 à Naboulgou (Cheke & Walsh 1996).

*Veuve du Togo *Vidua togoensis*. Mentionnée pour le Parc par Cheke (2001). Elle a été récoltée à Paio, non loin de Sagbiégou (De Roo *et al.* 1969). La présence de son hôte *Pytilia hypogrammica* n'est pas encore établie.

Serin du Mozambique *Serinus mozambicus*. Commun.

Bruant cannelle *Emberiza tahapisi*. Localisé près de l'ancien hôtel, savane avec cailloux; chantait aux deux visites, donc probablement un nicheur local.

Bruant à ventre jaune *Emberiza affinis*. En savane boisée ouverte près du Camp No. 1.

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