while in the pes toe I opposes II–V, with II and III being syndactyl.

This lateral grasping mechanism appears to be a particularly clear but overlooked case of convergence among these three classes of climbing vertebrates. It is doubtful that a single name can be usefully applied to this type of grasping foot. The further elucidation of the underlying tendon and muscle arrangements of the respective groups in which this grasping mechanism appears is a fertile area for further study.

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LITERATURE CITED


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The Raising of a Ghost—Spinus cucullatus in Puerto Rico

HERBERT A. RAFFAELE

Department of Ecology and Evolution, State University of New York at Stony Brook, Stony Brook, New York 11794 USA

The Red Siskin (Spinus cucullatus) has been referred to in most major works on the birds of Puerto Rico ever since it was first listed by Sundevall (1869). Recent references have repeated Gundlach's (1878: 207) statement that the collector of the bird told him that the specimen was not taken in the wild but was a cage bird. Weary of the unwarranted inclusion of the species in the island's bird lists, Leopold (1963: 6) stated, "Surely, after nearly a hundred years, it is time that this ghost be laid."

Despite Leopold's lament, the ghost of the Red Siskin was not to succumb feebly. Biaggi (1970) retained S. cucullatus in the main text rather than placing it in the appendix of doubtful reports, a puzzling inclu-
sion, as he notes that the bird has no place among Puerto Rico's avifauna. Perhaps this was all portentous, for it is time that the specter of *S. cucullatus* be raised.

In 1973 R. Cotte, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, informed me of a site containing a red and black bird. Several searches proved unfruitful. In early 1976 R. Woodbury, a botanist, related that he had seen a boy selling caged red and black birds along a road edge not far from Cotte's site. On 13 March 1976, following several unsuccessful visits, I finally observed five of these birds. A sketch sent to the Smithsonian Institution was tentatively identified as being of a Red Siskin. At a nearby locality on 2 June 1976, in the company of E. Litovich and J. Lichi, I twice observed a female carrying *Tillandsia* to a nest apparently under construction in a gumbo limbo (*Bursera simaruba*). The tree was on a steep slope, and we were at eye level with its 15-m-high crown, but *Tillandsia* grew so densely in the tree that it was impossible to locate the nest. It was approximately 1.5 m below the crown. We also observed a male, facing another male, issuing a twittering call while its wings were extended and drooping. This behavior was suggestive of a recently fledged bird, though one might not expect a fledgling to be in adult male plumage. We saw approximately 12 birds at this locality and a maximum of 6 at one time. Males were quite tame. A male-female pair was collected.

Reports from a similar area about 20 km from my collecting site suggest that the species has at least a moderate range bounded by the towns of Guayama, Coamo, and Aibonito. Specific reference to the sites of its occurrence have been omitted to inhibit collectors.

The two specimens were photographed and sent to the Smithsonian Institution where a mishap resulted in their loss. At the American Museum of Natural History, E. Eisenmann and I positively identified the photographs as being of *Spinus cucullatus*. The Red Siskin is native to parts of northern Venezuela, northeastern Colombia, Trinidad, and Monos and Gasparee islands (de Schauensee 1970). It is extremely rare throughout its range, last being recorded in 1947 (de Schauensee 1966) and Trinidad in 1960 (french 1973). It is listed in the ICBP Red Data Book (King 1981) as endangered. The Red Siskin was given endangered status in 1976 under the U.S. Endangered Species Act and is protected by Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna. The endangerment of *S. cucullatus* has resulted from intensive trapping pressure for the cage bird trade (King 1981). Although the species has been a part of that trade since at least the 18th century (as evidenced by the specimen cited by Sundevall), its popularity no doubt increased significantly when it was demonstrated in 1928 that the bird could be crossed successfully with the Common Canary (*Seri-
Despite the above arguments, I believe the Red Siskin's establishment in Puerto Rico most probably coincided with the period of its heaviest importation. This probably would have been in the 1930's when the species was still relatively common in its native lands and there was an extremely high demand for it among Canary breeders. Discussions with long-term residents in the region where the Red Siskin occurs could shed additional light on this matter.

Regardless of the length of time that the Red Siskin has inhabited Puerto Rico, its continued survival will depend on protective safeguards. While the species may have been a will-o'-the-wisp for ornithologists, we cannot depend on it remaining so for pet traders.

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**A Comparison of White-bearded Manakin (Manacus manacus) Populations and Lek Systems in Suriname and Trinidad**

DEANNA H. OLSON1 AND MICHAEL K. MCDOWELL2

1Department of Zoology and 2School of Oceanography, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon 97331-2914 USA

The White-bearded Manakin (Manacus manacus) is a neotropical, primarily frugivorous, lek-mating passerine. The ecology and behavior of M. m. trinitatis in the Arima Valley, Trinidad has been described (Snow 1962; Lill 1974a, b). Snow (1962) found the Trinidad population density to be unusually high with respect to mainland populations and suggested that this was due to either a high proportion of secondary forest, caused by limited clearing and lumbering, or reduced interspecific competition on the island. Secondary forest may benefit survival and reproduction, because many of the trees abundant in secondary forest are prime food sources (Snow 1962) and there is an abundance of saplings on which the males depend for their display (Snow 1962, Lill 1974a).

There has been little research on M. manacus in mainland South America. In this study, a population of M. m. manacus in virgin rain forest in the interior of Suriname was compared to the Arima Valley population with respect to population density, morphology, reproductive behavior, male mating success, and lek characteristics. At least two resident males, with display courts near each other, constitute a lek. A display court is a circular area of forest floor, between saplings, cleared of leaf-litter by a male. A resident male successfully defends his court and a small area surrounding his court against intruding conspecific males. [See Snow (1962) and Lill (1974a) for a more complete description of the lek mating display.] The lek characteristics investigated in our study include interlek distance, lek area, intercourt distance, and the number of resident males per lek.

Male dispersion in Suriname and Trinidad was compared and related to the lek characteristics investigated. Male dispersion patterns have been described as a continuous gradient in the degree of male clustering. This gradient ranges from uniform fields