

## Precedence confirmed for the name of a subspecies of new world dove (*Leptotila verreauxi chlorauchenia* Giglioli & Salvadori, 1870)

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ABSTRACT: The description dates of the taxa *Leptotila chlorauchenia* Giglioli & Salvadori and *Leptotila chalcauchenia* Sclater & Salvin have been debated for a long time, but until now a proven conclusion has not been reached. New bibliographic searches have now made it possible to confirm that precedence must be given to the name proposed by Giglioli and Salvadori.

KEYWORDS: *Leptotila*, *Leptotila verreauxi* subspecies, *L. chlorauchenia*, *L. chalcauchenia*, White-tipped Dove, date precedence, incorrect subsequent spelling, Giglioli & Salvadori, Sclater & Salvin, authorship correction.

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The genus-group name *Leptotila* Swainson, 1837, was used by Peters (1937: 122), but G.R. Gray (1841: 75) used the incorrect subsequent spelling *Leptoptila* and this was unfortunately adopted for the genus in Hellmayr and Conover (1942: 564) apparently believing it to be a [justified] emendation.

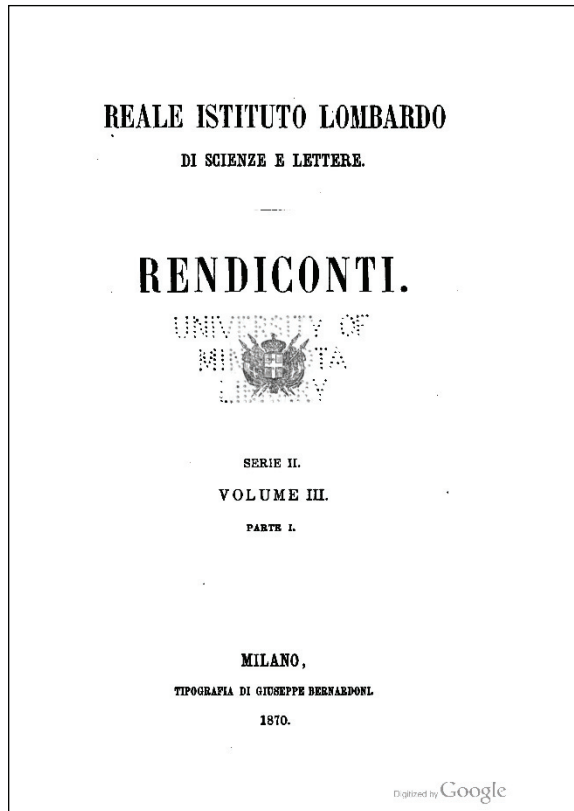
In 1870, and at a time before the general acceptance of subspecies, what has since been long seen as the southernmost subspecies of *Leptotila verreauxi* was named twice:

*Leptotila chlorauchenia* Giglioli & Salvadori, 1870, published in the *Atti R. Accad. Sci. Torino*, 5, p. 274 and based on a Uruguayan holotype in Turin (Giglioli & Salvadori 1870a). Hellmayr and Conover (1942: 583) thought this to be from a 'January' issue and "probably publ[ished] in Feb. or later". The authors had submitted it for publication in *The Ibis*, where it appeared in English translation in April 1870 (Giglioli & Salvadori, 1870b; a version which Hellmayr and Conover called a reprint rather than a translation).

*Leptotila chalcauchenia* Sclater & Salvin, 1870 in the *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, for 1869, p. 633 (Sclater & Salvin, 1870). Apparently, this was based on a MS by Salvadori and, according to Hellmayr and Conover (1942: 583), with a type specimen said to be in the British Museum. We presume this purported type was identified due to confusion with that listed by Warren (1966: 56) as *Columba chalcauchia* [sic] G.R. Gray, 1856, said to be a *nomen nudum*.

Hellmayr and Conover (1942: 583), faced with determining precedence between these two names, selected *chlorauchenia* Giglioli & Salvadori, 1870 as the senior name.

Peters (1937) dated Giglioli and Salvadori's (1870a) publication "2 Jan., 1870 (= after April)" and assigned precedence to Sclater & Salvin, with the date "March, 1870". Co-incidentally that year, Duncan (1937) provided extensive details of the months of issue of the parts of the annual volumes of the *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* and cited April 1870 for the part that included the paper by Sclater and Salvin. Duncan's dates were published in its journal and are seen by the Society as based on reliable information and are generally considered authoritative (see Cowan, 1973, and Dickinson *et al.*, 2011).



**Figure 1.** Title page, *Rendiconti del Reale Istituto lombardo di Scienze e Lettere* (Serie II. Volume III. Parte I, 1870). Digitized by Google Books.

report of Recent Literature received that month by the *Rendiconti del Reale Istituto lombardo di Scienze e Lettere* (Serie II. Volume III. Parte I, p. 261-262) of which a copy in the University of Minnesota library has been digitized by Google Books (see Figures 1 to 3). In there, this title of Giglioli and Salvadori appears among the works that made up “Dispensa 3a” of the *Torino Atti*, volume V.

We consider that the name *Leptotila chalcauchenia* is not in prevailing usage and that the combination of this new evidence and the details cited by Duncan (1937) provide conclusive evidence requiring recognition of the precedence of the name *Leptotila chlorauchenia* Giglioli & Salvadori, 1870.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We thank Paul van Els for his suggested additions to the references we cite and other help. We also thank Steven Gregory for reminding us that our text should not infer there was an issue of precedence between *Leptotila* Swainson and *Leptotila* G.R. Gray.

Baptista *et al.* (1997: 169) cited *Leptotila chalcauchenia* Sclater & Salvin for the subspecies in question. However, Pinto (1978: 128) and Dickinson (2003: 168) cited Giglioli & Salvadori following Hellmayr and Conover (1942). More recently, Dickinson and Remsen (2013: 61), probably influenced by the views of the South American Classification Committee (SACC), followed Peters (1937), Baptista *et al.* (1997) and Pacheco *et al.* (2021).

Aimassi *et al.* (2020: 72-73), who certified the presence of the holotype of “*Leptotila chlorauchenia* Giglioli & Salvadori, 1870” in the Museo Regionale di Scienze Naturali di Torino, did not then determine whether the name *chalcauchenia* was an earlier name than *chlorauchenia*, this being the issue treated above.

When the recent work by Aimassi (2022) on ‘separately printed copies’ was being prepared, we agreed to freshly explore the specific case posed by these two names and the two pairs of authors. Pursuing this we have been fortunate to discover that the article by Giglioli and Salvadori (1870a) was published no later than March 1870 as it is mentioned in a

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Figure 2. Page 261, *Rendiconti del Reale Istituto lombardo di Scienze e Lettere* (Serie II. Volume III. Parte I., 1870). Digitized by Google Books.

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<sup>1</sup> Here, after the first six volumes of *The Ibis* the B.O.U. decided they would provide new series ("n.s.") of six volumes each. The 1870 volume is the sixth in Series 2 and is perhaps least confusing if referred to as Vol. 12.