

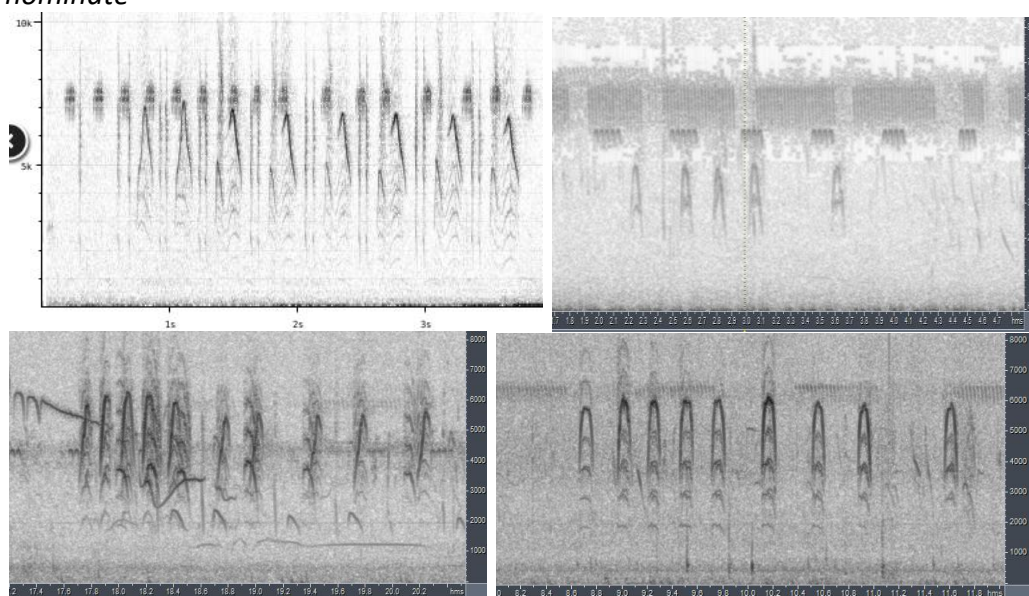
Notes on the vocalizations of Fawn-breasted Waxbill (*Estrilda paludicola*)

Peter Boesman

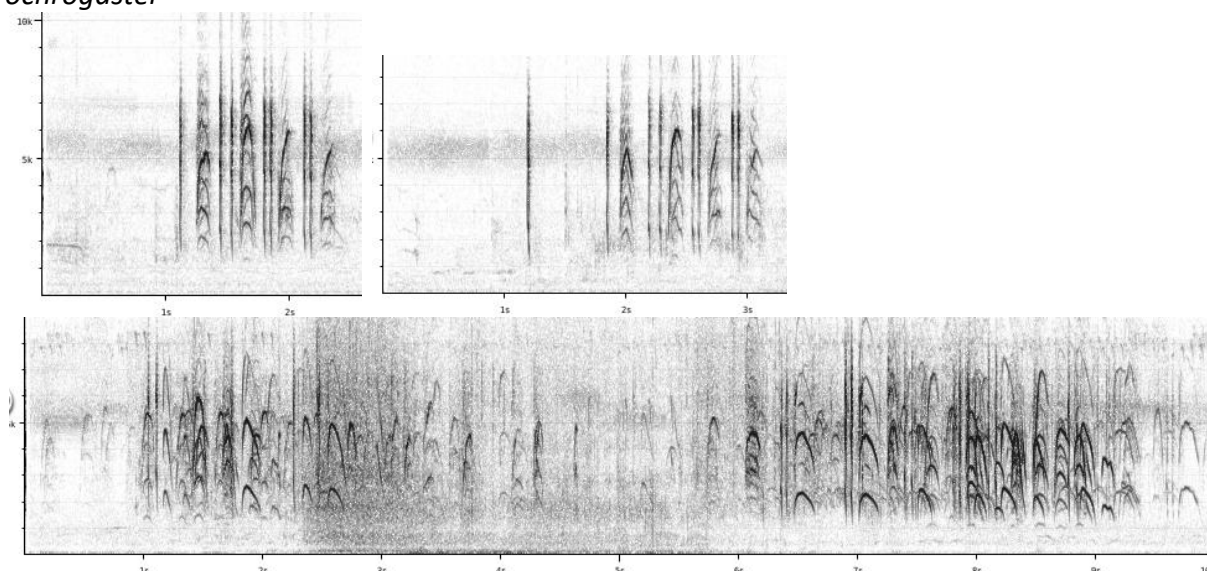
In the following we briefly analyze and compare voice of the different races of Fawn-breasted Waxbill (*Estrilda paludicola*). We also try to quantify the extent of any vocal differences using the criteria proposed by Tobias *et al.* (2010), as a support for taxonomic review. We have made use of sound recordings available on-line from Xeno Canto (XC) and Macaulay Library (ML).

There are only a handful recordings available:

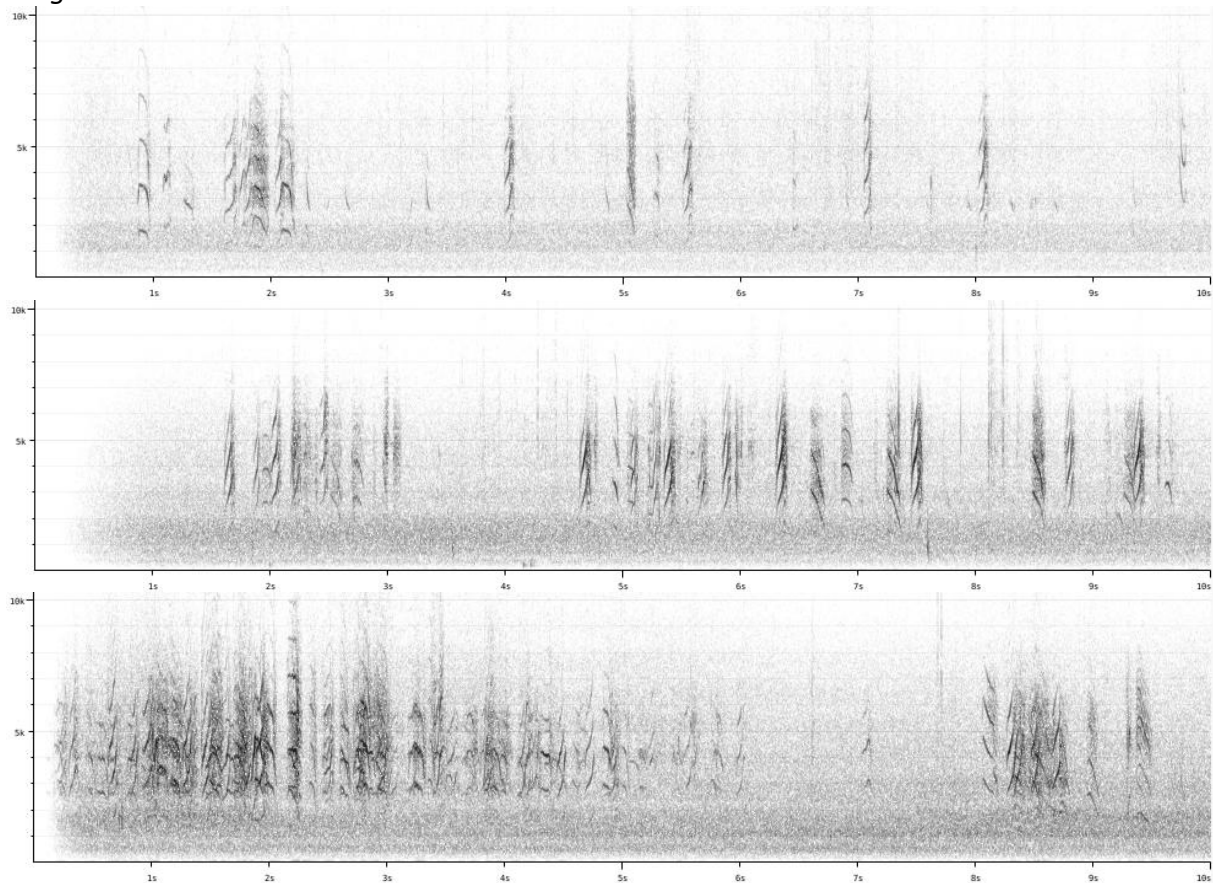
nominate



ochrogaster



benguellensis



Song seems to be one or two very short notes followed by a nasal overslurred note, having quite a rhythmic cadence. Calls are just the nasal notes.

ochrogaster very similar to nominate. Nasal note of nominate apparently slightly higher-pitched, with most of the energy above 3kHz, while *ochrogaster* has also clear amplitude in the 2-3kHz range. This vocal difference could be scored 1-2.

benguellensis seems to be more different, with many notes either upslurred or downslurred, none of which is found in recordings of the above two races. A tentative score of at least 2 seems appropriate here to reflect the more important vocal difference.

There are clearly some vocal differences among the various races, but more recordings are needed to get a better understanding of these.

This note was finalized on 28th April 2016, using sound recordings available on-line at that moment (and updated on 26th October 2016, with new recordings of race *benguellensis*). We would like to thank in particular the sound recordists who placed their recordings for this species on XC and ML: Peter Boesman, Marcell Claassen, Peter Kaestner, Rory Nefdt, Jelder Poelstra and Andrew Spencer.

References

Tobias, J.A., Seddon, N., Spottiswoode, C.N., Pilgrim, J.D., Fishpool, L.D.C. & Collar, N.J. (2010). Quantitative criteria for species delimitation. *Ibis* 152(4): 724–746.

Recommended citation

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