

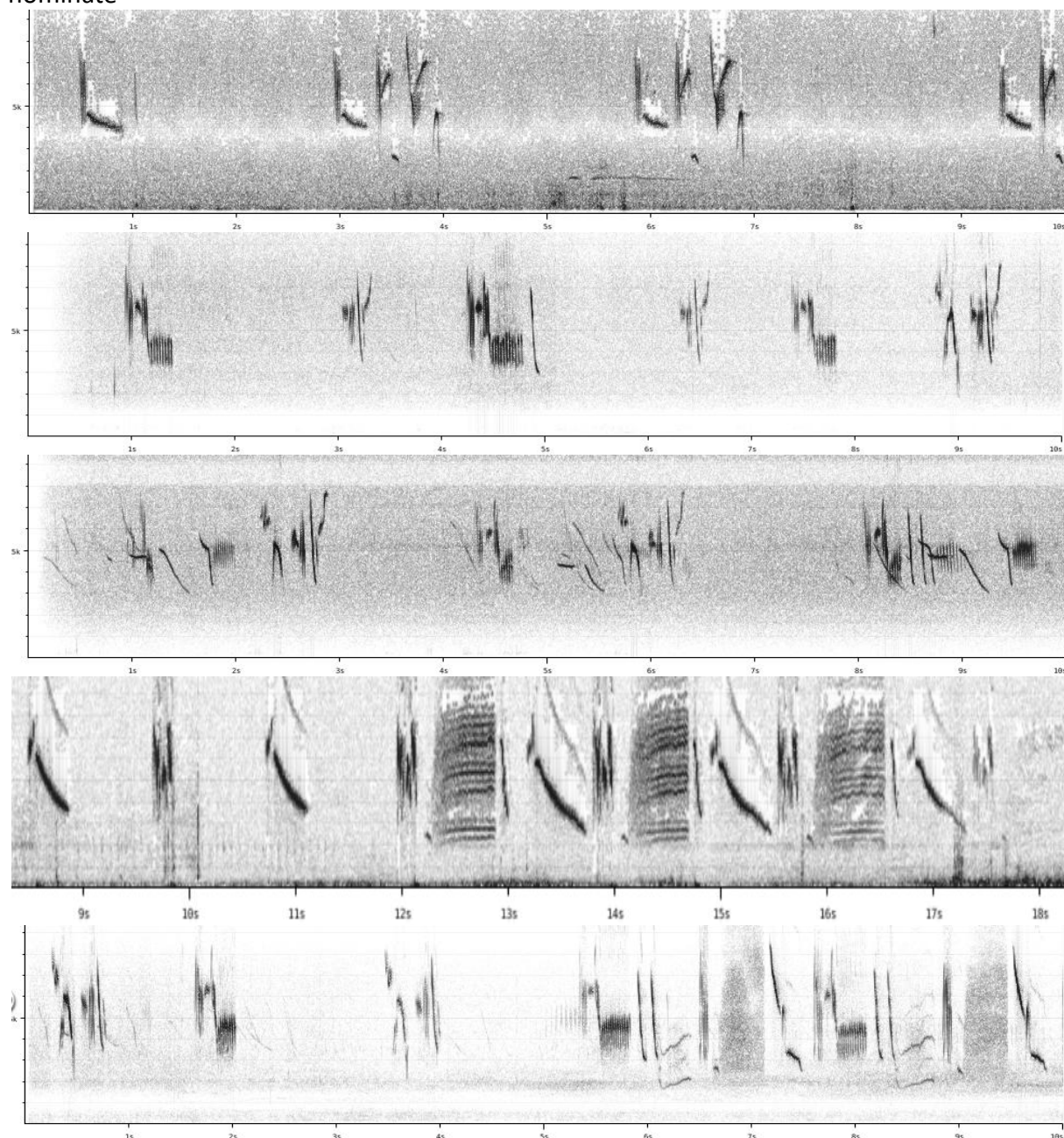
## Notes on the vocalizations of Hellmayr's Pipit (*Anthus hellmayri*)

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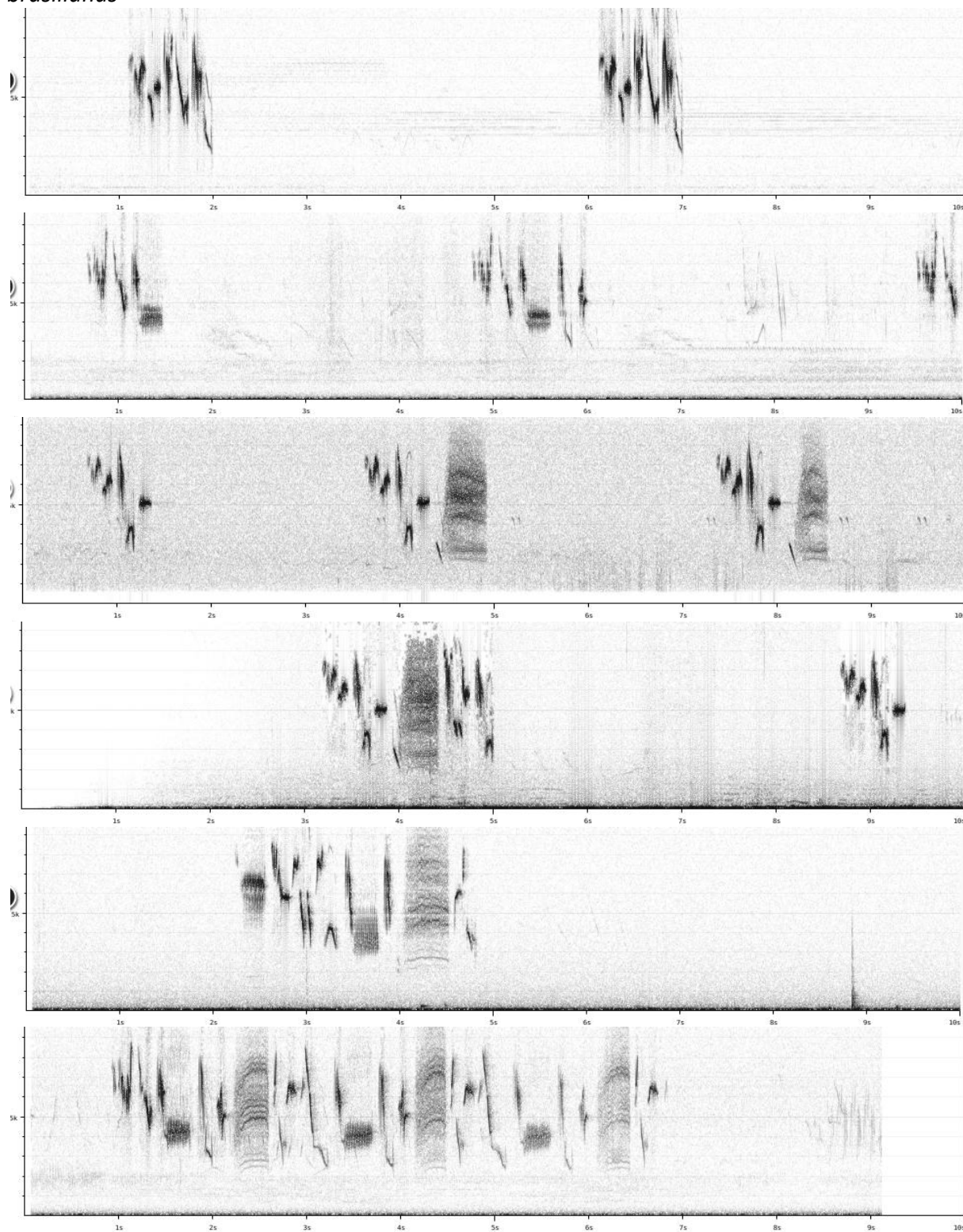
In the following we briefly analyze and compare voice of the different races of Hellmayr's Pipit (*Anthus hellmayri*). We also try to quantify the extent of any vocal differences using the criteria proposed by Tobias *et al.* (2010), as a support for taxonomic review. We have made use of sound recordings available on-line from Xeno Canto (XC).

Some examples of song illustrated with sonograms:

nominate

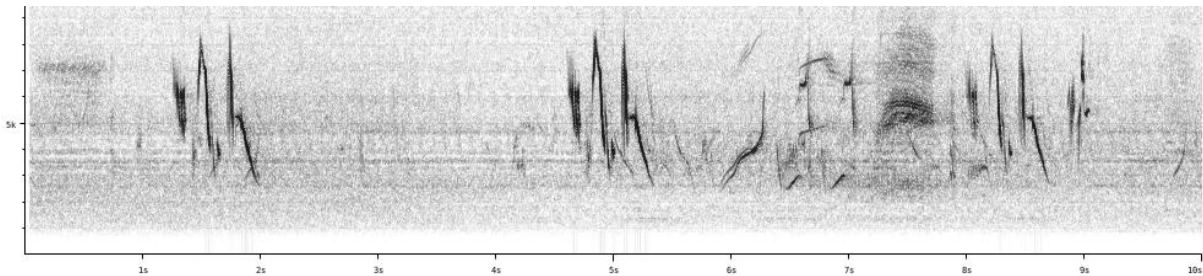


*brasilianus*





*dabbenei*



Song in general is quite variable, often just a short sweet phrase of some 3-6 notes (duration c 1s), but may be much more elaborated. In most songs a burry or buzzy note is present. Nominate and *brasilianus* don't seem to have significant differences in song: both races have short burry notes in the range 3-5kHz, longer buzzy notes with similar frequency properties and note shapes in both cases fairly similar. Basic sound parameters of other notes similar, a larger set of recordings would be needed to determine whether some notes are truly unique to a race, but in any case this will not lead to a high vocal score.

All in all, song difference is not at all obvious, which seems to contradict earlier statements in HBW (HBW Alive: Tyler *et al.* 2016). All other *Anthus* pipits of the region (Correndera A. *correndera*, Ochre-breasted A. *nattereri*, Short-billed A. *furcatus*, Paramo A. *bogotensis* and Yellowish Pipit A. *lutescens*) have a distinctive song, far more obvious than the possible differences between these two races.

It would thus seem that there are no clear significant vocal differences between the races of Hellmayr's Pipit.

This note was finalized on 3rd May 2016, using sound recordings available on-line at that moment. We would like to thank in particular the many sound recordists who placed their recordings for this species on XC.

## 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.
- Tyler, S. & de Juana, E. (2016). Hellmayr's Pipit (*Anthus hellmayri*). In: del Hoyo, J., Elliott, A., Sargatal, J., Christie, D.A. & de Juana, E. (eds.). *Handbook of the Birds of the World Alive*. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona. (retrieved from <http://www.hbw.com/node/57796> on 3 May 2016).

## Recommended citation

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