

## Notes on the vocalizations of Rusty-crowned Tit-spinetail (*Leptasthenura pileata*)

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In the following we briefly analyze and compare voice of the different races of Rusty-crowned Tit-spinetail (*Leptasthenura pileata*). 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).

Race *cajabambae* is morphologically quite different, and has alternatively been considered a race of *L. striata* (Remsen 2015)

The buzzy chatter of all races of Rusty-crowned Tit-spinetail is however quite different by ear from the more twittering rattle of Streaked Tit-spinetail. Merging race *cajabambae* into *L. striata* would thus not be logic from a vocal point of view (Fig.1).

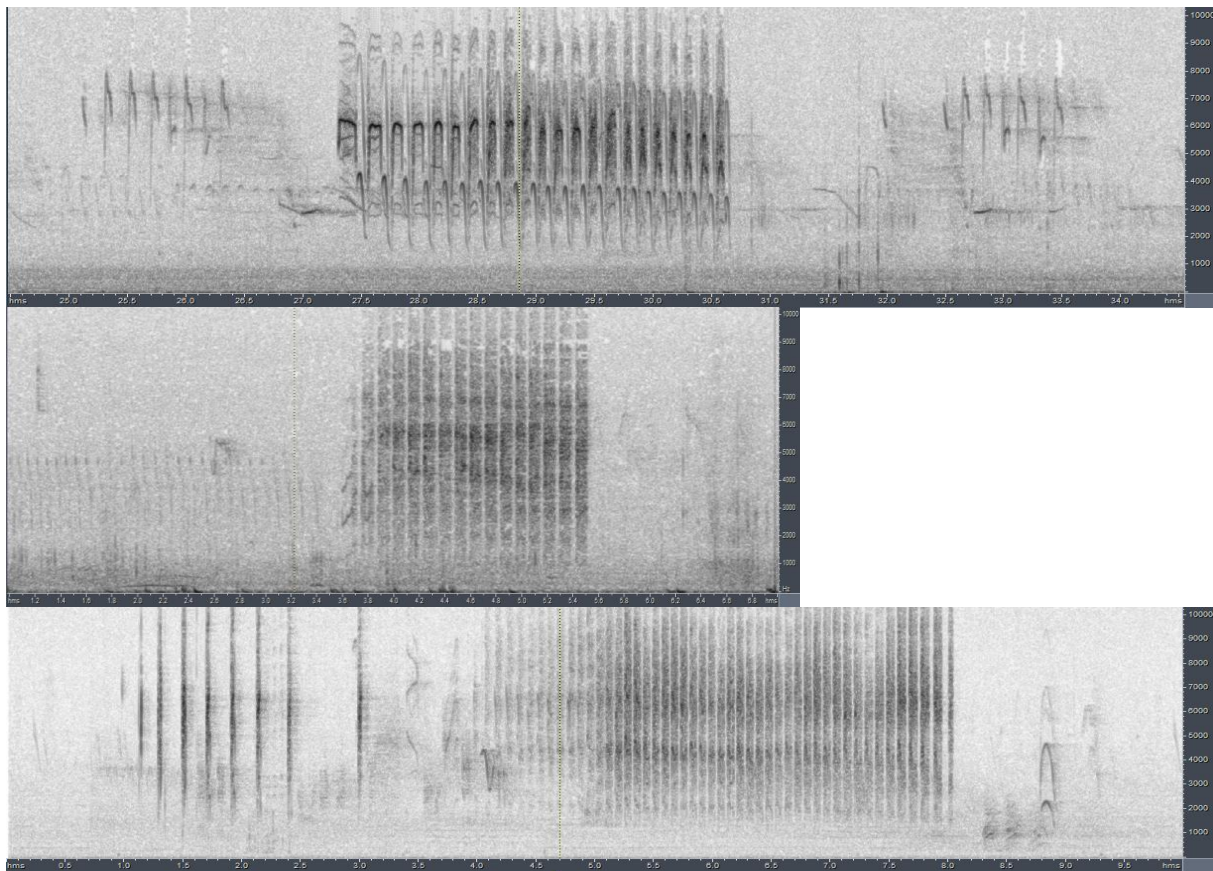


Figure 1: song of *L. striata* (top), *L.p. cajabambae* (middle) and *L.p. latistriata*

Remains to check whether there is significant vocal difference between *cajabambae* vs. *pileata/latistriata*.

There are very few recordings available on-line of the different races:

*cajabambae* (song 1 in LNS, 6 in XC)

*pileata* (only 1 in XC, if correctly identified then probably not song, 0 in LNS)

*latistriata* (song 2 in XC, 0 in LNS)

Both groups have a similar 'song' consisting of a series of very buzzy, gravelly notes.

#### Measurements:

##### *cajabambae*

note length 0.06-0.09s

pause 0.03-0.05s

pace\* 0.43-0.57s

\* pace here measured as 5 periods, the duration of 5 consecutive notes

##### *latistriata*

note length 0.05-0.07s

pause 0.018-0.038s

pace 0.34-0.46s

There is thus hardly any difference between the two groups. At most, the pace of *cajabambae* is slightly slower than *latistriata*, but given the low number of samples this is not much more than a possibility.

This note was finalized on 10th April 2015, using sound recordings available on-line at that moment. We would like to thank in particular the sound recordists who placed their recordings for this species on XC and ML: Peter Boesman, Niels Krabbe, Huw Lloyd, Andrew Spencer and Arnoud van den Berg.

#### References

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#### Recommended citation

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