HANDBOOK OF THE BIRDS OF THE WORLD Alive

ORNITHOLOGICAL NOTES

Notes on the vocalizations of Ochraceous Attila (*Attila torridus*) and Cinnamon Attila (*Attila cinnamomeus*)

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In the following we briefly analyze and compare voice of Ochraceous Attila (*Attila torridus*) and Cinnamon Attila (*Attila cinnamomeus*). 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).

Like most member of the genus *Attila*, song is a series of rising whistles. Often, a sequence of song phrases starts with short phrases gradually expanding to the full song phrase. We have analyzed only what we considered full song phrases. The main call at the other hand usually is a drawn-out whistle. Other vocalisations were not examined.

A. torridus

Song is a series of whistles rising in pitch and ending with a lower pitched note immediately followed by a very short sharper high-pitched note.

total length	3.23-6.73s
# of notes	7-11
longest note	0.25-0.40s
max. freq.	2560-2850Hz
lowest max. freq.	1820-2100Hz
freq. range	1820-2100Hz
shortest note	0.11-0.14s
longest space	0.32-0.84s

Main call is an overslurred whistle "weeew"

total length	0.43-0.94s
min freq.	1400-1580Hz
max. freq.	2200-2350Hz

A. cinnamomeus

Song is a series of whistles rising in pitch, the last note not lower in pitch (unlike most other Attila's).

total length	2.7-4.3s
# of notes	4-5
longest note	0.46-0.63s
max. freq.	2450-3000Hz
lowest max. freq.	1720-2180Hz
freq. range	900-1200Hz
shortest note	0.37-0.44s
longest space	0.24-0.71s

Call is a bisyllabic whistle, starting with a hiccup then gradually descending in pitch "ki-wheeeuu"

total length	1.0-1.26s
min freq.	1470-1660Hz
max. freq.	1990-2570Hz

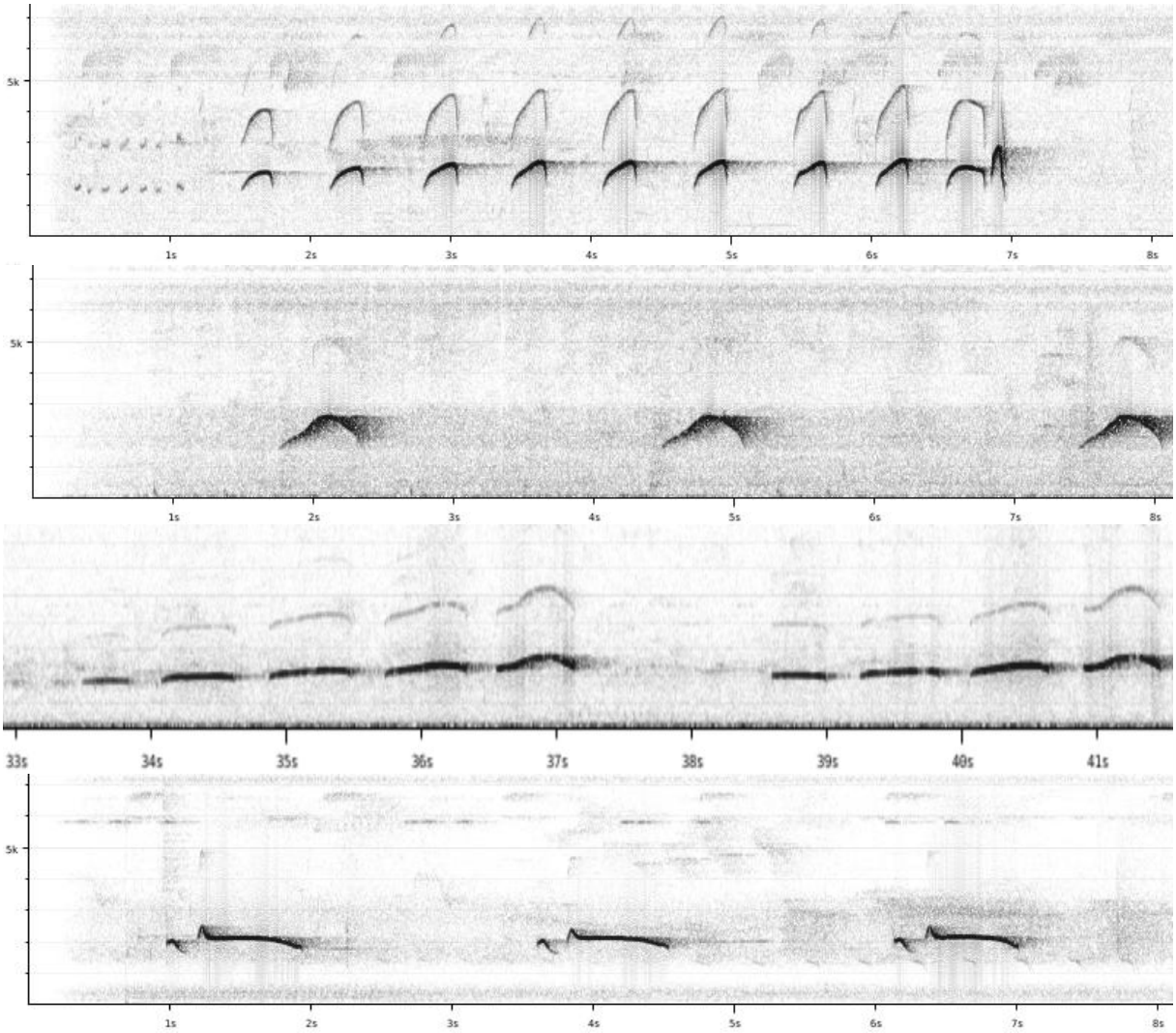

Figure 1: typical song and call of Ochraceous Attila *A. torridus* (top) and Cinnamon Attila *A. cinnamomeus* (bottom)

While song is structurally similar, there are clear differences (Fig. 1):
Song phrase of *A. torridus* has more notes (score 2) which are shorter (score 3), has a larger frequency range (score 3) and ends with a short note unlike *cinnamomeus*.
Call of *A. torridus* also quite different, a shorter overslurred whistle (score 2).
When applying Tobias criteria, this leads to a total vocal score of 6.

This note was finalized on 16th July 2015, 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.

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