Notes on the vocalizations of Azure-crested Flycatcher (*Myiagra azureocapilla*)

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In the following we briefly analyze and compare voice of the three races of Azure-crested Flycatcher (*Myiagra azureocapilla*). 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).

Race *azureocapilla* (n=9)

Most common vocalization is a series of identical whistles given at a fast pace.

other vocalizations e.g.:

Race *whitneyi* (n=5)

Song similar to *azureocapilla*:

and also a slower-paced series:

Race *castaneigularis* (n=1)

The fast almost trilled series with notes in a narrow frequency range and the slower-paced series with notes over a larger frequency range are likely functionally two different vocalizations.

With so few examples of *whitneyi* and *castaneigularis*, consistent differences compared to *azureocapilla* are difficult to prove. Also, the frequency of delivery of the different vocalizations is impossible to quantify, but *azureocapilla* seems to utter the fast almost trilled series much more than other races.

whitneyi may have a somewhat higher-pitched slow series compared to *azureocapilla*.

castaneigularis seems to differ from both other races in somewhat slower trilled series and much lower frequency of slow series.

These differences are obviously quite speculative, and need to be confirmed by more recordings. If differences prove to be consistent, this may lead to estimated scores of 2-3.

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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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