Notes on the vocalizations of Golden-bellied Grosbeak (Pheucticus chrysogaster)

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In the following we briefly analyze and compare voice of the two races of Golden-bellied Grosbeak (Pheucticus chrysogaster). 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).

An overview of voice of both races, illustrated with sonograms:

*laubmanni*

Song

Venezuela

Santa Marta
Calls

Nominate
Song
Calls
Ecuador
Vocal differences between both races seem to be rather small. On average, laubmanni has more simple-shaped notes in every song phrase, e.g. simple downslurred or overslurred note shapes (c. 10-50% of notes) while nominate typically lacks such notes, but some song phrases are indistinguishable (score 1-2). The short 'pik!' call is about the same in both races (possibly slightly higher-pitched on average in laubmanni ??). Several other calls have been recorded for nominate, but there are apparently no recordings of equivalent homologous calls for laubmanni.

Vocal differences between both races are thus minor, leading to a total vocal score of 1-2.

This note was finalized on 29th June 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 and ML.

References


Recommended citation