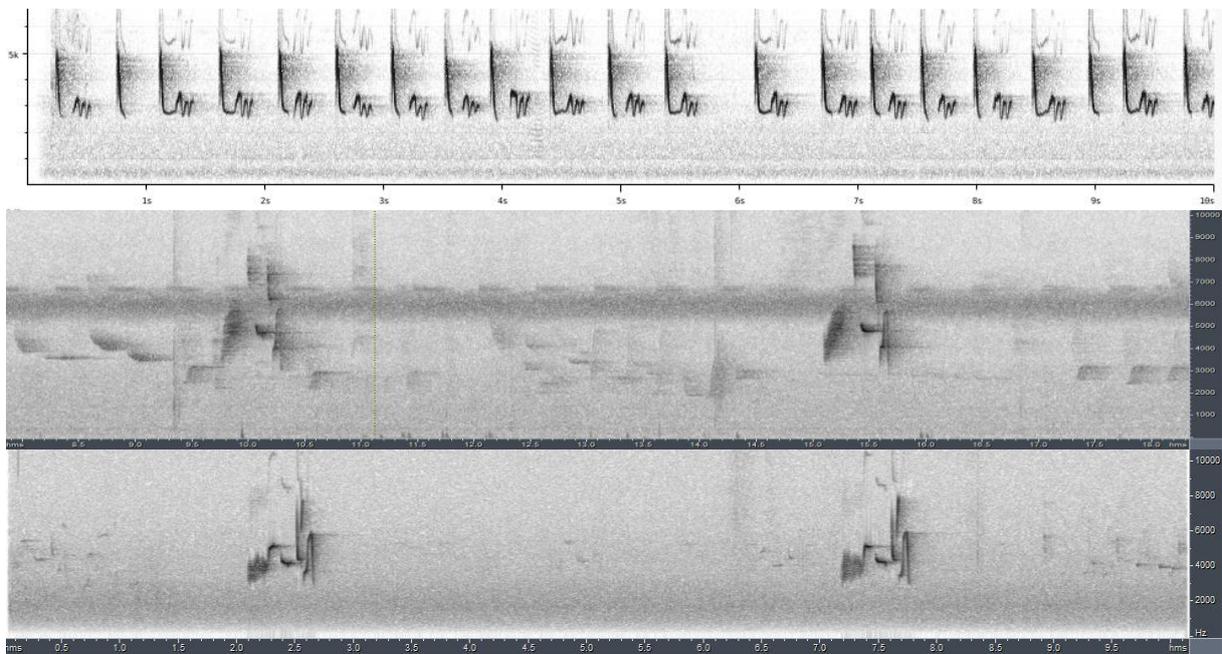


Notes on the vocalizations of New Caledonian Myzomela (*Myzomela caledonica*) and Scarlet Myzomela (*Myzomela sanguinolenta*)

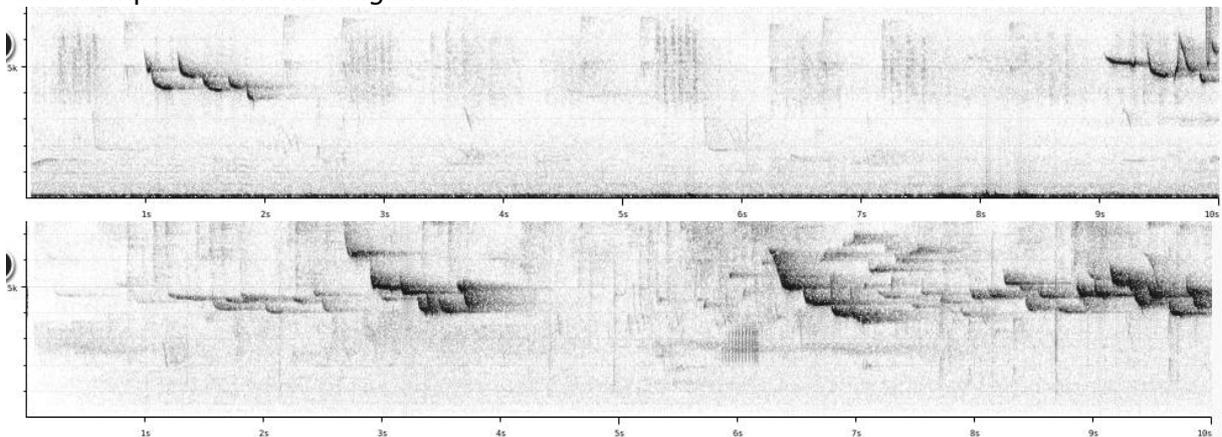
Peter Boesman

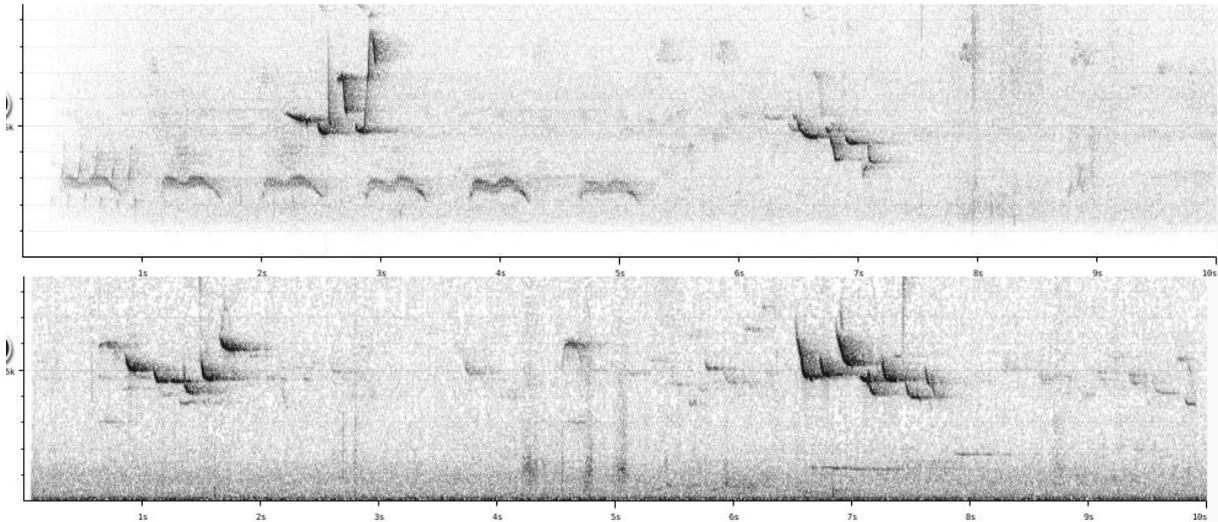
In the following we briefly analyze and compare voice of New Caledonian Myzomela (*Myzomela caledonica*) and Scarlet Myzomela (*Myzomela sanguinolenta*). We also try to quantify the extent of any vocal differences using the criteria proposed by Tobias *et al.* (2010), as a support for taxonomic review. We have made use of sound recordings available on-line from Xeno Canto (XC) and Macaulay Library (ML).

There are only a few recordings available of *M. caledonica*:



to be compared with *M. sanguinolenta*:





Despite the limited number of recordings for *caledonica* which possibly don't illustrate the full extent of vocal variation, voice of both taxa seems to be quite different:

- * minimum frequency in *caledonica* is *c* 2800-3000Hz vs 3500-4000Hz in *sanguinolenta*, the latter thus clearly higher pitched (score 2-3).

- * *caledonica* typically has at least one burry or trilled note vs much more tinkling notes in *sanguinolenta*

- * *sanguinolenta* seems to have 2 typical song phrases, either a sweet phrase gradually descending in pitch and often again ascending towards the end, or a short higher-pitched tinkling phrase, both quite different from the more emphatic vocalisations of *caledonica* (score 1-2).

Vocal differences thus seem to be quite significant. More recordings of *caledonica* are needed however to obtain a better understanding of its full vocabulary.

This note was finalized on 20th June 2016, using sound recordings available on-line at that moment. We would like to thank the many sound recordists who placed their recordings for these species on XC and ML, in particular Patrik Åberg and Lucas DeCicco for recordings of *caledonica*.

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.

Recommended citation

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<http://www.hbw.com/node/1253821> on 6 December 2016).