

Editors' Notebook

Readers of this issue will note that a specimen of African Collared-Dove was salvaged at Daytona Beach, Florida on 29 March and that Eurasian Teal were found in 42 locations across the continent. Before getting too excited about these “new” species, we should point out that these birds were formerly known as “Ringed Turtle-Dove” (usually in quotation marks, to indicate its status in North America as a feral avicultural form) and as Common (Eurasian Green-winged) Teal.

Bird names change—probably too often for most of us. In the 47th Supplement to the *American Ornithologists' Union's Check-list of North American Birds*, published in July 2006 (download at <www.aou.org>), there were mercifully few changes to birds' English names, African Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia roseogrisea*) being an exception: it was renamed to indicate that what we call Ringed Turtle-Dove, a bird produced by captive breeding, is most closely related to the wild African Collared-Dove, from which it was (mostly?) derived. Several species were split this year, resulting in changes in English and/or scientific names in the AOU Area. The Blue Grouse group was split into Dusky Grouse (*Dendragapus obscurus*) of the interior West and Sooty Grouse (*D. fuliginosus*) of the Pacific coast ranges. The Red-breasted Flycatcher group was also split and is now represented in North America is represented by Taiga Flycatcher (*Ficedula albicilla*), a vagrant to Alaska (and recently to California). Finally, the Oriental Cuckoo group was finally split; it is represented in North America by *Cuculus optatus*—Oriental Cuckoo, now recognized as a species distinct from Hi-

malayan Cuckoo (*C. saturatus*) and Sunda Cuckoo (*C. lepidus*).

In addition, this journal is pleased to have played a role in the acceptance of two (of the three) new species for North America in the 47th Supplement: Cape Verde Shearwater and Black-bellied Storm-Petrel. Cape Verde Shearwater, now accorded status as a full species, was recorded off North Carolina 15 August 2004 (*North American Birds* 58: 468-473) and was split based in part on the *North American Birds* article's analysis. Black-bellied Storm-Petrel was seen in the same waters 31 May 2004 (*North American Birds* 58: 618-621). Both species had been reported by sight record in the western North Atlantic prior to these reports, and both have been documented since the recent photographic records—proof that there is still much to learn about our ocean environment.

The change from the clunky “Common (Eurasian Green-winged) Teal” to “Eurasian Teal” comes from another source entirely, one that will surely spark discussion among birders interested in standardizing English names. *Birds of the World: Recommended Standard English Names* (2006. Frank Gill and Minturn Wright, eds. Princeton University Press) represents the distillation of decades of work among prominent ornithologists and birders who believe that there should be one English name per species. The project was sponsored by the International Ornithological Congress. In that book, *Anas crecca* and *Anas carolinensis* are recognized as full and separate species, with the names Eurasian Teal and Green-winged Teal, respectively; the A.O.U. Checklist Committee regards these as subspecies of a single species, Green-winged Teal. In the

past, this journal has dealt with English names for subspecies in uneven ways, until the previous editorial group provided a list of names for subspecies or subspecies groups (*North American Birds* 53: 227). In selecting “Eurasian Teal” to refer to *Anas [crecca] crecca*, we are more interested in the brevity of the English name than any other aspect, and we do not mean to imply by its use that a split is warranted—though certainly some of the regional editors and editors of the journal are of that opinion. Whatever the ultimate uses of *Birds of the World*, it contains marvelous food for thought and a great many good ideas for future name changes—which seem to come, no matter how we kick and scream. It's worth investing in a copy to see how the decisions came down (but be prepared to lose Dovekie!).

Mistakes were made

In the article on Parkinson's Petrel (*North American Birds* 60: 166), the map in Figure 1 of Cordell Bank should have been credited to Les Lieurance. In the Central Southern regional report in the same issue (60: 87), 510 Great Egrets should instead be 510 Cattle Egrets. In the Changing Seasons essay in that issue, the Hurricane *Katrina* figure (60: 20) failed to include Alabama records of Band-rumped and Wilson's Storm-Petrels that were included in the regional report (60: 85). The spring 2005 Florida regional report, credited to Bruce Anderson, should have been credited to Bill Pranty. Thanks to Greg Jackson and Rich Stallcup for letting us know about these errors; we offer our sincere apologies to Les Lieurance and to Bill Pranty for these oversights. 🌐