

ANDIGENA LAMINIROSTRIS, Gould.

Laminated Hill Toucan.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER.

And. rostro ad basin coccineo; culmine et apice nigris; lateribus laminatis corneis; corpore subtus cinereo-cyaneo.

Crown of the head and back of the neck deep black; upper surface golden brown; primaries brownish black; rump pale greenish yellow; upper tail-coverts very dark green; tail dark slaty grey, four central feathers largely tipped with chestnut-red; under surface ashy blue; on either flank a large patch of rich yellow; thighs deep chestnut; under tail-coverts blood-red; culmen and apical half of both mandibles black; a broad band on the base of the upper mandible and the basal half of the lower mandible deep blood-red; on either side of the upper mandible, immediately in front of the blood-red base, is a large buff-coloured plate or lamina, continuous with the structure of the bill posteriorly, but separate and detached in front, dilated on its upper edge, thicker and projecting beyond the edge of the mandible below; feet slaty blue.

Total length, 18 inches; bill, $3\frac{3}{4}$; wing, $6\frac{3}{4}$; tail, $6\frac{3}{4}$; tarsi, $1\frac{1}{2}$.

Andigena laminirostris, Gould, in Proc. of Zool. Soc., 1850, p. 93.

For our knowledge of this fine new species we are indebted to the researches of M. Jules Bourcier, who discovered it in the forests at the base of Pichincha, in Ecuador, during his recent official sojourn in that country. At the time I described the bird in the "Proceedings of the Zoological Society," only a single specimen had been sent to Europe, which, having become the property of T. B. Wilson, Esq., of Philadelphia, was kindly lent to me by his brother, E. Wilson, Esq., for the purpose of figuring and describing. Since that time two more specimens have been sent to Paris, and now form part of my own collection.

It is certainly one of the most extraordinary of the Toucans yet discovered, inasmuch as it possesses a feature in its laminated bill not found in any other species; the particular use of this lamination, if any, is unknown to us, and we are equally ignorant as to its habits and economy. Like the *A. hypoglaucus*, and all the other members of the family, this species differs considerably in size; probably the smaller birds may be the females; if so, they have the lamination of the bill quite as strongly developed as in the male.

The figures are of the natural size.

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