

**Matsudaira's Storm-petrel, *Oceanodroma matsudairae* Kuroda,
a new bird species for Micronesia**

At 1400 on 24 April 1960, at sea about 4 miles west of Apra Harbor on Guam, I observed 2 large, all-black storm-petrels. They were long-winged, had a broad brown band on upper wing coverts, and had long, forked tails. They seemed larger than Swinhoe's Storm-petrel, *Oceanodroma monorhis* (Swinhoe) and had a different manner of flight. Of diagnostic importance was the small white patch just beyond the bend on the upperside of each wing, shaped like a half crescent.

At the time I was unaware of the significance of the white wing patches and reported the birds as probably Tristram's Storm-petrels, *Oceanodroma tristrami* Salvin (King, 1962). However, since then I have observed Tristram's Storm-petrels at sea near the Izu Islands of Japan in May 1973 and handled some live birds. They show no white in the wing at any stage and could not have been the birds I observed near Guam.

However, Matsudaira's Storm-petrel has its primary shafts white at their bases and this shows as a small white patch on the leading edge of the wing just beyond the bend (actually just beyond the primary coverts). This mark was observed on birds collected in the Indian Ocean (Bailey et al., 1968). Recently, a photo of *O. matsudairae* was published (Yamashina, 1975) showing this mark. I also observed storm-petrels with this field mark near the Volcano Islands (breeding grounds of Matsudaira's Storm-petrel) in the N. W. Pacific in April 1960. Other observers have noted this mark on this storm-petrel in the N. W. Pacific (Bourne and Dixon, 1975: 81).

Since Matsudaira's Storm-petrel is the only storm-petrel that shows this kind of white mark in the wing, it seems reasonable to assign the 2 birds I saw near Guam to this species. Apparently this is the first record for Micronesia as it is not listed in Baker (1951) or Mayr (1945).

Literature Cited

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