

AVIAN SPECIATION IN THE PANTEPUI: THE CASE OF THE RORAIMAN ANTIBIRD (*PERCNOSTOLA* [*SCHISTOCICHLA*] "*LEUCOSTIGMA*" *SATURATA*)

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Abstract. We document the first records for Guyana of Roraiman Antbird (*Percnostola* [*Schistocichla*] "*leucostigma*" *saturata*), an endemic of the tepui highlands of southeastern Venezuela, northern Brazil and western Guyana. This form is well differentiated from nominate *leucostigma* (Spot-winged Antbird) of the Guianan lowlands in morphology, vocalizations, and genetics, and replaces it both altitudinally and ecologically. The two taxa are distributed parapatrically on the continuously forested northeastern slopes of the eastern tepuis, and they almost certainly come into contact, yet there is no evidence of intermediacy. We recommend that *saturata* be treated as a distinct species of *Percnostola*, and consider its' origin in the light of various models of speciation in the tepuis.

Key words: biodiversity, Neotropics, *Percnostola*, speciation, systematics, tepuis, *Thamnophilidae*.