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Abstracts

## FEATURE ARTICLES

### SEXUAL SIZE DIMORPHISM AND MORPHOLOGICAL EVIDENCE SUPPORTING THE RECOGNITION OF TWO SUBSPECIES IN THE GALÁPAGOS DOVE

DIEGO SANTIAGO-ALARCON<sup>1</sup> AND PATRICIA G. PARKER

*Dept. of Biology and Whitney R. Harris World Ecology Center, University of Missouri-  
St.Louis, One University Blvd., St.Louis, MO 63121*

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<sup>1</sup> E-mail: [dsvd3@umsl.edu](mailto:dsvd3@umsl.edu)

*Abstract.* Sexual size dimorphism is a conspicuous trait of many wild bird species. Differences in body size between the sexes might reflect selective pressures and trade-offs to optimize performance. Here, we analyze the size dimorphism of the Galápagos Dove (*Zenaida galapagoensis*) using principal component and discriminant analyses with samples obtained from six islands: Santiago, Santa Fe, Santa Cruz, Española, Genovesa, and Wolf. We also reanalyze published morphological data but also including additional samples from Wolf Island to account for morphological differences among islands. Males were significantly larger than females. Discriminant analyses correctly classified 98% of males and 100% of females, and cross-validation of the model correctly classified 97% of males and 98% of females. We created two sexual size dimorphism indices using wing chord and tarsus as body-size surrogates. Significant differences were found in the sexual size dimorphism index for both measurements among islands. Significant differences in sexual size dimorphism among islands might indicate the role of different selective pressures acting on individual islands (e.g., competition, predation, resources, sexual selection), which might result in life history variation of the species among islands. For the first time, we provide significant morphological evidence supporting the classification of the Galápagos Dove into two subspecies: *Z. g. galapagoensis* and *Z. g. exsul*.

*Key words:* Galápagos, morphology, sexual size dimorphism, *Zenaida galapagoensis*.