

FURTHER SIGHTING OF LEADEN FLYCATCHER AT ALDINGA SCRUB CONSERVATION PARK. Following the sighting of a female Leaden Flycatcher *Myiagra rubecula* in the Aldinga Scrub Conservation Park on 2 November 1981 (Ashton and Ashton 1982), another bird of this species was seen here on 19 November 1983. When walking along the fire track in the centre of the park one of us (CBA) heard an unusual call. Within minutes, a male Leaden Flycatcher was sighted in an area of low pink gum *Eucalyptus fasciculosa*, acacia and yacca *Xanthorrhoea semiplana* scrub at the edge of grassland. The bird was the size of a Willie Wagtail *Rhipidura leucophrys* and a leaden-grey colour except for its sharply demarcated white abdomen and undertail coverts. Using 8 x 40 binoculars from a distance of 10–30 m we spent 15 minutes observing it perch and hawk for insects. The flycatcher stayed within 4 m of the ground while hawking, and when landing on a branch it rapidly quivered its tail and called persistently. Several calls were heard: a frequent ‘toooo-ee’ or ‘toooo-eet’ repeated 4–8 times on several occasions; ‘wee-it’ eight times in succession, the first syllable being longer than the second; ‘too-eet-a-weet-a-weet’; ‘weet weet weet weet eet eet’; soft rasping ‘zzzrrp’ repeated 4–5 times on several occasions; and ‘wee-too’ lasting half a second. The flycatcher was not directly associated with any other birds, but a Weebill *Smicronis brevirostris* was nearby. After EMA joined the first observer, the bird was glimpsed in thicker foliage.

Local residents (L. and P. Pinnington) had seen two birds like Willie Wagtails, but without eyebrows, a week before this sighting. These birds

were dark grey above with a dark grey chest and white below and gave a call of ‘too-ee’, the first syllable being drawn out. Therefore it is possible that one or two Leaden Flycatchers had been in the vicinity at least one week prior to our observations.

The Leaden Flycatcher is considered a vagrant to the Mount Lofty Range area of South Australia (Blakers *et al.* 1984). Records of other sightings in the Adelaide region come from Beaumont, Bolivar (a *Myiagra* flycatcher), Cromer Conservation Park and Angove Scrub (Paton 1965; Glover 1976; SAOA 1994; Seymour 1994). All records of this species occurred during November or December (with a possible sighting in March), which is consistent with the species’ southward migration in summer and apparent absence from south-eastern Australia in winter (Blakers *et al.* 1984).

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