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### THE SUBFAMILY NAME OF THE MONARCH FLYCATCHERS

In a recent paper (Boles 1979, Emu 79: 107-110), I proposed segregating the Australo-Papuan flycatchers in a single family with two subfamilies. At that time I had not ascertained the authorities or dates of publication for the names used. I take this opportunity to correct these omissions.

The family of Australo-Papuan flycatchers takes the name Pachycephalidae Swainson 1832 (Fauna Boreali-Americana, pt 2: 492) with Pachycephalinae (robins and whistlers) being the nominate subfamily.

Although I designated the other subfamily (monarch flycatchers and fantails) as Monarchinae Beecher 1953 (Auk 70: 294), the name for this taxon should be Myiagrinae Cabanis 1850 (Museum Heineanum, pt 1, sig. 7: 56). Another junior synonym is Rhipidurinae Sundevall 1872 (Tentamen, pt 1: 25). Myiagrinae has clear priority but is an unused name in the sense of Arti-

cle 23 (a-b) and 79 (b) of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature; it has not been in use during the last fifty years or more. Application could be made to the International Commission of Zoological Nomenclature to suppress Myiagrinae under its plenary powers if the introduction of this name would 'disturb stability or universality or cause confusion.'

Rhipidurinae is in current use but I prefer to maintain Myiagrinae. Recent authors have applied various names to flycatchers with a number of different connotations. Because there is no universal application of family names of flycatchers, I do not feel there is a good case for the suppression of Myiagrinae to preserve the stability of Rhipidurinae.

The family Pachycephalidae Swainson 1832 is thus composed of the subfamilies Pachycephalinae and Myiagrinae Cabanis 1850.

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### SEASONAL CHANGES IN A COMMUNITY OF HONEYEATERS IN SOUTH-WESTERN AUSTRALIA

During a study of Noolbengers *Tarsipes spenserae* in coastal heathland fifty kilometres east of Albany, on the southern coast of Western Australia, birds were caught to obtain pollen samples and changes in the numbers of honeyeaters were assessed.

Four mist-nets were set for two days in each of nine months during 1979, along a track through 2.5 hectares of *Banksia* thicket, which was isolated from other thickets by swamps. The thicket was three metres high, of similarly aged plants (the area was chained ten years earlier), and dominated by *Banksia coccinea*, with many *B. baxteri* and some *B. attenuata* and *B. grandis*. *Banksia coccinea* flowered in spring, *B. baxteri* in autumn and early winter; only a few flowers of *B. at-*

*tenuata* and *B. grandis* were available during the summer.

All birds caught were nectarivores of seven species, except two Red-eared Firetails *Emblema oculata*, two Golden Whistlers *Pachycephala pectoralis* and a White-browed Scrubwren *Sericornis frontalis*. The numbers and types of birds caught may be affected by differences in the patterns of activity according to season and species. However, the nets were not used on days with strong winds or other extreme weather conditions, which might have influenced their success. Although the density of the thicket made censusing by the usual methods impossible, incidental observations made during six to ten days of trapping for Noolbengers during