A Slight Observation of the Glassy Swiftlet at Cape York, Queensland.—E. J. O. Hartt (1902) in the Catalogue of Birds in the British Museum lists three specimens of Collocalia excedens from Cape York, collected by J. E. Cockerell. However, G. M. Mathews (1917, 1918) dismisses these records and considered that the specimens probably originated from the Aru Islands. He believed that no specimen collected by Cockerell could be regarded as reliable without confirmation. D. L. Stuart (1913, 1915) records sighting C. excedens at two sites in Queensland but on each occasion he probably observed the Grey Swiftlet C. franciscina. One of the localities for which he recorded C. excedens was Dunk Island, a known breeding locality of C. franciscina. Finally, Mathews (1936) reports a valid specimen record of C. excedens from Australia. The skin, which had been sent to him through Clifford Coles and Neville W. Cashey, is a male and was collected at Cape York, North Queensland, by Mr M. F. Flood. There appear to be no further records of C. excedens in Australia.

On January 24, 1966, the writer observed a small flock at Iron Range, Cape York. Out. Approximately 40 C. excedens were observed in company of several hundred C. franciscina. The swiftlets which were flying some 30 ft. above the tall rainforest on the banks of the Claudius River, were watched for nearly half an hour while 10-15 birds were seen.

The birds differed from C. franciscina in having a white belly and being noticeably smaller. The colouration of the upper parts was an indescribable bluish-black. No other swiftlet but C. excedens fits the above bird description taken from my field notes.

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