

Saltator (birds) at Frijoles and Barro Colorado Island, Panama, 1962

Extracted on Apr-17-2024 08:34:33

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[[ma]]y be either single or double. In many Warbles, there is only one "Trit" or "Tit" Note. In others, there may be two to six, uttered one right after the other in a tempo which is moderately rapid but noticeably slower than that of typical Rattles. Single notes and series of this type are usually or always uttered immediately before the first (or only) Flourish(es). In some series, all the notes are essentially similar or identical in pitch. In other series, one or more notes may be conspicuously higher or lower than the others. This variation is always irregular. Series are never consistently ascending or descending throughout. (It is, of course, the irregular variation of pitch, in conjunction with the moderately rapid rhythm that produces the actual warbling effect.)

Warbles are uttered by solitary or single Buff-throated Saltators in exactly the same range of circumstances, during the breeding season, and during the same periods of the day, as the Day Songs of Streaked Saltators. They probably also are true songs. A solitary bird uttering Warbles is usually joined by its mate or potential mate. Warbles also are uttered in a variety of possibly or certainly hostile circumstances. They are common during disputes between territorial neighbors, and between individuals of the same sex in captivity. Some tunes they are combined with obviously hostile Bill-up Postures (see below) They may be uttered as a sort of "triumph ceremony" by the victor of a fight, after its opponent as fled. They may be uttered as "greeting" by mated birds when one joins the other or both land together. As far as I could tell, all types of Warbles are uttered in every one of these situations (although not necessarily with equal frequency) It seems likely that Flourishes are at least partly sexual, as they are similar to Dawn Calling Notes in sound (see below). The "Trit" or "Tit" Notes are almost certainly at least partly hostile (this is indicated by their relationship to Rattles)

Although Warbles sound quite different from the Day Songs of Str[[eaked]]

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