



Status of the UPLB-MNH D.S. Rabor Memorial Wildlife Collection

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Dr. Dioscoro “Joe” Siarot Rabor



Photo was taken by H. Elliott McClure during a fieldwork on 1965 at the Malaysian Peninsula

- Born in May 18, 1911; Cebu
- Died on March 25, 1996
- “Father of Philippine Wildlife Conservation”
- From 1935 to 1977, he led expeditions from the Ilocos Region down to the Sulu Archipelago.
- Silliman University, Mindanao State University, UPLB CFNR
- *Napothera rabori* or now known as *Robsonius rabori*
- *Aethopyga linaraborae*



Cordillera Ground-Warbler
(*Robsonius rabori*)
© Robert Hutchinson



Lina's Sunbird
(*Aethopyga linaraborae*)
© Ramon Quisumbing





Inventory

- 10,448 bird specimens and 4,443 mammalian specimens in its current listing
- Out of the 10,448 bird specimens
 - 10,273 or 98.3% have been checked, cleaned, and updated on their data.
- Out of the 4,443 mammalian specimens
 - 1,561 or 35.1% have been checked, cleaned, and updated on their data.
- Accession number, locality, date collected, collector



Problems encountered

- Specimen damages
 - Detached and missing body parts, presence of molds, missing and damaged tags
- Pest infestation
 - Presence of cockroach eggs
- Cleanliness of storage trays and cabinets
- 13.4% of bird specimens have damages
- 9.3% of mammalian specimens have damages



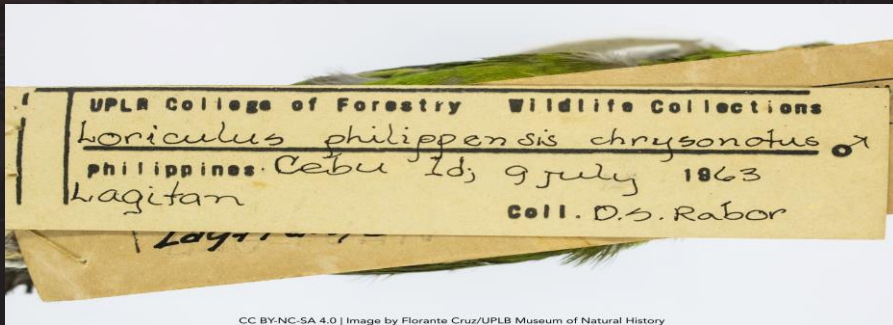
Significant specimens



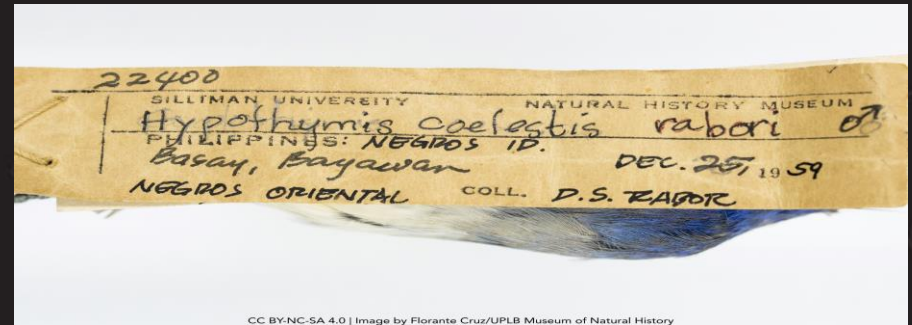
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Significant specimens

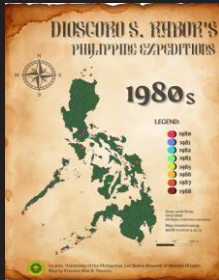
- Critically endangered specimens such as the Philippine Eagle (*Pithecophaga jefferyi*), Mindoro Bleeding Heart (*Gallicolumba platenae*), Walden's Hornbill (*Rhabdotorrhinus waldeni*)





What we're doing right now?

- Continuation of the inventory
- Constant monitoring of room conditions
 - Temperature ranges from 24°C - 27°C
 - Relative humidity ranges from 40% - 60% (on normal conditions)
- Constant staff and curator consultations
- Create or modify the museum's standard operating procedure
- Create a map of Dr. Rabor's expeditions from the 1940's up to the 1980's
 - Ms. Frances Tenorio used QGIS in creating these maps
- Information dissemination to visitors of the collection room



Digitization Efforts and Collaborative Projects



- Digitization and updating of collection database is ongoing
 - BIFA5_021 (2021 - 2022)
 - University of the Philippines Los Baños Museum of Natural History Dioscoro Rabor Collection: Luzon Birds
 - 999 occurrences
 - Collected bird specimens from the Luzon Island
 - Excluding Mindoro and Palawan Faunal Regions
 - BIFA 6_026 (2022 – present)
 - UPLB Museum of Natural History DS Rabor Chiroptera Collection
 - 1,500 occurrences
 - Ready for publishing (undergoing data cleaning)

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying a GBIF dataset page. The browser's address bar shows the URL: <https://www.gbif.org/dataset/d90d1430-fd7e-4669-aa7f-9255bb41af72>. The page title is "University of the Philippines Los Baños Museum of Natural History Dioscoro Rabor Collection: Luzon Birds". The page is published by "University of the Philippines Los Baños Museum of Natural History" and is authored by "Naredo J • Naredo J C". The dataset is registered on April 8, 2022. The page features a navigation menu with "DATASET", "PROJECT", "METRICS", "ACTIVITY", and "DOWNLOAD". The "DATASET" tab is active, showing a summary of the dataset: "This includes historical records of birds included in the Rabor Wildlife collection of UPLBMNH." The summary includes the following information: Project ID: BIFAS_021, Publication date: April 9, 2022, Metadata last modified: April 8, 2022, Hosted by: ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB), and Licence: CC BY 4.0. Below the summary, there are four circular progress indicators: 999 Occurrences (100%), 100% With taxon match, 99.9% With coordinates, and 100% With year. At the bottom, there is a section for "998 GEOREFERENCED RECORDS" with a map showing the distribution of records in Luzon Island.

Suggestions and further work

- Improved storage
 - Steel/Glass cabinets that are fire-proof or fire-resistant
 - Separate specimen boxes for critically endangered and almost extinct specimens
- Updated tags
 - Scientific name and locality
- Improved collection room
 - One that is specific for specimens only
- Collaborative projects
 - Repair and restoration of specimens
 - Digitization projects



Acknowledgement

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- Dr. Jennifer Niem – Coordinator for Collections Management, UPLB-MNH
- UPLB Museum of Natural History's Staff and Volunteers

