

BIRDS OF CAT LOC

Methods and Equipment

Birds were observed during regular walking and occasional boat (riv. Dong Nai) trips with an aid of binoculars BPTs 8x30 and the spotting scope Cabellas Zoom-20x60 on the tripod. Birds were also detected and identified by their vocalization. Some species were caught by 1 mistnet (6 individuals of 4 species) and then released after the standard measurement procedure. The visual identification of species has been primarily carried out by excellent drawings given in Robson (2000). We also took from this source all the Latin names and the sequence of listing. The book by King *et al.* (1975) has been used as an additional valuable source on birds of South-East Asia.

For all the birds detected we recorded the time of meeting, the level (storey) of location and traits of behavior. We followed Kuznetsov (1994) and Kaljakin *et al.* (1997) in classification of storeys: 0 – aerial space over the canopies; I – in canopies from 35 to 55 m; II – from 20 to 30 m; III – from 10 to 20 m; IV – from 2 to 10 m; V – from the level of the ground to 2 m high.

Pictures of birds were taken on the positive film (Kodak Gold, 200) with an aid of camera Minolta X-700 with lenses: Minolta MC W.Rokkor-SG 1:3,5 f=28 mm; Minolta Auto Rokkor-RF 1:1,4 f=58 mm; Soligor Auto-Zoom 1:4,5 f=90mm~230mm, as well as extension tubes Minolta SR-2.

All the birds caught underwent the standard measurement procedure in accordance with that used by the previous authors (Kaljakin, pers.comm.). Some of the specimens were subsequently released while others were prepared as skins for collection.

Results

Specific accounts

We recorded 88 species of birds, which constitutes 27% out of the total number (332 species: unpubl. list, 2001) of birds, reported for Nam Cat Tien. One species – Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrush (*Garrulax monileger*) – was recorded for the first time in the Park.

GALLUS GALLUS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Red Junglefowl on the studied area prefers well-illuminated parts of the primary forest with the dense undergrowth. It can be also frequently met on plantations of cashew.

LOPHURA DIARDI

Locally common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Uncommon resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

The secondary flight feather of female of the Siamese Fireback was found in dense bamboos nearby Phouc Son village. This unmistakable species is well-known to the local people.

POLYPLECTRON GERMAINI

Fairly common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Several tail feathers of Germain's Peacock Pheasant were found on November 26th by Kuznetsov A.N. to the North East from Phuoc Son village.

SASIA OCHRACEA

Uncommon resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Uncommon resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

One individual of White-Browed Piculet was observed on November 30th in bamboos near Thon 4. It has pecked a bamboo trunk on the height of about 4 m for 10 minutes (from 3.40 pm till 3.50 pm). We also often observed holes in bamboo trunks made by this Piculet.

DRYOCOPUS JAVENSIS

Uncommon resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Uncommon resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

One individual of the White-Bellied Woodpecker was met on December 1st flying above the road in the patch of the primary forest near Thon 4.

MULLERIPICUS PULVERULENTUS

Uncommon resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Uncommon resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

For two evenings, on December 6th and 7th, we have observed a couple (male-female) of the Great Slaty Woodpecker near Thon 4. Both days the couple appeared at the same time (about 17.20 pm), starting to peck an emergent. Woodpeckers flew away in almost full darkness.

Barbets. Three species of barbets mentioned below were quite common on the studied area. In accordance with vocalization activity they can be put in the following sequence from the most numerous barbet till the less numerous one: *M. lineata*, *M. fajostricta* and *M. australis*. The peak of vocalization was on the morning (7.00 am. – 9.00 am). Almost all the birds were silent by the midnight. A lesser peak was recorded from 3.00 pm till 5.00 pm.

MEGALAIMA LINEATA

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Males of the Lineated Barbet regularly vocalized in patches of the primary forest as well as on bamboo-covered hills with banana plants.

MEGALAIMA FAIOSTRICTA

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Males of Green-Eared Barbet regularly vocalized in patches of primary forest, to which this species is more confined than the previous one.

MEGALAIMA AUSTRALIS

Fairly common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Vocalizing males of the Blue-Eared Barbet have been recorded twice, on December 1st and December 7th in the patch of the primary forest near Thon 4.

ANTHRACOCEROS ALBIROSTRIS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Three birds, a couple (male-female) and the other female, were recorded on November 29th flying across Dong Nai river near Thon 3. It appears that we met the same group on December 4th near Phuoc Son village. On the next day we observed two Oriental Pied Hornbills, flying across the Dong Nai river upstream Phuoc Son.

BUCEROS BICORNIS

Uncommon resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Uncommon resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

One individual of the Great Hornbill was observed by Vasiliev B. D. on December 5th. The bird was flying across the Dong Nai river upstream Vinh Ninh village.

MEROPS LESCHENAULTI

Fairly common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Chestnut-Headed Bee-Eater is very common in Cat Loc. It prefers bamboos

and trees emerging above the vegetation and thus very suitable for spotting the prey. We counted more than 60 individuals of this species on December 8th on a course of the boat trip along the Dong Nai river from Nam Chia to Phuoc Son.

HALCYON SMYRNENSIS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

White-Throated Kingfisher is very common on the studied area. It prefers open landscapes (wetlands, rice fields, grasslands) and banks of the Dong Nai river. It often utilizes the same hunting tactics as drongo, making the rapid dash for the prey and gliding back to the perch.

HALCYON PILEATA

Uncommon migrant and winter visitor of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Uncommon migrant and winter visitor of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

One individual of the Black-Capped Kingfisher was met on December 8th near Vinh Ninh village. It was sitting on the perch on the bank of the Dong Nai river likewise the previous species.

SURNICULUC LUQUBRIS

Fairly common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

One individual of the Drongo Cuckoo we met on December 4th near Thon 4 on the border of the patch of the primary forest and bamboos. The bird was sitting on the tree emerging above the surrounding vegetation.

PHAENICOPHAEUS TRISTIS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Green-Billed Malkoha is common on the studied area. We often saw it sitting on emerging bamboo stems by the banks of the Dong Nai river.

CENTROPUS SINENSIS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Greater Coucal is common on the studied area, where it frequents dense bushes and scrubs.

CORACIAS BENGALENSIS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat

Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

We saw Indian Roller only twice, on November 25th in Phuoc Son village and on December 6th near Thon 4.

EURYSTOMUS ORIENTALIS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Dollarbird is not numerous on the studied area. All the records were made along banks of the Dong Nai river.

PSITTACULA ALEXANDRI

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Red-Breasted Parakeet is quite numerous on the studied area. Flocks of 5-7 individuals were often sitting in canopies of emergents. It was often possible to see flocks consisting of 25-30 individuals.

CYPSIURUS BALASIENSIS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Asian Palm Swift is very numerous on the studied area.

EUROSTOPODUS MACROTIS

Fairly common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Great-Eared Nightjar is very common on the studied area. It appears soon after sunset.

CAPRIMULGUS MACRURUS

Fairly common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Specimen: adult male, skin, November 28th, left in Cat Tien NP National Park. The mentioned specimen was caught by a dog in Phuoc Son village.

COLUMBA LIVIA (FERAL MORPH)

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000).

Several feral individuals were observed in Phuoc Son. Plumage of some individuals was very close to that of the wild morph.

DUCULA AENEA

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Green Imperial Pigeon has been regularly recorded in the vicinity of Phuoc Son. A couple of pigeons have been often sitting in the canopy of the emergent and vocalizing something like “khrooo-khrooo”. Up to 16 individuals have usually appeared attracted by this vocalization. They have landed on branches of adjacent trees and trunks of bamboos joining to the chorus. After about half an hour birds have flown away.

TRERON VERNANS

Locally common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Uncommon resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Female of the Pink-Necked Green Pigeon was observed on December 7th on the emergent near Thon 4.

STREPTOPELIA ORIENTALIS

Fairly common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Rare resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

A couple of Oriental Turtle Doves we observed on December 3rd and 4th on the border of the rice field. One of the birds performed the display flight.

STREPTOPELIA CHINENSIS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Spotted Dove is very numerous on the studied area. We have often observed breeding couples and display flights.

STREPTOPELIA TRANQUEBARICA

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Uncommon resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Red Collared Dove was recorded on December 5th on the bamboo trunk on the bank of the Dong Nai River near Phuoc Son village.

AMAURORNIS PHOENICURUS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

We met a couple of White-Breasted Waterhens on November 30th and December 7th on the rice field near Thon 4.

PANDION HALIAËTUS

Fairly common winter migrant of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Uncommon winter migrant of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

One individual of Osprey was observed on December 8th flying along the Dong Nai river near Vinh Ninh village.

SPILORNIS CHEELA

Fairly common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

One individual of the Crested Serpent Eagle was soaring on November 24th above the patch of the disturbed primary forest in 5 km to the northeast from Phuoc Son village.

ACCIPITER BADIUS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

A couple of Shikras were soaring on December 6th above the cashew plantation near Thon 4.

BUTASTUR INDICUS

Common migrant of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common winter visitor and migrant of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Grey-Faced Buzzard was met twice. On December 1st it was sitting on the dead branch near the bank of the Dong Nai river; on December 3rd it was observed on the dead tree trunk among rice fields near Phuoc Son village.

PERNIS PTILORHYNCHUS

Locally common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Uncommon resident and migrant of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

We saw one individual of the Oriental Honey-Buzzard on November 25th soaring above rice fields near Phuoc Son village.

BUBULCUS IBIS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common winter visitor of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Cattle Egret is very numerous on the studied area. Flock of 45 individuals are not uncommon. This bird often escorts domestic cattle.

ARDEOLA BACCHUS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu,

1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Common winter visitor of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Chinese Pond Heron is common on the studied area. In comparison with the previous species it tends to inhabit wetter places and riverbanks.

BUTORIDES STRIATUS

Fairly common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Uncommon winter visitor of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Little Heron was flushed twice on the bank of the Dong Nai river – on December 1st and December 5th.

IXOBRYCHUS CINNAMOMEUS

Fairly common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Non-breeding male of the Cinnamon Bittern was observed on December, 3rd on the wetland near Phuoc Son village.

PSARISOMUS DALHOUSIAE

Fairly common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

One individual of the Long-Tailed Broadbill was observed by Kuznetsov A. N. on December 7th in the canopy of an emergent near Thon 4.

IRENA PUELLA

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Male of the Asian Fairy Bluebird was observed in the canopy of an emergent on December 6th in a patch of the primary forest. On the next day a couple was observed in the similar landscape near Thon 4.

CHLOROPSIS COCHINCHINENSIS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

One individual of the Blue-Winged Leafbird was met on November 25th in bamboos on the slope of the hill near Phuoc Son village.

LANIUS CRISTATUS

Common migrant of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Common winter visitor of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Brown Shrike is quite common in the open agricultural landscape.

DICRURUS LEUCOPHAEUS

Common resident and migrant of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common winter visitor and resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Ashy Drongo is the most numerous drongo on the studied area. It can be met in patches of the primary forest as well as in agricultural landscape. In the primary forest it prefers openings in III and IV storeys, where it hunts and rests. The white and dark morphs of this species are present in Cat Loc.

DICRURUS ANNECTANS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Uncommon migrant of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Crow-Billed Drongo is quite common near Phuoc Son village.

DICRURUS AENEUS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Bronzed Drongo has been often seen along banks of the Dong Nai river and its tributaries.

DICRURUS HOTTENTOTUS

Fairly common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident and winter visitor of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Spangled Drongo prefers patches of the primary forest. In such patches near Thon 4 we observed flocks of 20 individuals. They flew above the canopies very close to sunset. Then birds landed in canopies of emergents for the night rest.

DICRURUS PARADISEUS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Greater Racket-Tailed Drongo prefers canopies of emergents (I and II storeys) being quite common in patches of the primary forest.

CRYPsirina TEMIA

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Racket-Tailed Treepie is quite common on the studied area preferring bamboos along banks of the Dong Nai river.

CORVUS MACRORHYNCHOS

Fairly common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Uncommon resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

One individual of the Large-Billed Crow we observed on December 5th flying in an open agricultural area near Phuoc Son village.

ORIOIUS CHINENSIS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

On the studied area the Black-Naped Oriole prefers patches of the primary forest.

ORIOIUS XANTHORUS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Black-Hooded Oriole was met on November 24th in a canopy of cashew near Phuoc Son village.

AEGITHINA TIPHIA

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

We heard the mating song of the Common Iora on November 25th in a scrub near Phuoc Son village.

CORACINA POLIOPTERA

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Uncommon resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

One individual of the Indochinese Cuckooshrike was observed on November 30th on the tree among rice fields near Thon 4.

PERICROCOTUS FLAMMEUS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Scarlet Minivet is common in patches of primary forest. We have often observed couples (male-female) in canopies of emergents. The song of male has been also often heard.

MUSCICAPA DAURICA

Common migrant of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Unusual winter visitor of Cat

Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

One individual of the Asian Brown Flycatcher was observed on November 30th on the emergent in the cashew plantation near Thon 4.

EUMYIAS THALASSINA

Common resident and migrant of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident and winter migrant of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Verditer Flycatcher is quite common along bamboos and other vegetation along banks of the Dong Nai river.

LUSCINIA CYANE

Fairly common migrant of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common winter visitor of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Female of the Siberian Blue Robin was recorded on November 26 in the vegetation on the bank of the Dong Nai river.

COPSYCHUS SAULARIS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Specimen: adult female, December 1st, released after standard measurement procedure.

Oriental Magpie Robin is common in the vegetation along banks of the Dong Nai river and its tributaries.

COPSYCHUS MALABARICUS

Fairly common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

One individual of the White-Rumped Shama was met on November 25th on the road between Phuoc Son and Phuoc Hai villages.

SAXICOLA TORQUATA

Common migrant of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common winter visitor of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

One individual of the Common Stonechat was observed on December 3rd on the wetland near Phuoc Son village.

STURNUS BURMANNICUS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

The flock of 9 Vinous-Breasted Starlings has been constantly observed in open agricultural landscape near Phuoc Son village.

STURNUS NIGRICOLLIS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Uncommon resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Flocks of 5-10 individuals of the Black-Collared Starling have frequented trees and bamboos in the open agricultural landscape near Dong Nai river.

GRACULA RELIGIOSA

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Flock of 10 individuals of the Hill Myna were flying among hills on December 6th near Thon 4. There were also two tamed individuals in the mentioned settlement.

HIRUNDO RUSTICA

Common migrant of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common winter visitor of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Barn Swallow is very common on the studied area.

PYCNONOTUS MELANICTERUS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Black-Crested Bulbul is common on the studied area. It prefers bushes and small trees by banks of the Dong Nai river and its tributaries.

PYCNONOTUS JOKOSUS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Red-Whiskered Bulbul is quite common on the studied area. It frequents vegetation along riverbanks and by the border of the forest.

PYCNONOTUS AURIGASTER

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

A couple of Sooty-Headed Bulbuls we saw on November 29th in bamboos on the bank of the Dong Nai river.

PYCNONOTUS FINLAYSONI

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Specimens: adult female, skin, November 28th, Museum of Zoology Dept., Tver State Univ., Tver, Russia; adult 1, December 4th, released after the standard measurement procedure; adult 2, December 4th, released after the standard measurement procedure.

Stripe-Throated Bulbul is quite numerous in the vegetation along banks of the Dong Nai river and its tributaries.

PYCNONOTUS BLANFORDI

Fairly common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

We met the Streak-Eared Bulbul twice – on November 26th one individual was observed in the bush on the bank of the left tributary of the Dong Nai river in Phuoc Son village. At the same place, two days later, we met a couple of these birds eating small white berries from the bush.

ALOPHOIXUS OCHRACEUS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Ochraceous Bulbul is quite common on the studied area. It prefers the vegetation along riverbanks and bamboos of hill slopes.

IOLE PROPINQUA

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

One individual of the Grey-Eyed Bulbul is met on November 26th on the tree among rice fields near Phuoc Son village.

PRINIA FLAVIVENTRIS

Fairly common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

A couple of Yellow-Bellied Prinias were observed on December 3rd on wetland near Phuoc Son village.

ORTOTHOMUS ATROGULARIS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

This is very numerous species on the studied area. Dark-Necked Tailorbird prefers scrubs and bamboos by riverbanks and hill slopes.

PHYLLOSCOPUS INORNATUS

Common migrant of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common winter visitor of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Yellow-Browed Warbler is quite abundant on the studied area. It is often seen searching in canopies of trees, including those on plantations, like cashew.

GARRULAX LEUCOLOPHUS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

White-Crested Laughingthrush is quite common on the studied area. Flocks of this bird prefer patches of primary forest and plantations with the rich litter.

GARRULAX MONILEGER

Fairly common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). It is not recorded for Cat Tien NP National Park.

One specimen of the Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrush was observed on November 30th in the flock of the previous species on the border of cashew plantation and bamboos near Thon 4.

MALACOPTERON CINEREUM

Fairly common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

A couple of the Scally-Crowned Babblers were observed on November 24th in the patch of disturbed primary forest in 5 km to the northeast from Phuoc Son village. Bird very noisily checked stems and leaves in V storey.

MACRONOUS GULARIS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Very common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Specimen: adult male, November 27th, skin is in the Museum of Zoology Dept., Tver State Univ., Tver, Russia.

Striped Tit Babbler is very numerous on the studied area. It is very common in the vegetation along riverbanks, on the border of the forest. We also observed active mating of this species.

DICAEUM CRUENTATUM

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat

Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Scarlet-Backed Flowerpecker was observed twice – on November 30th female seated on the vane protruding above the canopy of the emergent near Thon 4; on December 3rd male of this species searched the canopy of *Lithocarpus sp.* near Phouc Son village.

ANTHREPTES SINGALENSIS

Fairly common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Couples of the Ruby-Cheeked Sunbird have been frequently seen in canopies of small trees by the banks of the Dong Nai river.

NECTARINIA SPERATA

From rare to locally common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Couples of Purple-Throated Sunbirds have been met on December 5th and 7th near Thon 4.

NECTARINIA JUGULARIS

Fairly common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

We met the Olive-Backed Sunbird just once, in bamboos along the left bank of the Dong Nai river.

AETHOPYGA SIPARAJA

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Unusual resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Two couples of Crimson Sunbirds were met on December 7th in the patch of the primary forest and adjacent cashew plantation near Thon 4.

ARACHNOTHERA LONGIROSTRA

Fairly common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Unusual resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Little Spiderhunter is quite common on the studied area. It prefers banana plantations. Specific vocalization is also heard from bamboos.

MOTACILLA CINEREA

Common migrant of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Uncommon winter visitor of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

Two individuals of the Grey Wagtail actively chasing each other were observed on November 30th and December 6th among rice fields near Thon 4.

PASSER MONTANUS

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

The flock of 15 Eurasian Tree Sparrows has been constantly seen near Local Guard Station (Tram Kiem Lam) in Phuoc Son village. Some of the birds were building nests under the roof of the mentioned building.

PASSER FLAVEOLUS

Endemic. Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Uncommon resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

We have constantly seen individuals of the Plain-Backed Sparrow in Phuoc Son village. There, in the hole of the apical hollow of the concrete electric pole, a couple of Sparrows were building the nest.

LONCHURA STRIATA

Common resident of Cochinchina (King *et al.*, 1975; Vo Qui, Nguyen Cu, 1995; Nguyen Cu *et al.*, 2000; Robson, 2000). Fairly common resident of Cat Tien NP (Polet & Khanh, 1999).

A flock of White-Rumped Munias was met on November 25th on the bank of the Dong Nai river near Phuoc Son village. Some birds were collecting the nest material, which was transported to the dense scrub on the other bank of the river.

Discussion

During the relatively short period of time (21 days) we recorded 88 species of birds that shows their good diversity on the studied area.

Primary forest in Cat Tien NP is almost completely destroyed. However, such species as *Buceros bicornis*, *Anthracoseros albirostris*, *Mulleripicus pulverulentus*, *Dryocopus javensis* and *Malacopteron cinereum*, which are strictly confined to the primary forest show that some patches of good forest are still persisting in the region. The presence in the region of *Buceros bicornis* and *Mulleripicus pulverulentus* is especially good sign since these birds use big trees for nesting.

The vast area covered by bamboos is a good shelter not only for the Javanese Rhinoceros but also for pheasants, most of which are considered as endangered in Vietnam due to the overhunting and the loss of the habitat. Our observations and interrogations of the local people showed that at least two pheasants, *Lophura diardi* and *Polyplectron germaini* are quite numerous

in the area. There is also possibility of meeting there an endemic *Arborophila davidi*, since it inhabits a similar habitat in Nam Cat Tien. Vast bamboos also attract species which are adapted to feed or breed on them, like *Sasia ochracea*.

Introduced agricultural landscapes attracted to Cat Loc species, which inhabit scrubs and open areas. They are herons, most of the bulbuls, prinias, stonechats and shrikes. It appears that the number of some species increased after the introduction of the plantations in the area. Banana plantations caused the rise of *Arachnothera longirostra* population. The number of these birds in adjacent patches of primary forest is by far lower. Cashew plantations are a good feeding place for sunbirds and warblers, number of which is also higher there than in primary patches. The rich litter in cashew plantations attracts flocks of *Garrulax leucolophus*, more numerous here than in primary forest, which has in Cat Loc very poor litter.

Human settlements brought to the area such synanthropic species as *Columba livia*, *Corvus macrorhynchos* and *Passer montanus*.

Conclusions

- during the relatively short period of time (21 days) we recorded 88 species of birds that shows their good diversity on the studied area;
- despite the destruction of main primary forest in Cat Loc some of its patches are still remaining and capable to sustain avian species strictly confined to them;
- vast bamboos of Cat Loc is an ideal shelter for pheasants and other endangered galliforms;
- introduced agricultural landscapes of Cat Loc brought to the region birds of open areas along with synanthropic species;
- plantations caused the increasing in number of some species in the area.

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