

26 April 2008 My job now takes me for extended periods to the Zambian and DRC Copperbelt region, where to date I still have not had the luxury of a camera or better than a pair of pocket 10x25 Tasco binos - after all I am there for work and not birding!

Nevertheless, I am just back from my fifth trip to the DRC where I have chalked up my first 100 species (102 actually).

Of these only 5 are species not found in southern Africa:

Miombo Pied Barbet
Black-backed Barbet
Sooty Chat
Cabanis's Greenbul
Long-tailed Cisticola

A further 14 are species that I have not yet seen in southern Africa, although 6 of these are extremely uncommon south of the Zambezi (marked **) and I might never see them in our region at all:

White-browed Coucal
**Ross's Turaco
Rufous-cheeked Nightjar
Pennant-winged Nightjar
**Blue-spotted Wood-Dove
**Western Marsh-Harrier
**Yellow-bellied Hylia
**Copper Sunbird
**Northern Grey-headed Sparrow
Yellow-mantled Widowbird
Magpie Mannikin
Broad-tailed Paradise-Whydah
Brown Firefinch
African Wood-Owl

Neil Gray