

Clements' 2008 (December) Taxonomy Update

Automatic Master Checklist Taxonomy Update for Versions 4.5x, 5.x, and 6

**** If you are already using a copy of the Shawneen Finnegan World-Wide Nation Checklists that is older than December 2008, if you want to use this taxonomy update you will also need to update your copy of the nation checklists. Call SBSP at 805-963-7720, or go to www.birdbase.com and then go to the Users Bulletin Board, to get an update.**

"How do I know if I already have this taxonomy installed?" Switch to NA mode. If the list starts with Ducks, etc., you already have this installed. (There would be no harm in installing this twice if you are still unsure.)

IMPORTANT -- BEFORE INSTALLING THIS UPDATE:

Important documentation included with AviSys is in Adobe Acrobat format. You will need to have the free Adobe Acrobat Reader installed to read it. See www.adobe.com

SOME UNIQUE THINGS ABOUT THIS TAXONOMY UPDATE -- IMPORTANT!

This particular update poses some unique issues for AviSys:

* The update is huge. Cornell has done a comprehensive job of bringing the Clements taxonomy up to date using the most reliable and relevant information available. An avian taxonomist has been hired for just that purpose. Not only are there over 200 English name changes, splits and lumps, there are many more Latin name changes and corrections.

* As a result of DNA studies, the taxonomic sequence has been radically changed to conform, where rational, with the latest sequence published by the AOU North America and South America committees, and where those changes can be applied to birds elsewhere in the world. This is a first start. We can look forward to even more sequence changes in a year --- thus, this is not an update to skip; things will get more complicated later.

* While all AviSys taxonomy updates have been applicable to prior versions of AviSys (4.5x and 5.x), this update presents some problems that cannot be resolved in those older versions:

- AviSys Hot Keys and Jump Tables key on family names in most cases. In this update there have been so many family name changes that, as a result, **Jump Tables and Hot Keys in Versions 4.5x and 5.x will not work reliably with this taxonomy.** If you use those facilities, you will want to upgrade to Version 6. Correspondingly, if you upgrade to Version 6 you will want to install this taxonomy update.
- In this taxonomy, Cornell has implemented a significant change in subspecies handling. There are now subspecies "groups," which allows you to record a sighting of a subspecies "group" where you are uncertain of the exact subspecies but where you know the bird falls within one of the subspecies groups. For example, you can record a Dark-eyed Junco as a member of the easily identifiable "Oregon" group, even though that group contains seven subspecies. Later study of range or descriptive data could allow you to define the subspecies more specifically --- Cornell data example below. (The Dark-eyed Junco species consists of 14 subspecies in seven groups.) All this improves your opportunities to accurately "escrow" subspecies in anticipation of elevation of subspecies to species level. As a result of this change in subspecies data, **subspecies implementation in legacy AviSys versions 4.5x and 5.x will be inaccurate and confusing.** If you use subspecies, you will want to upgrade to Version 6.

group	<i>Junco hyemalis</i> [oreganus Group]	Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon) +	
subspecies	<i>Junco hyemalis oregonus</i>		Coastal se Alaska to cent. Br. Col.; > to cent. California
subspecies	<i>Junco hyemalis montanus</i>		Interior Br. Col. and sw Alberta to e Oregon, w Montana, c Idaho
subspecies	<i>Junco hyemalis shufeldti</i>		W slopes of coastal mts. from sw British Columbia to w Oregon
subspecies	<i>Junco hyemalis thurberi</i>		S Oregon to mts. of San Diego Co. and s Nevada; > to n Baja, sw N Mex.
subspecies	<i>Junco hyemalis pinosus</i>		Coastal ranges of California (San Francisco to s Monterey Co.)
subspecies	<i>Junco hyemalis pontilus</i>		Mountains of n Baja California (Sierra Juárez)
subspecies	<i>Junco hyemalis townsendi</i>		Mountains of n Baja California (San Pedro Mártir)

* As a result of all the issues enumerated above, for complete function you will require AviSys Version 6.00H. If you already use Version 6, you can download and install the update to 6.00H free of charge from our web site. We recommend that you do that before the taxonomy update.

* While users of 4.5x and 5.x cannot use the functions impacted by this taxonomy update (Subspecies, Hot Keys, and Jump Tables, and some degradation of Band Codes), they can still update the taxonomy and have access to most operations. While we have a long history of retaining full function for our legacy users, as old as 12 years ago, it has proven impossible this time. (In any case, legacy users should study BOTH Version 6 upgrade web pages to see the dozens of significant feature and function changes in the new version. <http://www.avisys.net/ANNOUNCE6.HTM> and <http://www.avisys.net/UPDATE6.HTM>)

A FINAL NOTE: It would have been nice to provide a taxonomy update that, with the push of a button, updates your entire master list and all sightings. Sadly, that can't possibly happen. It would require AviSys to change your sighting records without your involvement --- that's simply too dangerous. AviSys has no idea which species you actually saw; only you know that. So you will be involved with every sighting record that needs to be changed --- AviSys simply keeps you informed of what is going on in the process and makes it as easy as possible.

VERY IMPORTANT:

1. Just downloading this update will NOT update your taxonomy. Following the instructions, below, you will:

A. Download MASTER8.EXE

- B. Run MASTER8.EXE, pointing it at (one of) your data set(s), such as C:\AVI6\JOHN
- C. Follow a set of instructions in CHANGES8.PDF that will be presented when you run MASTER8.EXE

2. If you have more than one bird data set, you will repeat B and C, above, for each data set.

NOTE: Running MASTER8.EXE places files needed for the update in your AviSys folders. There are two kinds of folders of interest here, and you need to be aware of them.

** Your **DATA SET** folder, typically named something like C:\AVI6\JOHN

** Your **BASE** AviSys folder, typically something like C:\AVI6. (Note that the BASE folder is actually one level up from the data set folder.)

Initially, the update installer will likely find your DATA SET folder automatically, but if you have more than one it may find the wrong folder and you will need to browse to the correct one.

After the majority of update files have been loaded into your data set folder, you will be prompted to browse to your **BASE** AviSys folder. The data set and base folders will be displayed automatically and all you will need to do is double-click on the **BASE** folder, such as C:\AVI6

Please think about these two folders and their relationships a bit so that you are prepared to browse to them as necessary. When running AviSys, if you click Help, and select About AviSys, you will see the complete folder path to your current data set displayed, such as C:\AVI6\MARILYN. In this example, your BASE AviSys folder is C:\AVI6, and your data set folder is C:\AVI6\MARILYN. If Marilyn's birding partner is Mike, and he has his own individual data set, it would be C:\AVI6\MIKE (or whatever he named it).

SPECIAL NOTICE:

If you have sightings of Flamingos in the US or Canada, remember that the wild Flamingos in those countries are all "American Flamingo". Rename "Caribbean Flamingo".

Also, if you have records of "Greylag Goose", the bird needs to be renamed "Graylag Goose". (A for E)

All the Royal Flycatchers, Northern, Pacific, and Amazonian, are now lumped into "Royal Flycatcher".

Print these instructions for future reference.

- You must have AviSys Version 4.58D or later, or 5.x, or 6.00H to use this update. If you don't, [Click Here](#) for 4 or 5 users, or [Click Here](#) for Version 6 users.
- If you have an older copy of AviSys Version 4 that does not have the AOU Vireo and Titmouse splits implemented, (**Example: you still have a Solitary Vireo in your Master Checklist**) you need to perform the splits after upgrading to Version 4.58. If you will need to do the splits, [Click Here](#).
- Download this file, MASTER8.EXE, using the link below. Choose SAVE if offered. Be sure your browser downloads it to FILE. **Watch where your browser puts it! Your desktop is a good starting place.**
- **NOTE:** Some versions of Microsoft browsers will try to convert the file to a text file -- as evidenced by placing the download in a window of garbage. In those cases, you may have to RIGHT click the link to get the browser to download the update and **save** it as a **file**.
- If your browser has renamed the file, rename it back to MASTER8.EXE.
- Using Windows Explorer, copy MASTER8.EXE to your base AviSys folder (**Examples:** C:\AVI4 **or** C:\AVI5 **or** C:\AVI6).
- Using Windows Explorer or My computer, run (double-click) MASTER8.EXE.
- Further instructions will be provided in the file CHANGES8.PDF when it runs.

[Click Here to Download the Master Checklist Taxonomy Update, MASTER8.EXE](#)

[\[Home\]](#)
