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**PLATE 2: GENUS *PIPRA* I**


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The genus *Pipra* as currently constituted comprises eight species and two superspecies, which generally conform to most observers' conceptions of 'classic' manakins, i.e. they are characterised by being small, with brightly coloured males and dull-plumaged females. Their stereotyped displays afford exemplary opportunities for students of avian ecology and colourful spectacles for birdwatchers alike.

**Crimson-hooded Manakin** *Pipra aureola*

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**Male aureola** Of the two superspecies in *Pipra*, the first comprises three species, Crimson-hooded, Wire-tailed and Band-tailed Manakins. This species is the northeastern representative; overlap with Band-tailed Manakin has been reported at fewer than a handful of localities, but the nature of any such interactions has yet to be elucidated. Nominate *aureola* is illustrated here, but geographical variation in Crimson-hooded Manakin is notoriously difficult to identify except in long series of specimens.

**Female** Females of all three recognised subspecies within *P. aureola* are to all intents and purposes identical.

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**Band-tailed Manakin** *Pipra fasciicauda*

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**Male fasciicauda** The most widespread member of this superspecies, Band-tailed Manakin occurs from east Amazonian Brazil south to northeast Argentina and west to eastern Peru and northern Bolivia. Other races possess considerably more red on the head and underparts. Males are easily recognised by their white tail bands but most readily detected by their somewhat 'whining' vocalisations.

**Male scarlatina** The tail pattern of this subspecies is identical to that of *P. f. fasciicauda*, the ear-coverts and throat feathers are extensively scarlet-tipped, whilst the foreneck and breast are much deeper and redder, and these red feathers extend more sparsely over the flanks and even as far as the undertail-coverts, but are highly variable, apparently individually.

**Female** Like Crimson-hooded Manakin, geographical variation is scarcely apparent in females of this species. Over much of the eastern part of its range, in the Cerrado this is the only small female manakin with pale irides.

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**Wire-tailed Manakin** *Pipra filicauda*

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**Male filicauda** Formerly placed in its own genus, both sexes of Wire-tailed Manakin are distinguished by their wire-like tail filaments, which are most exaggerated in males. The species occurs across the western half of Amazonia as well as in northern Venezuela; two subspecies are traditionally recognised.

**Female and displaying male** Female Wire-tailed Manakin is the most immediately recognisable of female *Pipra* manakins, due to the long curved filaments to the tail. This male is displaying to the female.

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**Scarlet-horned Manakin** *Pipra cornuta*

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**Female and male** Both sexes of this species, which is confined to the tepui region of southern Venezuela, westernmost Guyana and northernmost Brazil, are comparatively easily identified by the 'horns' on the hindcrown (albeit reduced in the female). Scarlet-horned Manakin and Round-tailed Manakin *P. chloromeros* do not form part of the *Pipra erythrocephala* superspecies.

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