

**Green Barbet**

Groenhoutkapper

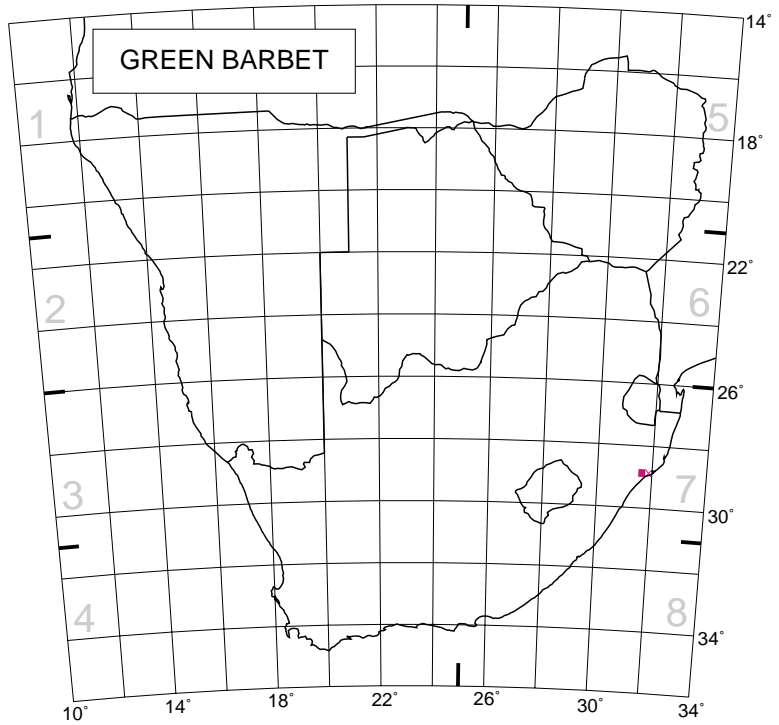
*Cryptolybia woodwardi*

In southern Africa, the Green Barbet occurs only in Ngoye Forest (2831DC,DD) where it is a relatively common and conspicuous species of the mid-stratum and canopy. Ngoye Forest is a relict patch of transitional Afromontane-coastal forest. This species may be particularly dependent on the fruit of wild figs *Ficus* spp., seven species of which occur in Ngoye Forest and its edges (Dowsett-Lemaire & Dowsett 1987c).

It is a resident species which is not known to undertake any movements (Holliday & Tait 1953; Clancey 1964b; Cyrus & Robson 1980; Brooke 1984b; Fry *et al.* 1988). Although there are records at localities in southern Africa other than Ngoye Forest (e.g. Roberts 1940), these records require substantiation. It breeds in holes in tree trunks November–February (Holliday & Tait 1953; Brooke 1984b).

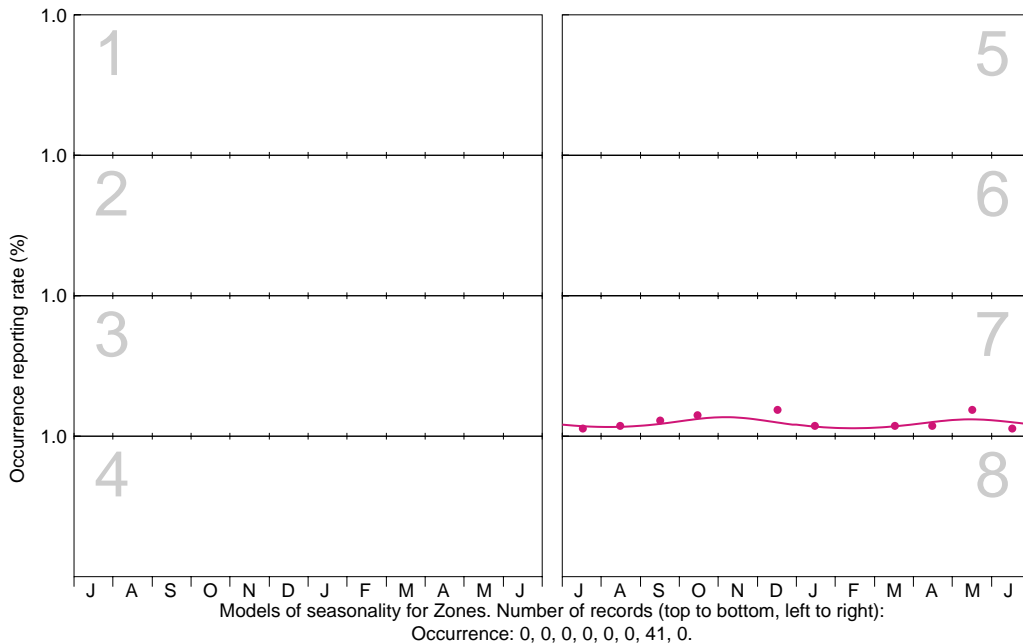
Its conservation status depends critically on which taxonomic evaluation of the Green Barbet group as a whole is accepted. One view is that Green Barbet comprises two isolated populations (Ngoye Forest and Rondo Plateau, Tanzania) and that two more species, *C. belcheri* and *C. olivacea* exist in Malawi, Kenya and Tanzania (Clancey 1980b; Clancey 1989a). Another view is that the group comprises one species with five subspecies (Dowsett-Lemaire & Dowsett 1987c; Fry *et al.* 1988). Based on the view that Green Barbet comprises only two populations, Brooke (1984b) classified the species as ‘rare’ in South Africa.

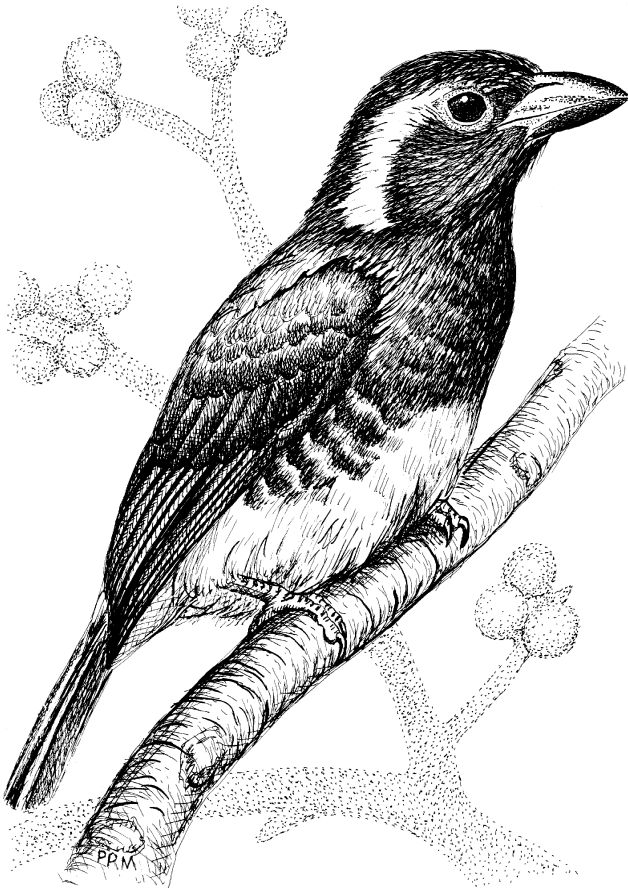
On an African scale, Collar & Stuart (1985), who accepted only one species of Green Barbet *C. olivacea*, nevertheless regarded Green *C. (olivacea) woodwardi* as an incipient species worth monitoring. Whatever the taxonomic status of the group, its isolated populations are vulnerable to forest clearing. Ngoye Forest is a protected area in which cattle grazing, crop cultivation, and limited utilization of trees occur. The edge of the forest is subjected to burning which may gradually reduce the forest area.



Recorded in 2 grid cells, 0.04%  
 Total number of records: 41  
 Mean reporting rate for range: 10.10%

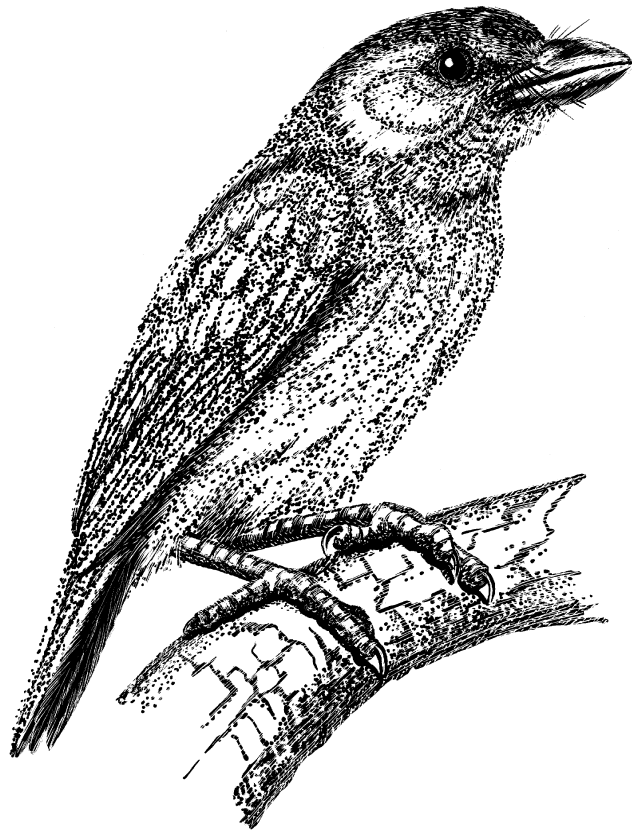
A. Berruti





*White-eared Barbet*

*Green Barbet*



MELANIE WES