

**A Field Guide to the Birds of Thailand**, by Craig Robson. Asia Books, Bangkok. 272 pp., hardcover. SBN 1-84330-058-3. Bht. 695.

This book more or less supersedes the out-of-print Boonsong Lekagul and Round's (1991) *Guide to the Birds of Thailand*. It has the advantages of a reasonable price, ease of handling and portability, and generally attractive and high standard illustrations (mostly reproduced from the same author's earlier *Field Guide to the Birds of South-East Asia*). It also includes the ca. 50 additional bird species recorded in Thailand between 1991 and February 2001. The inclusion of distribution maps is a welcome advance over the SE Asian book. Though closely based on those in Lekagul and Round, these also incorporate much new information amassed in the ten years since that work appeared. This is of particular relevance for Kaeng Krachan, Phetchaburi Province, which was largely unexplored at the time of the earlier work but, with its combination of northern montane and lowland Sundaic birds, is now recognised as possibly the single richest site for forest birds in the country. The illustrations and text are always on facing pages. The only slightly awkward feature is that the illustrations are numbered, rather than labeled with the name, and have to be located by reading through the relevant species texts.

#### REFERENCES

- LEKAGUL, B AND P. D. ROUND. 1991. *A Guide to the Birds of Thailand*. Saha Karn Bhaet, Bangkok.  
ROBSON, C. 2000. *A Field Guide to the Birds of SE Asia*. New Holland, London.

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