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Rawnsley's bowerbird

Rawnsley's bowerbird, also known as **Rawnsley's satin bird**^[1] or the **blue regent**, is a rare intergeneric hybrid between a satin bowerbird (*Ptilonorhynchus violaceus*) and a regent bowerbird (*Sericulus chrysocephalus*).

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Type specimen

It is based on a unique specimen collected by Henry Charles Rawnsley at Witton, near Brisbane in Queensland, Australia, on 14 July 1867. It was described and illustrated (as *Ptilonorhynchus rawnsleyi*) in the same year by Silvester Diggles in Part 15 of his three-volume work *The Ornithology of Australia*.^[2] It has at various times been considered to be a valid bowerbird species, an aberrant individual of the satin bowerbird, or an adult hybrid individual resulting from the natural crossing of a regent bowerbird with a satin bowerbird.^{[3][4]} The specimen was lost prior to 1950.

Photographs

A second example was not recorded until sightings and photographic evidence of another bird were obtained in November 2003 and January 2004 at Beechmont, South East Queensland, adjacent to the Lamington National Park.^[5] A further example, a mature male, was photographed in Kalang, New South Wales, in 2014, and was identified by reference to its description on Wikipedia.^[6]

Description

Rawnsley's bowerbird



Scientific classification

Kingdom:	Animalia
Phylum:	Chordata
Class:	Aves
Order:	Passeriformes
Superfamily:	Menuroidea
Family:	Ptilonorhynchidae
Hybrid:	<i>Ptilonorhynchus violaceus</i> × <i>Sericulus chrysocephalus</i>

Synonyms

- *Ptilonorhynchus rawnsleyi* Diggles, 1867