These four species form a superspecies and indeed all four are sometimes treated as members of a single, very wide-ranging species; they occur from southern Mexico to northeast Argentina, although three species are wholly or almost entirely confined to Middle America. With the exception of the complicated situation in parts of northern and western Colombia, all four species should be readily identified, with even females posing few problems on account of their size, structure and bright legs and feet.

**White-collared Manakin** *Manacus candei*  
**Male** The northernmost representative of the genus occurs from southeast Mexico to northwest Panama, where at the southernmost edge of its range it hybridises with Golden-collared Manakin.  
**Female** Easily identified from other manakins that share the same range through a combination of size and bare-parts coloration; note the brightly coloured legs and feet.

**Orange-collared Manakin** *Manacus aurantiacus*  
**Male** Orange-collared Manakin has the most restricted range of any species of *Manacus*, being confined to a small area of southern Costa Rica and adjacent southwestern Panama.  
**Female** Females of this species would probably prove impossible to separate from White-collared Manakin; fortunately, there is no overlap between them.

**Golden-collared Manakin** *Manacus vitellinus*  
**Male and female** Found from northwest Panama south and east to northern and western Colombia, a well-documented hybrid zone is known between this species and White-collared Manakin. To the south, in western Colombia, the interaction between Golden-collared and White-bearded Manakins are much more poorly known, although hybrids are known from at least two areas and *M. m. flaveolus* shows some approach to the present species in plumage.

**White-bearded Manakin** *Manacus manacus*  
**Male** *flaveolus* This race inhabits the upper Magdalena Valley of central Colombia; note the creamy yellow tone to the throat and collar. It thus approaches, to some extent, Golden-collared Manakin, and the two species are known to hybridise in parts of southwest Cauca and the lower Cauca Valley, both in Colombia.  
**Male and female** *manacus* Some 15 subspecies of White-bearded Manakin are generally recognised, although many are only weakly distinguished from their geographical neighbours. Nominate *manacus* occurs across the Guianan Shield and is characterised by being extensively white below with solidly black upperparts.  
**Male** *gutturosus* The Atlantic Forest representative of the species is quite well differentiated from other subspecies in being the darkest below, with the grey feathering extending from the vent to at least the breast.