Three genera of generally unassuming ‘manakins’, all of them clad in shades of principally green plumage. Sapayoa is now known to be a sister taxon to Asian and African broadbills, while genetic data demonstrate both genera of tyrant-manakins to be sister to ‘true’ manakins. Vocalisations are distinctive in all eight recognised species treated here and are the best aid to locating these unobtrusive birds.

**Serra do Mar Tyrant-Manakin** *Neopelma chrysolophum*  
Restricted to montane southeast Brazil. Generally, Serra do Mar and Wied’s Tyrant-Manakins are elevationally parapatric including within the few areas where they possibly do overlap (for instance in the Novo Friburgo region of Rio de Janeiro state), and the same certainly holds true for this species and Pale-bellied Tyrant-Manakin.

**Wied’s Tyrant-Manakin** *Neopelma aurifrons*  
Now very rare; Serra do Mar Tyrant-Manakin was formerly regarded as a subspecies of the present species, but is easily distinguished by vocalisations and, to a lesser extent, by the less obvious coronal patch in Wied’s, as well as the shorter tail, longer bill and longer wings (thus the tail looks shorter).

**Sulphur-bellied Tyrant-Manakin** *Neopelma sulphureiventer*  
The southwest Amazonian member of the superspecies. Only the range of Pale-bellied Tyrant-Manakin approaches this species, although Sulphur-bellied comes quite close to the range of Saffron-crested Tyrant Manakin in northeast Peru. In plumage, the clear pale yellow belly of Sulphur-bellied separates it from Pale-bellied, but voice is more helpful to species identification.

**Saffron-crested Tyrant-Manakin** *Neopelma chrysocephalum*  
The Guianan Shield representative of the genus, although it also occurs in some white-sand forests in northeast Peru. The coronal patch is the largest in the genus and is accentuated by the darker grey sides to the head and nape. These features, as well as the fact that the crown patch is a richer golden-yellow, distinguish the species from the otherwise extremely similar Sulphur-bellied Tyrant-Manakin (no known overlap).

**Pale-bellied Tyrant-Manakin** *Neopelma pallescens*  
Of its congeners, this species is only certainly sympatric with Wied’s Tyrant-Manakin, from which it can be distinguished by the paler underparts lacking any clear yellow and, more easily, by voice. Pale-bellied Tyrant-Manakin is the most widespread member of the genus *Neopelma*, almost endemic to Brazil, small extensions of its range penetrate Bolivia, Guyana and Surinam.

**Tiny Tyrant-Manakin** *Tyranneutes virescens*  
Restricted to the Guianan Shield, both species of *Tyranneutes* tyrant-manakins are most easily located by their voices. They vocalise constantly almost daylong, but they can be difficult to find due to their small size and flycatcher-like greenish plumage, which is easily missed in the forest.

**Dwarf Tyrant-Manakin** *Tyranneutes stolzmanni*  
The more widespread member of the *Tyranneutes* superspecies occurs across most of Amazonia. Compared to Tiny Tyrant-Manakin, the present species is marginally larger and longer tailed, but it is most easily distinguished by the pale irides and less stippled effect to the throat and breast.

**Broad-billed Sapayoa** *Sapayoa aenigma*  
Found from Panama to northwest Ecuador, this species’ plumage resembles some of the other duller Pipridae, but its rather pointed, broad-based and flattened bill is quite unlike any manakin. Any superficial resemblance to a female manakin should further be quickly dispelled by the rather long, full tail. Only Green Manakin *Chloropipo holochlora* approaches it in shape and size but is smaller, with more yellow on the belly and a yellow eye-ring. The sapayoa’s size, shape and posture to some extent recall Thrush-like Schiffornis *Schiffornis tordina*, but the latter is much browner above, especially on the wings, and much less yellow below, with a more obvious eye-ring and lacks a coronal-stripe.

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**PLATE 1: GENERA NEOPELMA, TYRANNEUTES AND SAPAYOA**

[Map and text page 127] [Map and text page 124] [Map and text page 122] [Map and text page 129] [Map and text page 119] [Map and text page 135] [Map and text page 132] [Map and text page 117]