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5-8-1973

Name Derivations

Paul A. Johnsgard

University of Nebraska-Lincoln, pajohnsgard@gmail.com

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Johnsgard, Paul A., "Name Derivations" (1973). *Grouse and Quails of North America*, by Paul A. Johnsgard. 36.
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Name Derivations

- Alectoris*—from Latin *alector* (Greek *alectryōn*): cock
 graeca—from Latin *Graecus*: of Greece
 chukar—apparently onomatopoeic
- Bonasa*—from Latin *bonasum*: a bison (the drumming of the male resembling the bellowing of a bull); perhaps from Latin *bonus*: good, and *assum*: roast
 umbellus—from Latin, meaning an umbrella (referring to the neck-tufts)
- Callipepla*—from Greek *kalos*: beautiful, and *peplos*: coat
 californica—of California
 douglasii—after David Douglas, Scottish explorer
 gambelii—after William Gambel, American ornithologist
 squamata—from Latin, meaning scale-like
- Canachites*—from Greek *kanacheō*: to make a noise, with formative suffix *-ites*
- Centrocerus*—from Greek *kentron*: a spine, and *kerkos*: tail
 urophasianus—from Greek *oura*: tail, and *phasianos*: pheasant
- Colinus*—Latinized from the Spanish word *colín*, derived from Aztec language Nahuatl, in which *zolin* means quail
 virginianus—of Virginia
 cristatus—from Latin, meaning crested
 leucopogon—from Greek *leukos*: white, and *pōgōn*: beard

nigrogularis—from Latin *niger*: dark or black, *gula*: throat, and suffix *-aris*

Cyrtonyx—from Greek *kyrtos*: bent or curved, and *onyx*: nail or claw (referring to the long and curved claws)

montezumae—derived from the name of the Aztec warrior and emperor, Montezuma II

ocellatus—from Latin, meaning spotted as with little eyes

Dactylortyx—from Greek *daktylos*: a finger or toe, and *ortyx*: a quail (referring to the long toes)

thoracicus—from Greek *thōrax*: chest, with suffix *-icus*

Dendragapus—from Greek *dendron*: a tree, and *agapē*: love

obscurus—from Latin, meaning dusky

fuliginosus—from Latin, meaning sooty

canadensis—of Canada

Dendrortyx—from Greek *dendron*: a tree, and *ortyx*: a quail

barbatus—from Latin, meaning bearded

leucophrys—from Greek *leukos*: white, and *ophrys*: brow

macroura—from Greek *makros*: long or large, and *oura*: tail

Galliformes—from Latin *gallus*: a cock, and *forma*: appearance

gallinaceous—from Latin *gallina*: a hen, and adjective suffix *-aceus*, meaning pertaining to

grouse—probably from French *greoche*, *greiche* and *griais*, meaning spotted bird, and used in England as “grouse” for the red grouse before being applied in North America for grouse in general

Lagopus—from Greek *lagōs*: a hare, and *pous*: a foot, meaning hare-footed (referring to the similarity between the feathered toes and the densely haired feet of rabbits)

leucurus—from Greek *leukos*: white, and *oura*: tail

mutus—from Latin *mutatus*: change or alteration (referring to the various plumages)

Lophortyx—from Greek *lophos*: a crest, and *ortyx*: a quail

Odontophorinae—from Greek *odous*, *odontos*: tooth, *phoros*: bearing, and subfamilial suffix *-inae*

Odontophorus—from Greek *odous*, *odontos*: tooth, and *phoros*: bearing (referring to the serrated maxilla)

guttatus—from Latin, meaning spotted or speckled

Oreortyx—from Greek *oros*: mountain, and *ortyx*: quail

partridge—from Middle English *pertriche*, and applied originally to the gray partridge. Also Scottish variants of *patrick*, *paitrick*, and *pertrick*

Pedioecetes—from Greek *pedion*: a plain, and *oiketēs*: an inhabitant

phasianellus—diminutive of Latin *phasianus*: a pheasant

Perdix—from Latin, meaning partridge or quail

Phasianidae—from Latin *phasianus* (Greek *phasianos*): pheasant, and familial suffix *-idae*

pheasant—from Middle English *fesaunt* or *fesaun*, originally from Latin *phasianus*. Applied to the common pheasant, introduced into Europe from the area of the River Phasis (now Rioni) in Colchis, which flows into the Black Sea.

Philortyx—from Greek *philos*: loving, and *ortyx*: a quail

ptarmigan—from Gaelic *tārmachan*; applied originally to the rock ptarmigan quail—from Old French *quaille* (modern French *caille*), and originally applied to the migratory quail (*Coturnix*)

Rhynchortyx—from Greek *rhynchos*: beak, and *ortyx*: a quail (referring to the large and strong beak)

cinctus—from Latin, meaning banded

Tetraoninae—from Greek *tetraōn*: a pheasant, and subfamilial suffix *-inae*

turkey—of uncertain origin, but first applied to peafowl (*Pavo*), guinea-fowl (*Numida*), or capercaillie (*Tetrao*) in England before being used for the New World turkey

Tympanuchus—from Greek *tympanon*: a drum, and *echō*: to have or hold
cupido—from Latin *Cupid* (referring to the “Cupid’s wings” on the neck)

pallidicinctus—from Latin *pallidus*: pale, and *cinctus*: banded

pinnatus—from Latin, meaning plumed