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Recent Literature

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Recent Literature

Edited by Richard W. DeHaven

Aging, Sexing, Identification and Anomalies

Age and sex variation in the size of Goshawks. H.C. Mueller, D.D. Berger, and G. Allez. *Bird-Banding*, 47:310-318. (Three age classes of goshawks can be determined by a combination of plumage, molt, and eye color; sex is indicated by tail and wing chord measurements. Data are from 354 birds trapped in Wisconsin.) LD

Delayed molt in the Pine Siskin. R.P. Yunick. 1976. *Bird-Banding*, 47: 306-309. (Banding 825 Pine Siskins at a home station in New York provided the discussion concerning unusually late molting individuals.) LD

Siskin plumages. C.H. Blake. 1976. *Amer. Birds*, 30:770. (A "cock-feathered" male Pine Siskin, very rare, could be mistaken for a European Siskin or Pine Siskin-goldfinch hybrid.) MM

Field identification of Thayer's Gull (*Larus thayeri*) in eastern North America. M. Gosselin and N. David. 1975. *Amer. Birds*, 29:1059-1066.

Banding Equipment and Techniques

A simple method for making large banding pliers. D.J. Carlson. 1976. *IBB News*, 48:84-87. (Modification of standard slip-joint pliers for use with large bands.) SK

Monitoring avian activity at water tanks and nest boxes. D.J. Carlson and N.F. Sloan. 1976. *IBB News*, 48:125-131. (Using event recorders, movie cameras, and nest box switches.) SK

Environmental Evaluations using birds and their Habitats. J.W. Graber and R.R. Graber. 1976. *Ill. Nat. Hist. Surv. Biol. Notes No.*, 97:1-39. (Five criteria involved in the numerical evaluation method are discussed; faunal and floristic surveys and knowledge of acreage of each habitat are required to utilize the method.) LD

Blood parasites from Band-tailed Pigeons. R.M. Stabler, N.J. Kitzmiller, and C.E. Braun. 1977. *J. Wildl. Mgmt.*, 41:128-130. (Birds were captured in cannon nets in Colorado and in drop-traps in California. Six additional birds were shot in Mexico. Blood films from 475 birds were examined for hematozoa.) MM

Major North American Banding Results

Migration reversal: A regular phenomenon in Canada Geese. D.G. Raveling. 1976. *Science*, 93:153-154. (Primarily one-year-old, nonbreeding birds, living outside family groups returned in fall from the normal wintering grounds of a population in Minnesota to the Manitoba banding area; determined by neck rings.) LD

Survival rates of returned White-winged Juncos. L.M. Baylor and N.R. Whitney, Jr. 1976. *Bird-Banding*, 47:301-305. (Weighted mean survival rates at two banding stations in South Dakota were 63 and 93%; the combined mean was 73%.) LD

Additional bird observations on the West Mirage Islands, Great Slave Lake, Northwest Territories. D.L. Trauger and R.G. Bromley. 1976. *Can. Field-Natur.*, 90:114-122. (Of 21 adult female Greater Scaup banded, 2 were recovered — shot in Quebec and Maryland. Young banded were Parasitic Jaeger — 1, Herring Gull — 16, California Gull — 26.) MM

Mountain Chickadee survives for a decade. K.L. Dixon. 1975. *Western Birds*, 6:162.

Sage Grouse flock characteristics and habitat selection in winter. T.D.I. Beck. 1977. *J. Wildl. Mgmt.*, 41:18-26. (Movement data were obtained from observations of birds banded with colored bandettes. Distribution of birds was primarily a reflection of availability of sagebrush above snow, slope and aspect.) NC

Skuas — pirates of the ocean. P.C. James. 1977. *Nature Canada*, 6:33-34. (In July 1975, a Skua was recovered in Greenland after travelling 9,000 miles from its Antarctic banding site of 6 months earlier.) MM

Influence of changing grouse density and forest attributes on the occupancy of a series of potential territories by male Ruffed Grouse. D.A. Boag. 1976. *Can. J. Zool.* 54:1727-1736. (Banding showed that grouse on perennial territories tended to survive almost twice as long as those on transient territories, and that movements to adjacent territories were very rare.) MM

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Other North American Banding Results

Distribution and status of Brown Pelicans in the California Current. D.W. Anderson and I.T. Anderson. 1976. *Amer. Birds*, 30:3-12. (Band returns and sightings of color-marked pelicans suggest that the birds from the Gulf of California leave the California coast by early December. Support is given to the hypothesis that birds hatched in the Gulf may later breed in the California Current colonies.) MM

Growth and fledging age of the Brown Noddy in Hawaii. W.Y. Brown. 1976. *Condor*, 78:263-264. (Based on banded chicks.) SK

The status of the Piping Plover at Long Point, Ontario, 1966-1975. R. Cartar. 1976. *Ontario Field Biol.*, 30:42-45. (Thirty young banded; three of these retrapped as breeding adults. Four of 5 adults trapped in 1975 had been banded in previous years.) MM

A second brood in the Ovenbird, *Seiurus aurocapillus*. R. Zach and J.B. Falls. 1976. *Can. Field Natur.*, 90:58-59. (Two broods raised by color-banded male.) MM

The effects of dieldrin on the behavior of young Loggerhead Shrikes. E.L. Busbee. 1977. *Auk*, 94:28-35. (Sixty nestlings were color-banded, weighed and dosed with dieldrin.) NC

Thirty-ninth breeding bird census. 108. California-Bay-Buckeye-mixed forest. R.M. Stewart. 1975. *Amer. Birds*, 29:1123. (A 10-year-old male Warbling Vireo banded in 1966 was present.) MM

Bald Eagle nesting attempts in southern Ontario in 1974. F.M. Weekes. 1975. *Can. Field-Natur.*, 89:438-444. (Includes data on a site where Charles Broley banded in the 1950's.) MM

Bits-N-Pieces (from: *Amer. Birds*)

The winter season: December 1, 1974-March 31, 1975. W.B. Robertson, Jr. (Editor) 1975. *Amer. Birds*, 29:660-745. (House Finch range expansion in eastern North America was reflected in high banding totals at NY and VA stations. A high banding total of Purple Finches at Schenectady, NY

reflected high numbers there: low totals of Evening Grosbeaks at two PA stations were consistent with observed scarcity.

Banding determined the length of stay of a Black-throated Gray Warbler (VA), plus a Rufous Hummingbird (OK) and also a Gray-headed Chickadee (AK). A neck collar identified a Whistling Swan (PA) in March as a bird banded the previous winter in NC, and a neck collar showed that a Trumpeter Swan (MT) came from Alberta or SD. Banding showed that Merlins wintering in Saskatoon, Sask. come from the local breeding population. Longevity data were obtained through banding for Trumpeter Swans (NV) and Scott's Oriole (AZ). Of 220 Tree Sparrows banded in March in SD, 50 were found dead in other localities within the state after a blizzard. Eleven McKay's Buntings were banded at Cold Bay, AK. MM

The spring migration: April 1-May 31, 1975. S.A. Gauthreaux, Jr. and H.E. LeGrand, Jr. (Editors). 1975. *Amer. Birds*, 29:820-912. (Netting indicated more thrushes moving through a KS locality than suspected, and showed the presence of many "uncommon" and "rare" species in NM. Yellow-rumped Warblers (280) at Vischer Ferry were at a record high, and good numbers of Purple Finches were reflected in high banding totals at two NY stations. Lack of migration waves were reflected in generally low banding totals at a PA station, except for Least Flycatchers, House Wrens, and Philadelphia Vireos which were all banded in numbers slightly above average.

Banding helped determine the length of stay of a Black-headed Grosbeak in MA and a Black-throated Gray Warbler in VA. Previously reported yellow-dyed Least Terns were found to be part of a CT study on foraging ranges and shifts in nesting locations; some are also pink. Banding showed that SY Purple Martins arrive later than adults in PA. Four yellow-collared Canada Geese banded in NC in January were seen in PA in April, and a Lesser Scaup from LA (January 1974) was found injured in SD (Spring 1975). A Painted Bunting from AL (April 1968) was taken in LA (June 1971). Two chickadees netted in WY appeared to be in-

intermediate between Black-capped and Carolina.) MM

The nesting season: June 1-July 31, 1975. J. Tate, Jr. (Editor). *Amer. Birds*, 29:941-984, 993-1036. (First breeding of Snowy Egrets in WI was established by banding. Noteworthy banding totals included: 24 young Prairie Falcons (Sask.), 222 Least Terns chicks (AR), 145 young Great Horned Owls (Sask.), 61 young Screech Owls in 19 nests in Wood Duck boxes (OH), and 100 Eastern Bluebirds (PA). On the other hand, only 33 nestling White-faced Ibis were banded in ID, and the percent of returning first-year Purple Martins was low in PA compared to 1974 (5-10% vs. 40-50%). A light-breasted female Barn Swallow banded in 1974 (AL) returned with a dark breast, raising speculation that light-breasts are yearlings. The band on a Manx Shearwater skeleton found in TX in February 1975 was put there in August 1973 in Scotland.) MM

The fall migration: August 1-November 30, 1975. P.A. DeBenedictis (Editor). 1976. *Amer. Birds*, 30:21-130. (Numerous unusual records were established. Heavy Black-capped Chickadee flights in PA and WV were reflected in banding totals at three stations. Large Tennessee Warbler flights in New England were not reflected in totals at coastal stations, but 51 at Westport far exceeded the previous high of 6. At Manomet Bird Observatory, Cape May Warblers exceeded previous captures by 121% while Bay-breasted Warblers increased 663% compared to a 5-year average. A large flight of Swainson's Thrushes in VT was exemplified by a 1-day total of 69 banded at one station. Yellow-rumped Warblers were banded in large numbers — 180 and 365 — at two stations in the Alleghenies.

Among the significant returns and recoveries were: an ID-to-Sinaloa, Mexico White-faced Ibis movement; sightings in NM of color-marked Whooping Cranes raised in ID, Snow Geese dyed in Siberia and seen in CA; and an 8-year-old Black-capped Chickadee in SD. Many other recoveries are given.

Banding also showed strong migrations for Barn Owls at Cape May, NJ and for Saw-whet Owls at Prince Edward Point, Ont. Banding highs included:

(WY) 140 Eared Grebes, 38 Western Grebes, 70 Ruddy Ducks, and 59 Coots; (Assateague Is.) 41 Peregrine Falcons; (CA) 596 Band-tailed Pigeons; (Cape May) 32 Long-eared Owls, 49 Saw-whet Owls; (Fire Is., NY) 50+ Saw-whet Owls; (PA) 171 Least Flycatchers; (VA) 80 Winter Wrens; (Appalachians) 52 Red-breasted Nuthatches; (VA) 695 Golden-crowned Kinglets; (VA) 545 Ruby-crowned Kinglets; (Long Is., NY) over 100 warblers; (NY) 384 Pine Siskins; (MT) 17 Lincoln's Sparrows; (NM) 72 Chestnut-collared Longspurs. One of the most unusual bandings was a Townsend's x Hermit Warbler hybrid in CA.) MM

The winter season: December 1, 1975 — March 31, 1976. D. DeSante (editor). 1976. *Amer. Birds*, 30:676-770. (Vermont's first Bewick's Wren was not only banded in May 1975, but found dead in December in AR. A Trumpeter Swan banded in September 1975 in Alta. was seen in CO in December and two Snow Geese banded in July 1975 on Wrangell Is., Siberia, wintered in southern B.C. A banded female American Kestrel was on the Farallon Is., CA for the third consecutive winter. Banded birds which stayed the winter included a Curve-billed Thrasher in KS and two Harris' Sparrows at Auke Bay, AK. In Manitoba, a male Evening Grosbeak with dull brownish primaries and tail feathers was caught and banded, and banders in the zone of overlap of ranges of Black-capped and Carolina Chickadees in NY report extreme difficulty in separating the species even when in the hand. Over 2,200 Common Redpolls were banded at a NY feeder though no Hoary Redpolls were caught. Banders at Ottawa, Ont. reported that less than 1% of redpolls caught were Hoary. Other notable banding totals included 194 Purple Finches in ND, 300 Pine Siskins in IN and 300 and 550 Pine Siskins at two KS localities.) MM

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