
January 1978

Florida Birds in the Periodical Literature, 1977

Florida Field Naturalist

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/ffn>

Recommended Citation

Florida Field Naturalist (1978) "Florida Birds in the Periodical Literature, 1977," *Florida Field Naturalist*. Vol. 6 : Iss. 2 , Article 20.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/ffn/vol6/iss2/20>

This General Notes is brought to you for free and open access by Digital Commons @ University of South Florida. It has been accepted for inclusion in Florida Field Naturalist by an authorized editor of Digital Commons @ University of South Florida. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@usf.edu.

36.5 cm. Total length of a Marsh Hawk that I measured was 39.5 cm, not within the range (or even 10% thereof) of total length 45 to 61 cm given on p. 333. I have no quarrel with the use of total length as a *general* indication of body size, especially in living birds, but there are simply too many variations in the ways that individuals prepare museum skins to use total length of skins as an *exact* measure.

Quite unfortunately, the author fails to clarify the method of taking a wing measurement, whether by flattened wing or its chord. This is a significant omission. Three Bridled Terns that I measured, for example, had wing lengths of 242, 245, and 252 mm (chord), and 247, 252, and 254 mm (flat), none of them ("about 265 mm") as given in the key. The Goshawk has a "wing length at least 300 mm" (p. 101), yet I have seen a specimen with a wing of 285.

One must exercise other cautions in using the keys. The author does not state that the key to the Stercorariidae is for adults only; most records of this family in Florida are of immatures. Imprecise words are frequent — "about," "usually," and "normal." What is meant, for example, by "tail coverts usually white," a primary being "of normal width," a "tarsus about 100 mm?" Without qualifiers, these terms are at best confusing. In the ordinal key to Gruiformes and Charadriiformes, it is assumed that the user already knows what Limpkins and Jacanas look like. The male House Sparrow does possess a black breast patch, but only in the full breeding plumage.

Distribution maps, especially intrastate, can be useful, but why waste an entire page with a map showing the distribution of the Blue-gray Tanager in the whole New World when it appears only as a tiny dot on the southeast coast of Florida? Similar comments apply to maps of the Worm-eating Warbler and the House Wren (which does not even breed in Florida). These maps and others are a real waste of space and money.

This review is not intended to be nit-picking, but rather to point out certain problem areas for potential users. Even so, this is an extremely valuable and useful book because of its coverage. Everyone interested in Florida vertebrates, whether student, professional, or amateur, should have this important book for ready reference. Dr. Stevenson is to be commended for assembling all these data into a single volume. — DAVID W. JOHNSTON.

Florida Birds in the Periodical Literature, 1977.

All articles were published in 1977 unless otherwise noted. Authors are requested to send reprints of their articles to the Editor for inclusion in this annual feature.

- BROWN, M. M. Status of Snow Buntings wintering in the southeast. *Chat* 41: 59-66. — Includes the Carolinas, Georgia and Florida.
- CRAWFORD, R. L. 1976. Some old records of TV tower kills from southwest Georgia. *Oriole* 41: 45-51. — Compared with Tall Timbers TV tower kills, Leon Co.
- CRUZ, A. Ecology and behavior of the Jamaican Woodpecker. *Bull. Fla. State Mus.* 22: 149-204. — Includes comparison of density and foraging behavior with woodpeckers near Gainesville.
- DOUGLASS, J. F. Prairie Warbler feeds from spider web. *Wilson Bull.* 89: 158-159. — Everglades Nat. Park, Monroe Co.
- GRUBB, T. C., JR. Discrimination of aerial predators by American Coot in nature. *Anim. Behav.* 25: 1065-1066. — Lake George, Lake Co.
- GRUBB, T. C., JR. Weather-dependent foraging in Ospreys. *Auk* 94: 146-149. — Lake George, Lake Co.
- GRUBB, T. C., JR. Why Ospreys hover. *Wilson Bull.* 89: 149-150. — Lake George, Lake Co.

- GRUBB, T. C. JR., AND W. M. SHIELDS. Bald Eagle interferes with an active Osprey nest. Auk 94: 140. — Lake George, Lake Co.
- HOWE, M. A., R. C. LAYBOURNE, AND F. L. JAMES. Morphological variation in breeding Red-winged Blackbirds, *Agelaius phoeniceus*, in Florida. Fla. Sci. 40: 273-280. — Mean wing length, tail length, and weight decrease clinally from northwest to southeast, except for birds from the Keys. With the possible exception of birds from the Everglades, recognition of more than one subspecies of the Red-winged Blackbird in Florida is not warranted.
- IMHOF, T. A. The Greater Shearwater in the northern Gulf of Mexico. Auk 94: 163-164. — Summary of records in *Amer. Birds* for La., Ala., and Florida's Panhandle.
- KILHAM, L. Early breeding season behavior of Red-headed Woodpeckers. Auk 94: 231-239. — Includes observations made at Archbold Biological Station, Highlands Co.
- KUSHLAN, J. A. Differential growth of body parts in the White Ibis. Auk 94: 164-167. — based on south Florida captives.
- KUSHLAN, J. A. Foraging behavior of the White Ibis. Wilson Bull. 89: 342-345. — In Florida.
- KUSHLAN, J. A. Growth energetics of the White Ibis. Condor 79: 31-36. — Captives and wild nestlings from south Florida.
- KUSHLAN, J. A. Sexual dimorphism in the White Ibis. Wilson Bull. 89: 92-98. — Based on specimens from the Everglades and Big Cypress Swamp.
- KUSHLAN, J. A. The significance of plumage colour in the formation of feeding aggregations of ciconiiforms. Ibis 119: 361-364. — Studied in the freshwater marshes of the Everglades.
- KUSHLAN, J. A., AND D. A. WHITE. Nesting wading bird populations in southern Florida. Fla. Sci. 40: 65-72. — Lake Okeechobee south, excluding the lower Florida Keys, Sept. 1974-Aug 1975.
- MAXWELL, G. R., II, AND H. W. KALE II. Breeding biology of five species of herons in coastal Florida. Auk 94: 689-700. — Indian River Co.
- MAXWELL, G. R., II, AND H. W. KALE II. Maintenance and anti-insect behavior of six species of ciconiiform birds in south Florida. Condor 79: 51-58. — Indian River Co.
- McKINLEY, D. Eggs of the Carolina Parakeet: A preliminary review. Bird-Banding 48: 25-37. — It is "doubtful" that four eggs in the Fla. State Mus. collected by C. E. Doe on 30 April 1927 at Lake Okeechobee are Carolina Parakeet eggs.
- MEANS, D. B. Aspects of the significance to terrestrial vertebrates of the Apalachicola River drainage basin, Florida. Pp 37-67 in R. J. Livingston and E. A. Joyce, Jr., eds. Proceedings of the conference on the Apalachicola Drainage System, 23-24 April 1976, Gainesville, Florida. Fla. Mar. Res. Publ. No. 26. — Includes a checklist of vertebrates of the region.
- MENGEL, R. M., AND J. A. JACKSON. Geographic variation of the Red-cockaded Woodpecker. Condor 79: 349-355. — In Florida, wing and tail length increases gradually from south to north except in the Panhandle where birds appear to have longer wings than those from adjacent areas.
- NESBITT, S. A. 1976. A new patagial wing streamer button. Wild. Soc. Bull. 4(4): 188. — Limpkins, Sandhill Cranes, and Canada Geese in Florida.
- NESBITT, S. A., M. J. FOGARTY, AND L. E. WILLIAMS, JR. Status of Florida nesting Brown Pelicans, 1971-1976. Bird-Banding 48: 138-144.
- POUGH, F. H., AND L. P. BROWER. Predation by birds on great southern white butterflies

as a function of palatability, sex, and habitat. *Amer. Midl. Nat.* 98: 50-58. — Twenty-five percent of all butterflies collected in Everglades Nat. Park in January 1970 had beak-marks on the wings (evidence of attempted predation).

- ROHWER, S., AND J. BUTLER. Ground foraging and rapid molt in the Chuck-will's-widow. *Wilson Bull.* 89: 165-166. — Butler's observations of a Chuck capturing tree frogs from the road under a street light in Ft. Myers, Lee Co., shows that ground feeding is possible for Chucks during the stages of molt when their flying ability may be hampered.
- STEVENSON, H. M. A comparison of the Apalachicola River avifauna above and below Jim Woodruff Dam. Pp. 34-36 in R. J. Livingston and E. A. Joyce, Jr., eds. *Proceedings of the conference on the Apalachicola Drainage System, 23-24 April 1976, Gainesville, Florida.* Fla. Mar. Res. Publ. No. 26.
- STEWART, P. A. Migratory movements and mortality rate of Turkey Vultures. *Bird-Banding* 48: 122-124. — Of 130 recoveries in eastern North America, three concern Florida birds.
- STEWART, P. A. Radial dispersal and southward migration of Wood Ducks banded in Vermont. *Bird-Banding* 48: 333-336. — Of 1403 recoveries, 2.85% are from Florida.
- TABB, E. Winter returns of American Kestrels in southern Florida. *N. Am. Bird Bander* 2: 163. — Seventeen Kestrels have been recaptured, one to six years from their banding dates and all at approximately the site of original capture.
- WILLIAMS, T. C., P. BERKELEY, AND V. HARRIS. Autumnal bird migration over Miami studied by radar: A possible test of the wind drift hypothesis. *Bird-Banding* 48: 1-10.
- WILLIAMS, T. C., J. M. WILLIAMS, L. C. IRELAND, AND J. M. TEAL. Autumnal bird migration over the western North Atlantic Ocean. *Amer. Birds* 31: 251-267. — Includes observations made from Miami in 1973.
- WOOLFENDEN, G. E., AND J. H. FITZPATRICK. Dominance in the Florida Scrub Jay. *Condor* 79: 1-12. — At Archbold Biological Station, Highlands Co.

Report on the 1978 spring meeting. — The Tampa Audubon Society hosted 186 FOS registrants at the Causeway Inn, Tampa, on 21-23 April 1978. Susan Bird, in charge of arrangements, William D. Courser, James A. Rodgers, Jr., Ronald L. Mumme, Anita Sharf, and others were meticulous in their planning — even to the full moon which arrived punctually for the 153 luau participants. We are grateful to all those who made the weekend so pleasant. Friday evening's Photographers' Roundup, led by Brooks and Lyn Atherton, was augmented by a discussion of "Identification of gulls in Florida" by Wayne Hoffman. The field trips to Fort Desoto Park, McKay Bay, the lower Hillsborough River, and Courtney-Campbell Causeway on Saturday and Sunday mornings were well attended and many birds of interest were enjoyed. The skin quiz, created by W. Hoffman and G. Thomas Bancroft, was won AGAIN by Dan Heathcote. At the scientific paper session, J. A. Rodgers, Jr., introduced the following papers: "Courtship behavior of subadult Little Blue Herons" by Rodgers; "Burrowing Owl rectric numbers" by W. D. Courser; "Notes on the Reddish Egret in Florida" by Rich Paul; "Avian utilization of dredge-deposit islands" by Roy R. Lewis; "Courtship behavior of the Black Skimmer" by Fred H. Groves; and "Nest-site selection of colonial herons and egrets on Seahorse Key" by Kim Riddell.

At the business meeting, Theodore H. Below, Robert A. Duncan and Virginia Markgraf were elected to the Board of Directors. Treasurer Caroline Coleman, with help from assistant treasurers John H. Hintermister (newly appointed) and Betty Valkenburg (current), now will handle financial matters as well as maintain the membership records. A resolution of thanks will be sent to FAS for all their help during our initial years. Two committees were established: by-laws revision, and finance and investments. Student memberships in the FOS were created