

Breeding Birds of Ontario: Nidology and Distribution

Volume 2: Passerines (First Revision – Part B: Thrushes to Warblers)

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As was set forth in Part A (Peck and James 1997) of this revision of Volume 2 of Breeding Birds of Ontario (Peck and James 1987), we are again following the order and sequence as proposed in the Forty-first Supplement to the American

Ornithologists' Union Check-list (AOU 1997). In this present revision, the European Starling (Family *Sturnidae*) has been moved to immediately follow the Brown Thrasher (Family *Mimidae*).

Breeding Bird Species

Eastern Bluebird, *Sialia sialis*

6144 (ca. 6436 nests) representing 46 provincial regions. The various nest box programs have continued to benefit this species and it remains fourth highest in nest card numbers in the Ontario Nest Records Scheme (ONRS).

Cowbird parasitism 5102 nests with 4 parasitized (0.1%)

Mountain Bluebird, *Sialia currucoides*

1 nest representing 1 provincial region. No new breeding data have been received since 1986.

Veery, *Catharus fuscescens*

448 nests representing 42 provincial regions. A 1989 nest in Haldimand-Norfolk was the only new regional nesting. Two Haliburton nests had outside depths of 5 and 6 cm (2 and 2.4 inches) and inside depths of 3 and 4.5 cm (1.2 and 1.8 inches).

Cowbird parasitism 429 nests with 82 parasitized (18.9%).

INCUBATION PERIOD 10 nests; 1 of 10 days, 3 of 11 days, 2 of not more than 11 days, 1 of not more than 12 days, 2 of 12 days, 1 of not more than 14 days.

EGG DATES A nest with eggs on 28 July in Lanark was the latest egg date reported.

Gray-cheeked Thrush, *Catharus minimus*

2 nests representing 1 provincial region. No new breeding information of this northern species has been received.

Swainson's Thrush, *Catharus ustulatus*

197 (200 nests) representing 18 provincial regions.

An unusual nest location and site were reported from Nipissing (Tozer et al. 1996), describing a deciduous forest location and a nest positioned on top of a bracket fungus growing on the trunk of a Sugar Maple.

EGGS 140 nests with 1 to 4 eggs; 1E (7N), 2E (11N), 3E (59N), 4E (63N).

Average clutch range 3 to 4 eggs (122 nests).

Cowbird parasitism 174 nests with 1 parasitized (0.6%).

INCUBATION PERIOD 5 nests: 2 of 12 days, 1 no more than 12 days, 1 ca. 13 days, 1 at least 13 days.

Hermit Thrush, *Catharus guttatus*

206 nests representing 26 provincial regions. A 1993 nest in Prescott was a new regional nesting.

An unusual nest record was received from Muskoka DM, describing a 1991 nest built on top of an old nest of Eastern Phoebe, located on a nesting tray beneath the eaves of a cottage, at a height of 2.1 m (6.9 ft) (Tozer 1997). An elevated nest in Hastings (1997) was reported in an Eastern Hemlock at a height of 4.3 m (14 ft), and on a limb also 4.3 m (14 ft) from the trunk.

A 2-egg clutch in Timiskaming was incubated and hatched 2 young.

Cowbird parasitism 195 nests with 11 parasitized (5.6%).

INCUBATION PERIOD 7 nests, 11 to 13 days.

Wood Thrush, *Hylocichla mustelina*

452 nests representing 41 provincial regions. Newly reported nesting regions were Glengarry (1996), Huron (1983), Northumberland (1992), Prescott (1993), and Prince Edward (1994). The big increase in nest records is due largely to a 1996-97 Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) nest monitoring project, mainly involving woodlands in 3 provincial regions. This project resulted in the finding of 154 nests of which 30.5% were parasitized by Brown-headed Cowbird – an above average percentage. The nest card increase due to this intensive study should not cause undue optimism, because the Wood Thrush has suffered a marked decline in Ontario in recent decades.

Ten nests had outside diameters ranging from 11 to 14 cm (4.3 to 5.5 inches), inside diameters from 7 to 10 cm (2.8 to 3.9 inches), outside depths from 6 to 9 cm (2.4 to 3.3 inches), and inside depths from 2.5 to 6 cm (1 to 2.4 inches).

Cowbird parasitism 384 nests with 110 parasitized (28.6%).

INCUBATION PERIOD 8 nests: 2 of 10 days, 1 of 11 days, 2 of at least 11 days, 2 of 12 days, 1 of at least 12 days.

EGG DATES 216 nests, 4 May to 2 August (271 dates); 108 nests, 2 June to 20 June. The extremes of these dates strongly suggest second broods, and one instance was reported from Waterloo RM in 1996.

BREEDING DISTRIBUTION

Little change in distribution has been noted in the past decade. The species is experiencing a decline due, at least in part, to fragmentation of breeding woodlots. Possibly as a result, cowbird parasitism has increased overall by 1.4%. This small increase is unlikely to be a major factor in the decline.



Figure 1: Wood Thrush at nest with young, Victoria County, 14 June 1986.
Photo by G. K. Peck.



Figure 2: Nest and eggs of Wood Thrush, south of Dwight, Muskoka District, 11 June 1970. Photo by G. K. Peck

American Robin, *Turdus migratorius*

7404 (ca 7450 nests) representing all 52 provincial regions.

A Niagara (1994) nest was built on top of an abandoned nest that contained 2 infertile eggs.

Cowbird parasitism 6004 nests with 17 parasitized (0.3%).

A 4 April (calculated) early egg date was recorded in York in 1943, and a nest with 1 egg was reported from Grey (1995) on 6 April. Both dates are earlier than our previous earliest egg date.

Gray Catbird, *Dumetella carolinensis*

1520 (1524 nests) representing 45 provincial regions. In Volume 2 (Peck and James 1987), Kenora was included as a nesting region. The record was actually a breeding record, and thus the nesting regions have been reduced to 45.

Cowbird parasitism 1241 nests with 20 parasitized (1.6%).

Northern Mockingbird, *Mimus polyglottos*

101 (107 nests) representing 31 provincial regions. New nesting regions were Essex (1986), Lennox & Addington (1997), Renfrew (1987), Simcoe (1993), and Wellington (1987).

A low nest from Manitoulin was 0.3 m (1 ft) above ground in an apple tree. Ten nests had outside diameters ranging from 12 to 20.3 cm (4.7 to 8 inches), inside diameters from 6 to 16 cm (2.4 to 6.3 inches), outside depths from 5.1 to 12 cm (2 to 4.7 inches), and inside depths from 3 to 6 cm (1.2 to 2.4 inches).

Cowbird parasitism Although the Northern Mockingbird is reported to be an acceptor species (Rothstein 1975), the absence of parasitism in Ontario is noteworthy.

INCUBATION PERIOD 9 nests, 11 to 13 days.

Brown Thrasher, *Toxostoma rufum*

899 (904 nests) representing 45 provincial regions. Glengarry (1997) was a new nesting region.

A small, shallow nest from Victoria had an outside diameter of 14 cm (5.5 inches), inside diameter of 10 cm (3.9 inches), outside depth of 6 cm (2.4 inches), and an inside depth of 4 cm (1.6 inches).

Cowbird parasitism 768 nests with 18 parasitized (2.3%).

INCUBATION PERIOD 22 nests, 10 to 14 days; 19 nests ranged from 11 to 13 days.

A nest in York RM still contained 2 young on 7 August, suggesting a later egg date than that given in Volume 2.

European Starling, *Sturnus vulgaris*

3005 (3107 nests) representing all 52 provincial regions. No new information.

American Pipit (Water Pipit), *Anthus rubescens*

5 nests representing 1 provincial region. No recent breeding information has been received for this northern nesting species.

Bohemian Waxwing, *Bombycilla garrulus*

Although breeding has been confirmed, no provincial nests have yet been reported.

Cedar Waxwing, *Bombycilla cedrorum*

1184 (1189 nests) representing 48 provincial regions. A nest was reported from Glengarry in 1995.

EGGS 403 nests with 1 to 8 eggs; 1E (17N), 2E (19N), 3E (68N), 4E (167N), 5E (121N), 6E (10N), 8E (1N).

Average clutch range 4 to 5 eggs (288 nests).

The 8-egg clutch was discovered and photographed in Grey in 1991. Examination of the eggs indicated that the clutch was the product of two females (see Figure 3).

Cowbird parasitism 952 nests with 70 parasitized (7.4%).

INCUBATION PERIOD 31 nests, 10 to 13 days; 29 nests ranged from 11 to 13 days.



Figure 3: An 8-egg clutch of Cedar Waxwing – the product of two females, as evidenced by the variation of the eggs, Collingwood Twp., Grey County, 27 July 1991. Photo by G. K. Peck.

Blue-winged Warbler, *Vermivora pinus*

18 nests representing 5 provincial regions. Haldimand-Norfolk (1997) was a new nesting region; a possible Oxford breeding (Weir 1990), and a confirmed Northumberland (1994) breeding were reported.

In Elgin, 2 nests were at the base of goldenrod stalks, and a third at the base of a hawthorn. Three Elgin nests were lined entirely with pine needles. Seven nests had outside diameters ranging from 10 to 12 cm (3.9 to 4.7 inches), inside diameters from 5 to 6.5 cm (2 to 2.6 inches), outside depths from 6 to 14 cm (2.4 to 5.5 inches), and inside depths from 3 to 7 cm (1.2 to 2.8 inches).

EGGS 8 nests, 2 to 6 eggs; 2E (1N), 3E (1N), 4E (3N), 5E (2N), 6E (1N).

Average clutch range 4 to 5 eggs (5 nests).

Cowbird parasitism 12 nests with 3 parasitized (25%).

EGG DATES 6 nests, 19 May to 19 June (8 dates); 3 nests, 2 June to 18 June.

Golden-winged Warbler, *Vermivora chrysoptera*

35 nests representing 11 provincial regions. A 1991 nest added Elgin to the list of provincial nesting regions; this nest was attended by a Golden-winged male and a Blue-winged Warbler female. A hybrid adult "Lawrence's" Warbler was observed with a flying fledgling in 1988, in Haldimand-Norfolk, suggesting a possible local breeding (Graham and Wormington 1988).

A deep-cupped Elgin nest had an inside depth of 7 cm (2.8 inches)

Cowbird parasitism 33 nests with 13 parasitized (39.4%).

Tennessee Warbler, *Vermivora peregrina*

30 nests representing 6 provincial regions. Nipissing (1997) was a new nesting region.

EGGS 24 nests with 3 to 7 eggs; **3E** (1N), **4E** (6N), **5E** (7N), **6E** (9N), **7E** (1N).

Average clutch range 5 to 6 eggs (16 nests).

EGG DATES 20 nests, 8 June to 21 July (24 dates); 10 nests, 12 June to 29 June.



Figure 4: Ground nest and eggs of Tennessee Warbler, Garvey Twp., Sudbury District, 29 June 1985. Photo by G. K. Peck.

Orange-crowned Warbler, *Vermivora celata*

1 nest representing 1 provincial region. No new breeding information.

Nashville Warbler, *Vermivora ruficapilla*

103 nests representing 27 provincial regions. A 1944 nest record was recently received by the ONRS and added York County as a provincial nesting region.

Cowbird parasitism 93 nests with 10 parasitized (10.8%).

Northern Parula, *Parula americana*

4 nests representing 3 provincial regions. No new breeding information has been received.

Yellow Warbler, *Dendroica petechia*

2003 nests representing 48 provincial regions.

Cowbird parasitism 1464 nests with 422 parasitized (28.8%).

INCUBATION PERIOD 23 nests, 9 to 14 days; 19 nests ranged from 11 to 13 days.

Chestnut-sided Warbler, *Dendroica pensylvanica*

282 nests representing 37 provincial regions. Essex (1993), Glengarry (1996), Haldimand-Norfolk (1997) and Prince Edward (1993) were recent new provincial nesting regions.

Cowbird parasitism 235 nests with 51 parasitized (21.7%).

INCUBATION PERIOD 26 nests, 10 to 13 days: 7 of 10 days, 12 of 11 days, 1 of at least 11 days, 5 of 12 days, 1 of 13 days.

Magnolia Warbler, *Dendroica magnolia*

139 (140 nests) representing 22 provincial regions. Haldimand-Norfolk (1997) was a new nesting region, and the most southerly to date.

A nest in Common Juniper in Parry Sound (1990), was the first report for this plant species.

Cowbird parasitism 122 nests with 12 parasitized (9.8%).

INCUBATION PERIOD 10 nests, 11 to 13 days. Another 12-day period was noted for a Sudbury nest.

EGG DATES A nest with 4 eggs on 30 May, indicated an earlier egg date than that in Volume 2.

Cape May Warbler, *Dendroica tigrina*

5 nests representing 3 provincial regions. No new breeding information.

Black-throated Blue Warbler, *Dendroica caerulescens*

36 nests representing 13 provincial regions. Haldimand-Norfolk (1987) was a recently added nesting region, and is the most southerly to date.

EGGS 24 nests with 2 to 4 eggs; **2E** (2N), **3E** (3N), **4E** (19N).

Average clutch range 4 eggs (19 nests).

Cowbird parasitism 26 nests with 4 parasitized (15.4%),

INCUBATION PERIOD 3 nests, 12 days.

Yellow-rumped Warbler, *Dendroica coronata*

215 nests representing 26 provincial regions. A probable breeding record in Ottawa-Carleton was noted.

Outside diameters of 11 nests ranged from 7.5 to 15 cm (3 to 6 inches); inside diameters of 10 nests ranged from 4.4 to 6.3 cm (1.7 to 2.5 inches); outside depths of 11 nests ranged from 6 to 11 cm (2.4 to 4.3 inches); and inside depths of 10 nests ranged from 3.8 to 6 cm (1.5 to 2.4 inches).

EGGS 69 nests with 1 to 6 eggs; **1E** (5N), **2E** (5N), **3E** (12N), **4E** (35N), **5E** (10N), **6E** (2N).

Average clutch range 4 eggs (35 nests).

Cowbird parasitism 139 nests with 39 parasitized (28.1%).

A female on a nest in Muskoka on 12 May 1976, suggests an earlier egg date than given in Volume 2.



Figure 5: Female Yellow-rumped Warbler at nest in Jack Pine at a height of 12 m (39 ft), Garvey Twp., Sudbury District, 25 June 1987.
Photo by G. K. Peck.

Black-throated Green Warbler, *Dendroica virens*

60 nests representing 19 provincial regions. Regional nesting additions were Elgin (1990), and Peterborough (1991).

Heights of 55 nests ranged from 0.5 to 15 m (1.5 to 50 ft), with 27 averaging 2.3 to 7.6 m (7.5 to 25 ft). An Elgin nest had an outside diameter of 8.5 cm (3.3 inches), inside diameter of 4.5 cm (1.8 inches), outside depth of 10 cm (3.9 inches), and inside depth of 6 cm (2.4 inches).
EGGS 40 nests with 1 to 5 eggs; 1E (1N), 2E (3N), 3E (16N), 4E (17N), 5E (3N).

Average clutch range 3 to 4 eggs (33 nests).

Cowbird parasitism 42 nests with 11 parasitized (26.2%).

EGG DATES A Nipissing nest held 3E on 3 June, for our earliest egg date.

Blackburnian Warbler, *Dendroica fusca*

36 nests representing 14 provincial regions. Bruce (1986), Elgin (1991), and Haldimand-Norfolk (1997) were recent regional nesting additions.

A nest at a height of 10 m (33 ft) in an Eastern Hemlock was ca. 5 m (16 ft) distant from the trunk.

Cowbird parasitism 12 nests with 4 parasitized (33.3%).

BREEDING DISTRIBUTION

The Elgin and Haldimand-Norfolk nestings were well south of the former southern breeding limit.

Pine Warbler, *Dendroica pinus*

17 (26 nests) representing 13 provincial regions. Elgin (1992), and Wellington (1994) were recent regional nesting additions. A 1985 breeding record from Bruce and another in 1995 from Waterloo, were reported.

The Wellington record described ca. 10 nests in close proximity in a mature coniferous woods, primarily pine with some spruce. The nestings approximated a colonial situation. Heights of the observed nests ranged from 3.7 to 9 m (12 to 30 ft).

The Elgin record was of a nest with two young at a height of 20 m (65 ft) in a Red Pine. The nest had an outside diameter of 7.5 cm (3 inches), inside diameter of 5 cm (2 inches), outside depth of 5 cm (2 inches), and inside depth of 3 cm (1.2 inches).

Cowbird parasitism 8 nests with 4 parasitized (50%). The finding of more nests of this species will probably lower this high percentage parasitism as compared with that of other areas (Friedmann, Kiff and Rothstein 1977).

[Kirtland's Warbler], *Dendroica kirtlandii*

No additional information on this hypothetical breeding species.

Prairie Warbler, *Dendroica discolor*

45 nests representing 8 provincial regions.

Thirteen new nests were in juniper spp. (5N), hazel spp. (3N), viburnum spp. (2N), Downy Arrow-wood (1N), White Oak (1N), and sumac sp. (1N). Height of a low nest in Frontenac was 0.24 m (0.8 ft).

EGGS 33 nests with 1 to 6 eggs; 1E (2N), 2E (3N), 3E (6N), 4E (14N), 5E (7N), 6E (1N).

Average clutch range 4 to 5 eggs (21 nests).

Cowbird parasitism 37 nests with 10 parasitized (27%).

EGG DATES 26 nests, 17 May to 9 July; 13 nests, 11 June to 20 June.

Palm Warbler, *Dendroica palmarum*

21 nests representing 9 provincial regions. Prescott (1993), Sudbury (1976), and Timiskaming (1955), were new nesting regions.

A nest from Timiskaming was elevated at a height of 0.9 m (2.9 ft) (no details).

EGGS 17 nests with 3 to 5 eggs; 3E (1N), 4E (10N), 5E (6N).

Average clutch range 4 eggs (10 nests).

EGG DATES 12 nests, 25 May to 6 July (13 dates); 6 nests, 8 June to 20 June.

Bay-breasted Warbler, *Dendroica castanea*

19 nests representing 6 provincial regions.

EGGS 13 nests with 4 to 6 eggs; 4E (1N), 5E (6N), 6E (6N).

Average clutch range 5 to 6 eggs (12 nests).

EGG DATES 12 nests, 10 June to 3 July (13 dates); 6 nests, 18 June to 28 June.

Blackpoll Warbler, *Dendroica striata*

5 nests representing 1 provincial region. No new breeding information.

Cerulean Warbler, *Dendroica cerulea*

81 nests representing 12 provincial regions. Haldimand-Norfolk (1983) and Simcoe (1968) were newly submitted nesting regions. A breeding record from Essex in 1986 was reported (Weir 1986).

The considerable increase in card numbers of nests of this rarely found nesting species was due largely to a 1994-95 study conducted in Frontenac County by Queen's University's Department of Biology (Oliarnyk and Robertson 1996).

Nests were invariably in medium to large deciduous trees which, in order of preference

were maple spp. (26 nests), oak spp. (22 nests), elm spp. (5 nests), basswood (4 nests), chestnut (1 nest), hickory (1 nest), and ironwood (1 nest). Heights of 65 nests ranged from 4.6 to 19.8 m (15 to 65 ft), with 33 averaging 8.8 to 13.1 m (29 to 43 ft).

Thirteen nests had outside diameters that ranged from 6 to 8 cm (2.4 to 3.1 inches), inside diameters from 4 to 5.3 cm (1.6 to 2.1 inches), outside depths from 3.2 to 7 cm (1.3 to 2.8 inches), and inside depths from 2.3 to 3 cm (0.9 to 1.2 inches).

EGGS 45 nests with 1 to 5 eggs; 1E (4N), 2E (2N), 3E (15N), 4E (21N), 5E (3N).

Average clutch range 3 to 4 eggs (36 nests).

Cowbird parasitism 57 nests with 8 parasitized (14%).

INCUBATION PERIOD 9 nests, 11 to 13 days: 5 of 11 days, 1 of at least 11 days, 2 of 12 days, 1 of 12-13 days.

EGG DATES 42 nests, 24 May to 27 June (44 dates); 21 nests, 5 June to 14 June.



Figure 6: Female Bay-breasted Warbler incubating 6 eggs, Garvey Twp., Sudbury District, 30 June 1985. Photo by G. K. Peck.

Black-and-white Warbler, *Mniotilta varia*

66 nests representing 27 provincial regions. Bruce (1989), Haliburton (1997), Renfrew (1993), and Waterloo (1957) were recently added nesting regions. Early (1926, 1931) breeding records from Norfolk (Snyder 1931, Baillie and Harrington 1937) were overlooked in Volume 2.

EGGS 54 nests with 1 to 6 eggs; 1E (2N), 2E (1N), 3E (10N), 4E (23N), 5E (17N), 6E (1N).

Average clutch range 4 to 5 eggs (40 nests).

Cowbird parasitism 55 nests with 9 parasitized (16.4%).

EGG DATES 38 nests, 22 May to 30 July (46 dates); 19 nests, 5 June to 24 June.

American Redstart, *Setophaga ruticilla*

513 (514 nests) representing 47 provincial regions. Regional nesting additions were Grenville (1985), Lincoln (1939), Prince Edward (1993), and Waterloo (1957).

In 1995-96, among 55 submitted nest records from Bruce County, 49 nests were in coniferous trees: 42 in White Cedar, 5 in Balsam Fir, and 2 in Canada Yew. This is in marked contrast to the preferred deciduous nest tree selection reported from other regions.

Cowbird parasitism 364 nests with 61 parasitized (16.8%). In Bruce County, 47 nests in 1995-96 were not parasitized, lowering the percentage parasitism (Peck 1997) from the 20% reported in Volume 2.

INCUBATION PERIOD 17 nests, 10 to 13 days; 14 nests ranged from 11 to 12 days.

Prothonotary Warbler, *Protonotaria citrea*

118 (120 nests) representing 6 provincial regions.

Eight 1997 nests were located in nest boxes set out for this declining breeding species.

EGGS 40 nests with 1 to 6 eggs; 1E (1N), 2E (1N), 3E (4N), 4E (11N), 5E (16N), 6E (7N).

Average clutch range 4 to 5 eggs (27 nests).

Cowbird parasitism 48 nests with 13 parasitized (27.1%).

INCUBATION PERIOD 3 nests: 1 at least 10 days, 1 of ca. 11 days, 1 of no more than 12 days.

EGG DATES 46 nests, 25 May to 3 July (55 dates); 23 nests, 9 June to 16 June. In 1997, a double brood was reported in different but adjacent sites.

BREEDING DISTRIBUTION

The status of this species was changed from vulnerable to endangered by COSEWIC (Page 1996a). In 1996, it bred at only two sites in the regions of Haldimand-Norfolk and Kent, and it was estimated that no more than 13 pairs remained at these sites. In 1997, after a nest box program was begun, 14 nestings occurred in 4 provincial regions.

** Note: The photograph at the bottom of p. 385 in Volume 2 was captioned incorrectly. The nest is not that of a Prothonotary Warbler, but rather that of a Song Sparrow with 1 egg of the host and 10 eggs of the Brown-headed Cowbird. The picture was made at Oakville, Halton County, 12 July 1968.



Figure 7: Nest of Prothonotary Warbler with 6 eggs of the host and 1 egg of Brown-headed Cowbird, Kent County, 7 June 1969.

Photo by G. K. Peck.

Ovenbird, *Seiurus aurocapillus*

331 nests representing 43 provincial regions.

EGGS 218 nests with 1 to 6 eggs; 1E (4N), 2E (4N), 3E (27N), 4E (96N), 5E (82N), 6E (5N).

Average clutch range 4 to 5 eggs (178 nests).

Cowbird parasitism 298 nests with 34 parasitized (11.4%).

Northern Waterthrush, *Seiurus noveboracensis*

109 (114 nests) representing 24 provincial regions. Elgin (1997) and Haldimand-Norfolk (1997) were new nesting regions. A probable breeding record for Ottawa-Carleton (1988) has been received.

A Sudbury nest was in the side of an old beaver dam, and hidden by grasses. Outside diameters of 9 nests ranged from 7.5 to 11.5 cm (3 to 4.5 inches), inside diameters from 4.5 to 8.3 cm (1.8 to 3.3 inches), outside depths from 4 to 7.5 cm (1.6 to 3 inches), and inside depths from 2 to 4 cm (0.8 to 1.6 inches).

EGGS 84 nests with 1 to 5 eggs; 1E (3N), 2E (3N), 3E (11N), 4E (44N), 5E (23N).

Average clutch range 4 eggs (44 nests).

Cowbird parasitism 94 nests with 11 parasitized (11.7%).

Louisiana Waterthrush, *Seiurus motacilla*

15 nests representing 9 provincial regions. Possible breeding in Halton (1979) has been reported (Eagles and McCauley 1982).

Two Elgin nests were in a mixed woods, dominated by Eastern Hemlock. One of the nests was positioned under live and dead fronds of Christmas Fern, on the slope of a creek 0.9 m (3 ft) above the creek surface. The other Elgin nest described a characteristic 'drift' or pathway of leaves (see Harrison 1984) in front of the nest.

EGGS 10 nests with 2 to 5 eggs; 2E (2N), 3E (2N), 4E (3N), 5E (3N).

Average clutch range 4 to 5 eggs (6 nests).

Cowbird parasitism 11 nests with 2 parasitized (18.2%).

EGG DATES 5 nests, 1 June to 8 July.

BREEDING DISTRIBUTION

The Louisiana Waterthrush in southern Ontario is currently listed as "Vulnerable" by COSEWIC (McCracken 1991, Page 1996b). Difficulty in finding nests may account for the few provincial records.

[Connecticut Warbler], *Oporornis agilis*

1 nest (undocumented) representing 1 provincial region. To date, no documented nest of this northern breeding warbler has been reported.

Mourning Warbler, *Oporornis philadelphia*

39 nests representing 21 provincial regions. Elgin (1987), and Middlesex (1963) (Darley and Scott 1988) were new nesting regions. A record from Bruce was removed because of a probable misidentification.

EGGS 30 nests with 1 to 5 eggs; 1E (2N), 2E (3N), 3E (6N), 4E (15N), 5E (4N).

Average clutch range 4 eggs (15 nests).

Cowbird parasitism 35 nests with 3 parasitized (8.6%).

EGG DATES 24 nests, 25 May to 20 July (32 dates); 12 nests, 15 June to 28 June.

Common Yellowthroat, *Geothlypis trichas*

206 nests representing 43 provincial regions. Elgin (1987), Grey (1988), Victoria (1993), and Waterloo (1954) were the added nesting regions.

Cowbird parasitism 187 nests with 36 parasitized (19.3%).

Hooded Warbler, *Wilsonia citrina*

120 (121) nests representing 6 provincial regions. Hamilton-Wentworth (1993), and Simcoe (1989) were recent regional nesting additions. Possible breeding (nesting?) in Oxford was noted by Weir (1988, 1989, 1990) but no data were given. The large increase in nest card numbers was due to an intensive nesting study from 1986 to date, mainly in Haldimand-Norfolk, and the new information follows.

Nests in mixed (47 nests), deciduous (44 nests), and rarely coniferous (2 nests) tree stands. Wooded areas were more often dry than wet, and all had characteristic understories of saplings, shrubs, and vascular plants. Deciduous saplings and shrubs (66 nests) were greatly preferred over coniferous (7 nests), and fern spp (7 nests). Three nests were in vascular plants (Horse-balm, May-apple and Sweet Cicely). Heights of 73 nests ranged from 0.2 to 1.5 m (0.7 to 4.9 ft), with 37 averaging 0.4 to 0.7 m (1.3 to 2.3 ft).

Five nests had outside diameters ranging from 7 to 10 cm (2.8 to 3.9 inches); inside diameters from 4 to 5.5 cm (1.6 to 2.2 inches); outside depths from 6 to 9 cm (2.4 to 3.5 inches); and inside depths from 3 to 5 cm (1.2 to 2 inches).

EGGS 46 nests with 1 to 5 eggs; 1E (1N), 2E (1N), 3E (17N), 4E (26N), 5E (1N).

Average clutch range 4 eggs (26 nests).

Cowbird parasitism 114 nests with 54 parasitized (47.4%).

INCUBATION PERIOD 6 nests, 11 to 12 days: 2 of at least 11 days, 2 of 12 days, and 2 of ca. 12 days.

EGG DATES 53 nests, 1 June to 7 August (80 dates); 27 nests, 16 June to 6 July. One double brood was reported with both broods in the same nest.

BREEDING DISTRIBUTION

This species nests almost exclusively in the Deciduous Forest region of Ontario with the only exception being an unsuccessful nest in Simcoe County.



Figure 8: Male Hooded Warbler at nest with young in May-apple, Haldimand-Norfolk RM, 13 June 1987. Photo by G. K. Peck

Wilson's Warbler, *Wilsonia pusilla*

15 nests representing 6 provincial regions. Manitoulin (1988) was the latest addition to regional nesting, and is the most southerly provincial nesting to date (Weir 1988).

Canada Warbler, *Wilsonia canadensis*

29 nests representing 18 provincial regions. No new nests have been reported since the publication of Volume 2.

Yellow-breasted Chat, *Icteria virens*

20 nests representing 8 provincial regions.

A Niagara nest was in a peat bog. One Essex nest was in a Ground Juniper and another was in an unspecified shrub at a low height of 0.3 m (1 ft).

EGGS 17 nests with 1 to 5 eggs; 1E (1N), 2E (3N), 3E (2N), 4E (7N), 5E (4N).

Average clutch range 4 to 5 eggs (11 nests).

Cowbird parasitism 19 nests with 4 parasitized (21.1%).

EGG DATES 16 nests, 2 June to 1 July (22 dates); 8 nests, 8 June to 16 June.

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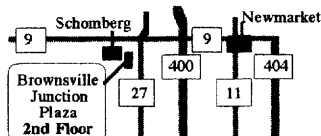
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