

1987

## Recent Literature

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# Recent Literature

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## Identification, Molts, Plumages, Weights and Measurements

**The moult of the Dipper in Scotland.** H. Galbraith, A. B. Mitchell and G. Shaw. 1981. *Bird Study* 28:53-59. -96 Neilson Rd., Paisley, Renfrewshire, U.K. -(Molting of wing feathers of the Dipper proceeds with the successive molt of blocks of overlapping feathers. The authors suggest that this is adaptive, allowing the species to maintain underwater manoeuvrability during molt.) MK

**The field identification of North American pipits.** B. King. 1981. *Amer. Birds* 35:778-788. -Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., 15 West 77th St., New York, N.Y. 10024 -(Detailed and thorough review and comparison of field characteristics of 7 species in various plumages.) MKM

**Aberrant Woodland Kingfishers - A Follow-up.** D. B. Hanmer. 1984. *Safring News* 13:58-70. -Sucoma, Private Bag 50, Blantyre, Malawi -(Detailed discussion of aberrant birds, considering possibility of unstable pigmentation in immatures, possible delayed melanin deposition, potential hybridization with Mangrove Kingfisher, and genetic mutations, with caution regarding distortion in museum specimens.) MKM

**Aberrant wing colour in Thickbilled Weavers.** D. B. Hanmer. 1985. *Safring News* 14:72-74. -Sucoma, Private Bag 50, Blantyre, Malawi -(Of 394 Thickbilled Weavers caught in Malawi between 1974 and 1985, all 94 adult males were colored normally, as were most females and immatures. Since 1981, aberrant coloration has been found on 3 adult females and 17 immatures.) MKM

**Another funny Thickbill.** D. B. Hanmer. 1985. *Safring News* 14:83. -Sucoma, Private Bag 50, Blantyre, Malawi -(Male Thickbilled Weaver with all adult plumage except fresh immature-plumaged primary 2 on both sides.) MKM

**Ageing and sexing guide. Cape Sugarbirds *Promerops cafer*.** H. M. Seiler and M. W. Fraser. 1985. *Safring News* 14:91-92. -Percy Fitzpatrick Inst. of African Ornithol., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa -(Birds with tail longer than 200 mm are undoubtedly male, while only females have brood patch. Shorter-tailed birds without brood patches are sexed most reliably by wing length.) MKM

**Measurements and weight changes of Norwegian adult Puffins *Fratercula arctica* and Kittiwakes *Rissa tridactyla* during the breeding season.** R. T. Barrett, R. Fieler, T. Anker-Nilssen and R. Rikardsen. 1985. *Ring. & Migr.* 6:102-112. -Depts. Marine Biol. and Zool., Tromsø Mus.,

Univ. Tromsø, 9000, Tromsø, Norway -(Discriminant analyses showed that sexes could be distinguished most precisely by head length, sometimes combined with bill depth. Males of both species were consistently heavier and larger than females.) RCT

## Variations in body weight and tarsal dimensions of English and Irish Pheasants with notes on ring sizes.

P. A. Robertson, D. A. Hill and K. A. Raw. 1985. *Ring. & Migr.* 6:119-121. -Faculty of Agriculture, Univ. College Dublin, Lyons Estate, Newcastle P.O., Co. Dublin, Ireland -(Irish birds are smaller and lighter than English birds. Females are lighter, with smaller tarsal diameters, than males.) RCT

## North American Banding Results

**Long Point Bird Observatory: 1984.** D. Shepherd. 1985. *Ont. Bird Banding* 17:21-22. -Long Point Bird Observ., Box 160, Port Rowan, Ont. N0E 1M0 -(19,949 birds of 138 species banded brought the observatory's total to 263,255 birds of 241 species. Short-eared Owl and Audubon's race of Yellow-rumped Warbler were new to LPBO.) MKM

**Hawk Cliff Raptor Banding Station thirteenth and fourteenth annual reports, 1983-1984.** D. Fowler and S. Fowler. 1985. *Ont. Bird Banding* 17:23-29. *Recoveries, foreign retraps, returns and repeats.* S. Fowler. 1985. *Ont. Bird Banding* 17:30-34. -17 Fifth Ave., St. Thomas, Ont. N5P 4C2 -(Tables and brief accounts summarize sightings and bandings of each raptor species plus shrikes by month Sept.-Dec. for both years, and list banding totals for each species by year from 1969 to 1984 inclusive, with 33,332 birds of 24 species banded to date. Progress on an American Kestrel nest box project is also reported. Encounters (recoveries, foreign retraps, returns and repeats) total 469 to date, or 1.4% of all birds banded, with a 1983 recovery of a Sharp-shinned Hawk in Mexico. Longevity records include a 9-year old Sharp-shinned Hawk, an 11(+?) year old Northern Goshawk and a 10(+?) year old American Kestrel. The long delays by the Banding Lab in reporting recoveries prevented complete analysis of foreign retraps.) MKM

**American Kestrels banded at Hawk Cliff, Ontario 1972-1983.** B. W. Duncan. 1985. *Ont. Bird Banding* 17:35-40. -Box 512, Calendonias, Ont. N0A 1A0 -(Data on 6,210 bandings indicate a marked decline in migrants, correlating with observational records. Recoveries show a south to southwest migration in fall, with most recoveries and retraps (82.1%) encountered within 2-3 years of banding. The oldest recovery reported was 8 or more years old, but has since been surpassed (see Fowler and Fowler reference above) -MKM

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**Saw-whet Owl banding in southwestern Ontario 1984.** E. W. Keith. 1985. *Ont. Bird Banding* 17:46. -Author deceased Nov. 1985 -(The author chose a year low for Saw-whets throughout southern Ontario to start the first of an intended long-term study in the Windsor area. The catch of 4 Northern Saw-Whet and 4 Eastern Screech-Owls caught in 12,247 net hours must be a record for persistent effort.) MKM

**Double-crested Cormorant banding: 1984.** D. V. Weseloh. 1985. *Ont. Bird Banding* 17:47-48. -1391 Mount Pleasant Rd., Toronto, Ont. M4N 2T7 -(Census data for cormorants on Ont. portions of Lakes Ontario, Erie, Huron (Georgian Bay and North Channel) and Superior and Lake-of-the-Woods, including 2926 birds banded.) MKM

**Philopatry and Innis Point returns.** J. Dean. 1985. *Trail & Landscape* 19:78-81. -73 Irving Place, Ottawa, Ont. K1Y 2A2 -(Analysis of return rates by age and sex, where possible, of 36 species.) MKM

**Releases of Peregrine Falcons in southern and central Alberta, 1976-1985.** D. Dekker and G. Erickson. 1986. *Alta. Nat.* 16:1-3. -3819-112A St., Edmonton, Alta. T6J 1K4 -(163 color-banded Peregrines were released in southern and central Alta. 1975-1985, from both urban and rural areas. Some have been seen in rural areas, but to date all nesting attempts have been in cities, possibly because of declines of prey in rural areas and increases of pigeons in cities. Two have been recovered in Latin America.) MKM

**Status and recovery efforts for the California Condor.** S. A. Temple. 1985. *Bird Conservation* 2:162-165. -Dept. Wildl. Ecol., Univ. Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53706 -(Eight condors were trapped and fitted with transmitters between 1982 and 1985, providing information on movements and habitat use, and allowing researchers to find the carcass of the only one to have died -of lead poisoning.) MKM

**Range extension of the American Wigeon, *Anas americana*, to the island of Newfoundland.** R. I. Goudie. 1985. *Can. Field-Nat.* 99:533. -Can. Wildl. Serv., Box 9158, Stn. B, St. John's, Nfld. A1A 2X9 -(Three ducklings banded in 1979 helped establish first breeding record for the province, and 11 more were banded in 1980 and 16 in 1981.) MKM

**Ground-feeding migratory songbirds as cellular slime mold distribution vectors.** H. B. Suthers. 1985. *Oecologia* 65:526-530. -Dept. Biol., Princeton Univ., Princeton, N.J. 08544 -(Seasonal abundance patterns of slime molds in soil in N.J. and Central America corresponded with slime molds present in faeces of birds mist netted, with ground-feeding sparrows being the main vectors, followed by thrushes and ground-feeding warblers.) MKM

**Bird migration patterns in southern Ontario.** C. M. Francis. 1986. *Blue Bill* 33:75-79. -Biol. Dept., Queen's Univ., Kingston, Ont. K7C 3NG -(Mist net capture data were used to demonstrate spring and fall migration patterns of various species at Prince Edward Point, Ont.) MKM

## Foreign Banding Results

**Capture/recapture data on the nightjars of Ranelin Farm, Zimbabwe.** H. D. Jackson. 1984. *Safring News* 13:43-50. -Nat. Hist. Mus. of Zimbabwe, Box 240, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe -(Recaptures, longevity data and estimates of population densities based on 107 bandings of 5 species, primarily Fiery-necked Nighthjars.) MKM

**Malawi longevity again.** D. B. Hanmer. 1985. *Safring News* 14:51-60. -Sucoma, Private Bag 50, Blantyre, Malawi -(By July 1985, 256 birds of 67 species had reached 5+ years of age, 65 birds of 28 species 8+ years and 191, including 39 additional species, 5-7+ years. Most of the oldest birds were weavers or bishops, but 5 bulbuls were 10+ years old, one of which attained over 12 years. A male House Sparrow over 8 years old was the only species also found in North America.) MKM

**Wing length at first flight.** D. B. Hanmer. 1985. *Safring News* 14:69-71. -Sucoma, Private Bag 50, Blantyre, Malawi. -(An examination of wing length at first flight as a percentage of mean adult wing length in three ground-nesting species and three above-ground nesters did not provide sufficient results for support or refutation of an earlier suggestion that ground-nesting birds fly at an earlier stage of development than other birds.) MKM

**Analysis of ringing recoveries of Ruff involving southern Africa.** A. J. Tree. 1985. *Safring News* 14:75-79. -Box 70, Bathurst, South Africa 6166 -(Most banding of Ruffs in southern Africa in the last 20 years has been in Zimbabwe, the Transvaal and Cape Province, with several local recoveries and 17 at greater distances in Malawi, Uganda, Iran, Russia and Siberia. Birds banded in East Germany and India have also been recovered in South Africa. The oldest recovery is of a female at least 10 years old.) MKM

**Spring migration of Siskins in north Sussex during 1984.** J. E. S. Cooper. 1985. *Ring. & Migr.* 6:61-65. -42 Elizabeth Crescent, East Grinstead, Sussex, U.K. -(Weights of *Carduelis spinus* increased 19% over 10 days when they fed on peanuts. Mean initial weights of males increased from 13.6 to 14.1 g (range 11.0-17.6 g) and of females from 13.0 to 14.6 g (range 11.3-17.3 g). The mean weight gain was 0.25 g/day.) RCT

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**Long-distance moult migration by British Goosanders *Mergus merganser*.** B. Little and R. W. Furness. 1985. *Ring. & Migr.* 6:77-82. -37 Stella Hall Drive, Stella Park, Blaydon, Tyne & Wear., U.K. -(Drake Common Mergansers migrate to northern Norway from all of western Europe after breeding.) RCT

**The populations and biometrics of Purple Sandpipers in the Outer Hebrides.** N. E. Buxton, R. W. Summers and M. Nicholi. 1985. *Ring. & Migr.* 6:87-92. -Nature Conservancy Council, 4 Sand St., Coulregrein, Stornaway, Isle of Lewis, Western Isles, U.K. -(Analysis of bill lengths suggests that most wintering *Calidris maritima* on the Outer Hebrides probably come from Iceland or Canada.) RCT

**An exiled weaver.** Anonymous. 1981. *Safring News* 10:32-33. -(Masked Weaver banded in South Africa was killed by a cat in the Netherlands.) MKM

## Banding History & Biography

**Al Reuss bands for fifty years.** Anonymous. 1985. *Inland Bird Banding Newsletter* 7(1):1. (Brief account of banding career.) MKM

## Banding Equipment & Techniques

**Diet studies of seabirds: a review of methods.** D. C. Duffy and S. Jackson. 1986. *Colonial Waterbirds* 9:1-17. -Percy Fitzpatrick Inst. African Ornithol., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa. -(This important review of methods of collecting, measuring, analyzing and presenting data on food habits of seabirds includes a summary of capture methods, with a long list of literature.) MKM

## Identification, Molts, Plumages, Weights & Measurements

**Annual variation in mean body size of a Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla* population.** O. Hosgstad. 1985. *Ornis Fennica* 62:13-18. -Zool. Dept., Univ. Trondheim, N-7055 Dragvoll, Norway. -(A positive correlation between mean wing length of males and ratio of adults to yearlings in a Norwegian population suggests that annual differences in age structure explains annual variation in wing lengths measured in birds banded or collected.) MKM

**An adult Caspian Tern with orange legs.** A. Wormington. 1986. *Ont. Birds* 4:66-67. -R.R. #1, Leamington, Ont. L8H 3V4. -(One of at least 56 adults had bright orange legs with scattered light duskiness; otherwise the bird showed all regular characters, and all its companions had normally colored legs.) MKM

**Field observations of a possible hybrid murre *Uria aalge* × *Uria lomvia*.** T.R. Birkhead, S. D. Johnson and D. N. Nettleship. 1986. *Can. Field-Nat.* 100:115-117. -Dept. Zool., Univ. Sheffield, Sheffield S10 2TN, England. -(Detailed comparison of apparent hybrid mate of Thick-billed Murre with normal murre, observed three consecutive years in Labrador.) MKM

**A vestigial wing claw on a House Sparrow.** R. W. Nero and R. Scriven. 1986 *Can. Field-Nat.* 100:255. -Man. Wildl. Branch, 1495 St. James St., Winnipeg, Man. R3H 0W9 - (Fourth known instance of a passerine with a wing claw, drawing a suggestion that persons handling passerines should examine them carefully for this feature.) MKM

## North American Banding Results

**Nest attendance and care of young in Double-crested Cormorants.** C. Leger and R. McNeil. 1985. *Colonial Waterbirds* 8:96-103. -Centre de recherches ecologiques de Montreal, Universite de Montreal, C.P. 6128, Succ. "A," Montreal, Que. H3C 3J7. -(Chicks were made individually recognizable by placing a colored ribbon on one leg a few hours after hatching, and replacing this with a colored metal band at 20 days of age.) MKM

**Trends and effects of organochlorine residues on Oregon and Nevada wading birds, 1979-83.** C. J. Henry, L. S. Blus and C. S. Hulse. 1985. *Colonial Waterbirds* 8:117-128. -U.S. Fish & Wildl. Serv., Patuxent Wildl. Res. Center, 480 S.W. Airport Road, Corvallis, OR 97333 -(All recoveries for Black-crowned Night-Herons, Snowy Egrets and White-faced Ibis banded in Idaho, Oregon, Nevada and Utah are summarized to indicate their Latin American wintering areas. No recoveries were available for Black-necked Stilts.) MKM

**A band recovery for the Rhinoceros Auklet.** G. W. Kaiser, D. Bertram and D. Powell. 1984. *Murrelet* 65:57. -Can. Wildl. Serv., Box 340, Delta, B.C. V4K 3H3. -(Banded 2 weeks before fledging near Prince Rupert, B.C. in July 1983, and recovered in Dec. 1983 2200 km. south near Cambria, Calif.) MKM

**Breeding ecology of Common and Arctic Terns in the Mingan Archipelago, Quebec.** G. Chapdelaine, P. Brousseau, R. Anderson and R. Marsan. 1985. *Colonial Waterbirds* 8:166-177. -Serv. Can. de la Faune, 1141 Rte de l'Eglise, C.P. 10100, Ste-Foy, Que. G1V 4H5. -(Instantaneous growth rates of banded chicks averaged 7.11 g./day for Common Terns and 6.90 g./day for Arctic Terns.) MKM

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**Breeding failure and decline of a Common Tern colony in southern Manitoba.** P. N. Hebert. 1985. *Colonial Waterbirds* 8:183-185. -Dept. Zool, Univ. Manitoba, Winnipeg, Man. R3T 2N2 -(Three bands found in a Great Horned Owl pellet from chicks banded 1, 4 and 5 days earlier provided tangible evidence for at least one source of chick disappearance from an island colony.) MKM

**Replacement male Red-winged Blackbirds fail to kill unrelated offspring.** S. Rohwer. 1985. *Murrelet* 66:37-43. -Burke Mus. DB-10 and Dept. Zool, Univ. Washington, Seattle, WA 98195. -(Color-banded replacement males at 17 nests exhibited paternal behavior towards the offspring of their new mates rather than killing or harming them.) MKM

**Summary of Canadian Wildlife Service Whooping Crane studies from 1985.** E. Kuyt and J. P. Goossen. 1986. *Alta. Nat.* 16:68-69. -Can. Wild. Serv., Rm. 230, 4999-98 Ave., Edmonton, Alta. T6B 2X3 -(Observations of color-banded birds helped sort out numbers wintering at and near Aransas Natl. Wildlife Refuge, Tex., trace migration routes and keep track of birds nesting at Wood Buffalo Natl. Park, N.W.T. All 16 juveniles color-banded at Wood Buffalo in 1985 arrived safely in Tex., the first year in which no loss during fall migration has been documented.) MKM

**Effects of eco-ethological factors in the survival of young Ring-billed Gulls of Ile de la Couvee, Quebec.** A. -M. Dulude, R. McNeil and G. Baron. 1986. *Colonial Waterbirds* 9:46-60. -Centre de recherche ecologiques de Montreal, Universite de Montreal, C.P. 6128, Succ. "A," Montreal, Que. H3C 3J7. -(Color-banded chicks of 17 Ring-billed Gulls moved farther and were attacked more frequently when hungry, but size of adult territory showed no relationship to frequency of attacks on chicks or fledging success.) MKM

**Gull bands recovered.** F. E. Ludwig. 1985. *Inland Bird Banding Newsletter* 7(1):5. -2864 Military St., Port Huron, Mich. 48060 -(Longevity records for 5 Herring and 2 Ring-billed Gulls, 2 Caspian Terns and 1 Common Grackle.) MKM

**Survival of dabbling duck broods on prairie impoundments in southeastern Alberta.** D. C. Duncan. 1986. *Can. Field-Nat.* 100:111-113. -Dept. Zool, Univ. Alta., Edmonton, Alta. T6G 2E9. -(Studies based on movements of radio-tagged Northern Pintail and Gadwall hens showed a maximum survival of 4 broods out of 15 studied.) MKM

**1984 bird banding.** D. Stiles. 1986. *Pica* 6(2):21-22. -20 Lake Wapta Rise S.E., Calgary, Alta. T2J 2M9. -(New bandings, recaptures and returns of Mountain Bluebirds and Tree Swallows in s.w. Alberta.) MKM

**1985 Calgary area bluebird trail results.** D. Stiles. 1986. *Pica* 6(4):31-36. -20 Lake Wapta Rise S.E., Calgary, Alta. T2J 2M9 -(Recovering of Mountain Bluebirds and Tree Swallows included the first bluebird from outside the study area -from Red Deer, approx. 60 miles to the north.) MKM

**Savannah Sparrow, *Passerculus sandwichensis*, reproductive success.** G. La Pointe and J. Bedard. 1986. *Can. Field-Nat.* 100:264-267. -Dept. de Biologie, Universite Laval, Ste-Foy, Que. G1K 7P4. -(Clutch size, clutch initiation, numbers of young hatched and fledged, and breeding chronology of banded sparrows in a 5-year study in a tidal marsh-abandoned field ecotone are compared with similar data elsewhere.) MKM

MK = Mike Kowalski

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