

1995

## News, Notes, Comments

North American Bird Bander

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# News, Notes, Comments

## ERRATUM

Houston and Schmutz article, "Swainson's Hawk Banding in North America to 1992," in *NABB* 20:120-127:

Please make the following corrections to Table 3, page 123:

- The single recovery from Alberta, reported from Chile, was actually from Bolivia.; change the final column titled Chile to Bolivia. There were no recoveries from Chile.
- Combine the hawks listed for Ecuador and Colombia into one column for Colombia (total 16). There were no recoveries from Ecuador.

The authors regret these errors.

## HOUSE FINCH DISEASE: A CALL FOR HELP

Since early 1994, bird watchers throughout much of the East have been noticing House Finches with red, swollen, crusty eyes. These birds have a respiratory disease caused by *Mycoplasma gallisepticum*, a bacterium that usually infects poultry. The disease poses no known risk to humans, but it can be fatal in finches. Sometimes the birds' eyes swell so much that they can't see, so they have a hard time finding food. They may starve or die from cold weather.

Some steps you can take to keep the disease from spreading:

Clean your bird feeders regularly--at least once at the start and again at the end of the winter feeding season--with mild bleach solution (one part bleach to nine parts water). Dry feeders well before filling them.

Prevent overcrowding by adding extra feeders to your yard (the disease spreads when birds are in close contact).

Report sick birds to your state wildlife agency.



Consider participating in the Cornell's Laboratory of Ornithology survey by watching your backyard feeders and record any House Finch visits. Note if you observe any disease symptoms. Forms and instructions can be obtained by calling 800-843-BIRD, or write : House Finch Survey, P.O. Box 11, Ithaca, NY 14850. Please send \$7.00 to cover costs of printing and mailing a Newsletter.

The following page gives the tentative agenda for the joint **EBBA and IBBA meeting** to be held at the Patuxent National Wildlife Visitor Center in Laurel, Maryland, 12-14 April 1996.

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**REMINDER: EBBA & IBBA JOINT MEETING  
WITH BBL AS CO-SPONSOR  
12-14 APRIL 1996  
PATUXENT NATIONAL WILDLIFE VISITOR CENTER  
LAUREL, MARYLAND**

**REGISTRATION INFORMATION AND FORMS: SEE NABB 20:3**

**TENTATIVE PROGRAM**

**FRIDAY**

1300-1700 Bird Banding Laboratory Open House  
1400 Registration at Visitor Center  
1400 EBBA Council Meeting at Visitor Center  
1600 IBBA officers meet at Visitor Center  
1700-1830 Bird Walk, Bird Banding Laboratory Grounds  
Friday Evening Speaker: **David Brinker**, Central Regional Ecologist for Maryland's Natural Heritage Program, *Northern Saw-whet Owls*

**SATURDAY**

Early Morning Bird Walk  
Paper Session: North American Duck Program  
Bird Banding in the Treetops: A Tool for Canopy Access  
Migration Monitoring  
MAPS Update  
Annual Meetings  
Annual Bird Banding Laboratory Report  
  
Workshops: Identifying Look-alike Birds, LBJs, Summer Juvenals  
Preparation of Manuscripts for *NABB*: Bring manuscripts, pieces of manuscripts, or data sets you want help with  
How to Prepare Computer Schedules Using BAND-OPS. For MS-DOS, bring laptops; free software will be available  
Saturday Evening Speaker: **Bruce Beehler**, Office of Ecology & Terrestrial Conservation, U.S. Department of State, *New Guinea Bird Research*

**SUNDAY**

Bird Banding Laboratory Open House  
Field Trips  
Registration Deadline: Mail no later than March 15.  
Air travel: Use BWI Airport.  
Transportation: Get in touch with Barbara Ross, 308 Thornhill Road, Baltimore, MD 21212; 410-435-7166  
Bucket Raffle: Carol & Alan Gehret, 308 N. Limerick Road, Schwenksville, PA 19473; 610-287-4490

**Posters -- Demo Equipment -- All Contributions Welcome!**