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News, Notes, Comments

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News, Notes, Comments

Correction: *Nabb* Vol.24 No.1

As production manager for *NABB*, I try to publish a photo or a computer graphic that best fits the manuscript being published, if such exists in my files. In the last issue of *NABB* (Vol. 24 No. 1), I did exactly that for the paper "Upland Sandpiper Banding in North America" by C. Stuart Houston, Sidney Drury, and Geoff Holroyd, and used a photo that was labelled Upland Sandpiper.

Regrettably, the photo that was scanned and subsequently used has been in my files for many years, was taken by Mr. Carl Swafford, but incorrectly labeled an "Upland Plover."

James Baird of Petersham, MA, noted the error and contacted me to point out that the published photo was a Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*). I then sent the original photo to Mr. Baird for positive ID, which he returned correctly identified.

I would like to thank Mr. Baird for bringing this error to my attention.

Following is a photo of an Upland Sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*) submitted by Geoff Holroyd, one of the article's authors.



Robert Pantle
Production Manager

On Dyeing Mist Nets

Dyeing works on nylon nets but I have been told not on the polyester nets. The dye I use is available here in Ontario at the local drug store and most likely at fabric shops. There are two trade names, Rit and Tintest; they both work well. I use a large aluminum disposable roasting pan and put it over the stove burner on low heat. Put in two packages of dye and stir occasionally. Keep the net in it for twice the recommended time on the package. This will do two nets, one after the other; add one package for every two additional nets.

The Rit dye is a dark, dark purple, while the Tintest is more of a black. This is noticeable when you rinse the nets out after dyeing. The dye is not sun fade resistant but lasts about a month in direct sun and longer in shade. The faded dyed nets do not go grayish, like nets do when they fade for the first time, but rather a purplish brown and then bronzy. You can redye them several times.

The dye company advised to use the longer time and keep the water as hot as possible to get best results. They also advised the true black dye is too dangerous for public use. The nets I dye most often are the Spidertech (Finnish) 12-meter nets. They are beautiful nets to work with—deep pockets, soft but strong, and hold everything from hummingbirds to Cooper's Hawks—but they fade in 30-60 days in the sun. The company's 9-meter nets, which look and feel the same, never fade. The Finnish nets and the Polish nets are probably the best buy for the money these days, but the Finnish nets are stronger and hold up better except for the fade problem with the 12-meter size.

For best results, especially in windy locations, I have custom tethered the Finnish nets on the center and bottom shelf strings. This eliminates any and all mesh drifting. The Polish nets come tethered on the second shelf string from the top and the second from the bottom and are almost drift resistant.

John B. Miles, President
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