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## Recent Literature

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## BANDING EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUES

**Band discomfort on Rufous Treecreeper *Climacteris rufa*.** A. M. Rose. 1997. *Corella* 21:25 c/o Dept. of Conservation & Land Mgmt., Locked Bag 104, Bentley Delivery Centre, Bentley, WA 6983, Australia (Bands were observed to slide down to the intertarsal joints when the treecreepers ascended trees, causing at least some of the birds to peck at the bands. When recaptured, the tarsi of these birds showed no scale wear or sores.) MKM

**Individual colour banding for 8,000 birds.** J. Kikkawa. 1997. *Corella* 21:26-31. Author deceased. (Numbering system used for color band combinations in long-term study of Silvereyes, including discussion of protocol, fading rates of different colors, rate of band loss and possible effects of color on behavior and mortality.) MKM

**Conservation from outer space: boldly tracking migration patterns.** C. Eberly. 1999. *Bird Conservation* [volume and pages not indicated]; reprinted in *Hawk Migration Studies* 25(1):17-19, 1999. Suite 400, 1250 24<sup>th</sup> St., Washington, D.C. 20037 (Brief review of use of satellites to track birds fitted with radio transmitters.) MKM

## IDENTIFICATION, MOLTS, PLUMAGES, WEIGHTS AND MEASUREMENTS

**Early first prebasic molt in Short-billed Dowitcher.** K. McLaughlin and R. Pittaway. 2003. *Ont. Birds* 21:145-146. 30 Bingham Rd., Hamilton, ON L8H 1N4 (One of six juvenile Short-billed Dowitchers observed at Grimsby, ON, in Sep 2003 showing clear evidence of first prebasic molt constituted the first such documented case in Ontario, although molting south-bound Long-bills, both adult and juvenile, are regular in that area.) MKM

**Notes on the ageing and sexing of Cape Siskins *Pseudochloroptila totta*.** V. L. Ward. 2001. *Afring News* 30:87-88. Bird Island Nature Reserve, Box 181, Lambert's Bay 8130, South Africa (Wide overlap in mensural data limits the usefulness of measurements in distinguishing between sexes in this species, but several plumage differences distinguish them reliably. Lack of yellow markings on ju-

veniles is the most helpful feature in distinguishing them from adult females.) MKM

**Long-billed European Starlings, *Sturnus vulgaris*.** R. D. Pearson. 1999. *Can. Field-Nat.* 113:523-524. Gerstein Sci. Inform. Centre, Univ. Toronto, 9 King's College Circle, Toronto, ON M5S 1A5 (Description and photographs of starling with long, decurved bill and review of other records of abnormally long starling bills.) MKM

**Age-related variations in bill size of Chinstrap Penguins.** E. Minguez, J. A. Fragallo, A. de Leon, J. Moreno and E. Moreno. 1998. *Colonial Waterbirds* 21:66-68. Estacion Biol. de Donana, CSIC, Avda M. Luisa s/n, 41013, Sevilla, Spain (Bill depths, bill lengths and flipper lengths measured on nesting adult and yearling penguins at an Antarctic colony indicated that bill size increases with age during the juvenile stage whereas flipper length does not differ between juveniles and adults.) MKM

**Sexing Eared Grebes by bill measurements.** J. R. Jehl, Jr., A. E. Henry and S. I. Bond. 1998. *Colonial Waterbirds* 21:98-100. Hubbs-Sea World Res. Inst., 2595 Ingraham St., San Diego, CA 92109 (Bill lengths measured on hundreds of known-sex specimens indicated that bill length can be used to determine sex of about 90% of adult Eared Grebes.) MKM

**An unusual plumage for a Sooty Shearwater *Puffinus griseus*.** S. G. Lane. 1997. *Corella* 21:16. 66 Fairview Rd., Moonee via Coffs Harbour, New South Wales 2450, Australia (Brief description and measurements of "strikingly white" shearwater with "almost entirely white underwings" trapped and banded in its nesting burrow. Its slightly larger mate was similar in coloration to about 50 other Sooty Shearwaters banded by the author.) MKM

## NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS

**Twenty-five years of the Detroit River (Michigan-Ontario) Christmas bird count.** J. A. Craves and J. A. Fowler, Jr. 2003. *Ont. Birds* 21:110-128. Rouge River Bird Observ., Univ. Michigan-Dearborn, MI 48128 (An influx of Black-capped

Chickadees in 2002 was not reflected in local banding station results.) MKM

**Banding in Ontario: 2002.** T. L. Groh and M. L. Wernaart. 2002. *Ont. Bird Banding* 34:1-11. R.R. 2, St. Williams, ON N0E 1P0 (79,105 birds of 249 "species" [actually "taxa" as this number includes distinct races and hybrids] were banded by 16 individual banders, bander groups or bird observatories. Numbers of each species banded by each entity are listed and total numbers of individual birds and of species are graphed.) MKM

**Haldimand Bird Observatory 2002.** J. A. Smith. 2002. *Ont. Bird Banding* 34:12-19. 358 Diltz Rd., R.R. 2, Dunnville, ON N1A 2W2 (During 2002, 15,224 birds of 110 species were banded at the observatory's three stations. Three American Goldfinches banded at the Ruthven station were recovered subsequently at the Rock Point station, a Yellow Warbler banded at the Rock Point station was recovered at the Selkirk station, three other birds were recaptured from other Ontario sites and a Gray Catbird banded in Pennsylvania was recovered at Rock Point. In addition to the three goldfinches recovered at other Haldimand stations, nine Haldimand-banded birds of eight species were recovered at four other Ontario locations, two New York sites, and one site each in North Carolina, Quebec and Tennessee. Tables compare numbers of each species banded at Rock Point in its first two years and list numbers of each caught at each station during spring and fall migrations as well as details of banding effort.) MKM

**Holiday Beach Migration Observatory 2002 Essex Co., Ontario, Canada.** A. Chartier. 2002. *Ont. Bird Banding* 34:20-21. Address not included. (Between 21 Jul and 17 Nov 2002, 1233 birds of 72 species were banded on 36 days. A table lists totals and percent hatching-year for the ten most-captured species, topped by 143 Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warblers, 98% of which were HY. The text summarizes significant highs and record and significant lows, significantly early and late migrant dates and returns.) MKM

**Raptor banding at Holiday Beach, 2002.** J. Sodergren. 2002. *Ont. Bird Banding* 34:22-25. Address not included. (During the fall of 2002, 1302 raptors of ten species and one Blue Jay were

banded at three sites near the western end of the north shore of Lake Erie and 22 previously banded birds of three hawk species were recaptured. Tables summarize numbers of each species banded each banding day, numbers of each age and sex category of each species banded, and numbers of each species banded by each of eight banders.) MKM

**Ontario cooperative banding program 2002 banding results.** D. C. Davies and B. Pollard. 2002. *Ont. Bird Banding* 34:26-31. Address not included. (During 2000, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources personnel banded 10,646 water birds at 19 duck banding stations, bringing their total (1984-2002) to 200,804. The 2002 total was the second lowest in ten years, but numbers of American Black Ducks banded increased. This increase was attributed to an airboat program, also considered responsible for good numbers [275] of Ring-necked Ducks captured. A table lists numbers of six dabbling duck species and one hybrid banded at each banding station in 2002, while another lists annual 1984-2002 totals for the same seven dabbling taxa plus Ring-necked Ducks. A final table lists 2002 totals of all waterfowl taxa and two other water bird species [Pied-billed Grebe and Double-crested Cormorant] with their ages and sexes at each banding station.) MKM

**Productivity and survival of the Loggerhead Shrike in Indiana.** K. M. Burton and D. R. Whitehead. 2002. *Bird Populations* 6:13-20. Box 716, Inverness, CA 94937 (In 1988, 37 adult shrikes were color-banded on breeding territories. Observations of color-banded birds in 1989 helped determine site tenacity and estimate survival between years.) MKM

**Are Common Terns really indeterminate layers? Responses to experimental egg removal.** J. M. Arnold, I. C. T. Nisbet and J. J. Hatch. 1998. *Colonial Waterbirds* 21:81-86. Dept. of Biol., Univ. Massachusetts, Boston, MA 02125 (After first-laid eggs were removed from nests of banded birds, their bands helped determine which birds deserted and re-nested elsewhere and which laid replacement eggs in the same nest.) MKM

**A long distance colony shift by a Thick-billed Murre.** K. Kampp and K. Falk. 1998. *Colonial Waterbirds* 21:91-93. Zool. Mus., Universitetsparken 15, DK-2100, Copenhagen, Denmark. (A Thick-billed Murre, banded as a chick on Coats Island, Hudson Bay in 1989, was found nesting in a Greenland colony in 1997. This is the first documented breeding by this species in a colony in which it did not hatch and appears to be the longest documented move between colony sites by any alcid.) MKM

## **NON-NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS**

**Report on the 2000-2001 ringing year.** H. D. Oschadleus. 2001. *Afring News* 30:71-73. Avian Demogr. Unit, Dept. Stat. Sci., UCT, Rondebosch 7701, South Africa (Between 1 Jul 2000 and 30 Jun 2001, 82,792 birds were banded in southern Africa, up considerably from the previous year. Much of the increase was attributed to 20,000 penguins banded as part of an oil spill clean-up, while a thesis project accounted for nearly 1,500 Sociable Weavers. Tables document several aspects of banding effort and most-banded species.) MKM

**Report on recoveries received at SAFRING: July 2000-June 2001.** H. D. Oschadleus. 2001. *Afring News* 30:74-81. Avian Demogr. Unit, Dept. Stat. Sci., UCT, Rondebosch 7701, South Africa (From July 2000 to June 2001, 294 recoveries and 3914 retraps of 3425 birds banded and/or recovered in southern Africa or nearby islands were reported. Details of banding and recovery sites, age at recovery and distances between banding and recovery sites are provided for 44 species. None were banded or recovered in North America, but several of the species [Wandering Albatross, European Storm-Petrel, Common, Arctic, Sandwich and White-winged terns and Barn Swallow] occur regularly or occasionally in North America.) MKM

**Ringing summary for Uganda, March 1997 to December 2001.** M. Wilson. 2001. *Afring News* 30:82-84. Box 20085, Nakawa, Kampala, Uganda. (In an effort to band wintering migrants from the Palearctic, 10,014 birds of 275 species were banded at several sites in Uganda. A table lists the 19 most-banded species, 17 of which are migrants from the Palearctic. The two most frequently

caught to date are Barn and Bank swallows. Barn Swallows were also among the 11 species banded and re-trapped to date at the same site. Longevity records are also listed for nine species.) MKM

**The *Sylvia* program: first annual report of the Catalan Constant Effort Site Scheme (2000-01).** Grup Catala D'anellament. 2002. *Bird Populations* 6:35-50. Museu de Zoologia, Passeig Picasso sin 08003, Barcelona, Spain (During the 2000 breeding season, 7,413 birds of 98 species were captured and banded in mist-nets at 27 sites in north-eastern Spain as the start of a MAPS-style project there. During the winter of 2000-2001, 2,488 birds of 47 species were banded at 22 stations. Tables and analyses document the proportion of adult vs. immature birds among those of each species captured and compare these data with proportions captured at some of the stations in earlier years.) MKM

**Wrens rocketing and Robins bobbin'.** D. Balmer and C. Wernham. 2000. *Brit. Trust for Ornithol. News* 227:10-12. reprinted in *Bird Populations* 6:73-77, 2002. (Comparisons of results from 112 Constant Effort [Banding] Sites in Great Britain and Ireland in 1998 and 1999 indicated statistically significant increases in Sedge Warblers and [Winter] Wrens, but decreases in Chiffchaffs, Willow Warblers and Blue Tits. Percentage change in juveniles/adult indicated significant declines in productivity of Blackcaps but an increase in Common Redpolls.) MKM

**Willow Warblers in long-term decline.** D. Balmer, S. Freeman and C. Wernham. 2000. *Brit. Trust for Ornithol. News* 233:10-11; reprinted in *Bird Populations* 6:117-121, 2002. Data on changes in abundance of adults between 1999 and 2000 as determined from numbers of captures at 121 Constant Effort Sites in the British Isles are tabulated for 24 species and percentage changes between years determined for adult abundance and productivity. Long-tailed Tits and three warbler species showed statistically significant increase between years while Blackcaps and Willow Warblers declined. Blue Tits, Blackcaps and Willow Warblers showed overall increases in productivity, although both Blue Tits and Willow Warblers have been declining on a longer-term scale.) MKM

**Historical and seasonal changes in the community of forest birds at Longneck Lagoon Nature Reserve, Scheyville, New South Wales.** K. H. Egan, J. R. Farrell and D. L. Pepper-Edwards. 1997. *Corella* 21:1-16. 1 Bowman St., Mortdale, New South Wales 2223, Australia. (Banding data from 1965 to 1994, unfortunately without quantitative documentation of banding effort until 1992,

were combined with observational data to document avifaunal composition, seasonal changes and longer-term population changes. Banding recoveries revealed several short distance movements within the reserve and movement by a Sacred Kingfisher 1,588 km NNW to Queensland). MKM

**MKM** = Martin K. McNicholl



Double-crested Cormorant  
by George West