

2005

Cutting and forming hummingbird bands

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Recommended Citation

Sargent, Bob (2005) "Cutting and forming hummingbird bands," *North American Bird Bander*. Vol. 30 : Iss. 4 , Article 15.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/nabb/vol30/iss4/15>

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Table 1. Black-chinned Hummingbird Captures at Brown Ranch, Christoval, Tom Green Co., TX

Year	Total Banded	Young	Adults	Y:A	% Young
1997	240	30	210	1:7.0	12.5%
1998	355	83	272	1:3.3	23.4%
1999	447	111	336	1:3.0	24.8%
2000	358	129	227	1:1.8	36.2%
2001	293	107	186	1:1.7	36.5%
2002	384	147	237	1:1.6	38.3%
2003	517	114	4-3	1:3.5	22.1%
2004	369	110	250	1:2.4	20.8%
2005	504	163	341	1:2.1	32.3%

Table 2. Daily Sugar Consumption for Selected weeks at Brown Ranch, Christoval, Tom Green, Co. TX

Year	Lbs/Wk of 3 Jun	Lbs/Wk of 17 Jun	Lbs/Wk of 1 Jul	Lbs/Wk of 15 Jul	Total for Year
1996	4.2	5.0	3.8	4.2	550
1997	4.5	5.6	10.0	2.9	685
1998	6.3	7.1	4.2	4.2	684
1999	5.0	5.0	5.0	6.3	660
2000	6.3	3.1	4.2	4.2	685
2001	4.2	5.0	5.0	6.3	680
2002	2.1	1.7	5.0	5.0	540
2003	4.8	6.3	6.3	6.3	725
2004	7.1	9.4	14.3	5.4	825
2005	6.3	6.3	6.3	5.6	>650

Cutting and forming hummingbird bands. BOB SARGENT, Trussville, AL.

The process of making hummingbird bands is generally done by following a brief set of instructions that comes with the equipment when purchased. In view of the fact many banders learn to make bands with little or no assistance from others, this discussion will touch on techniques that have been used successfully by the author. Techniques to be discussed and demonstrated will be slicing the bands in strips of the proper width, finishing and properly smoothing the edges of newly cut band strips, cutting bands to proper lengths and the storage of finished bands for easy use. A discussion of brand names and sources of equipment will also be discussed. The negative implications of poorly made and improperly sized bands will be high on the list of topics. Negative

experiences encountered by the author will be demonstrated.

Russell trap installation. BRENT ORTEGO, Victoria, TX.

Procedure for erecting and managing a Russell Trap will be demonstrated.

"New" bonnet-style trap. BILL TAYLOR, Tucson, AZ.

BONNET TRAP—Brief Set-up and Operational Notes: (1) Hang from suitable limb or bracket and anchor docking lines to tent peg, rebar or suitable stationary ground fixture. Level of trap is adjusted by pulling on docking lines, beginning by shaking out attachment ring which will more or less find its own center. (2) Running lines with small ring should be drawn through guide ring on hanger and attached to operator's release line (not supplied). (3) Fill and place feeder base on Velcro attach points of the Base ring. Best results are when feeder base is identical in design to that on the feeders to which the birds are accustomed. A third eyebolt can be affixed to the attach plate inside the trap for hanging a feeder when the trap is tied and left open for any period of time when not in use. This allows birds to become accustomed to feeding from the trap; a dummy trap can be a useful alternative for extended periods of time. (4) Draw up curtain with skirt attached to a gap of approximately 4" - 5". Release when bird is centered in trap and/or feeding comfortably. The responsiveness of the trap can be enhanced by attaching approximately 6" - 8" of elastic with paper clips or hooks from the weight eyelets to the Base ring. The trap can be operated manually as above, or with a remote release; this has been found useful for conditions where crowds might interfere with trap release lines; and for intermittent or selective trapping. Significant safety and operational features of Bonnet Trap include the following: (1) NO wires inside curtain for birds to contact or with which to become entangled. (2) NO hanging feeders to encumber or exacerbate capture (optional). (3) Soft skirt with weight stops minimizing bird strikes on attempted escapes. Also reduces gap when operator's arm is inserted to retrieve bird. (4) Weights EXTERNAL to trap chamber; reduced to 3/4 oz. (20 g) each. (5) Component construction simplifies repairs or replacement of parts and curtain. (6) Interchange-