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Recent Literature

BANDING EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUES

Improving the success of a mounted Great Horned Owl lure for trapping Northern Goshawks. J. T. McCoskey and S. R. Dewey. 1999. *J. Raptor Res.* 33:168-169. Caesar Kleberg Wildl. Res. Inst., Campus Box 218, Texas A & M Univ., Kingsville, TX 78363 (A mounted owl held by a hooting person lying under camouflaged netting succeeded in capturing 15 goshawks in modified dho-gaza traps in Utah.) MKM

Organizing ringing groups. R. Geyser. 2000. *Safring News* 29:31-32. 345 Frederick Burger St., Erasmia, 0183, South Africa (Brief overview of activities of the bird-ringing sub-group of the Pretoria Bird Club and the advantages of organized banding groups.) MKM

Reflections on the use of colour-rings in southern Africa. S. E. Piper. 2000. *Safring News* 29:36-44. 2 Canal Dr., Westville, 3630, South Africa (Reviews suitability of color bands for studying different bird species [e.g., urohydrosis precludes use on vultures and storks] and different aspects of their life history [e.g., more appropriate for residents than migrants], study design criteria, practical aspects and examples of studies that could benefit from the use of color bands.) MKM

IDENTIFICATION, MOLTS, PLUMAGES, WEIGHTS AND MEASUREMENTS

Methods for gender determination of Crested Caracaras. J. L. Morrison and M. Maltbie. 1999. *J. Raptor Res.* 33:128-133. Dept. Biol., Colorado State Univ., Fort Collins, CO 80523 (High-molecular weight restriction fragments in DNA from blood of known-gender caracaras in Florida were reliable in determining their gender. Bill depth and wing length of males differed from those of females in 42 known-gender caracaras, but with overlap and no single morphometric measurement or group of measurements predicted gender reliably.) MKM

Warblers of reedbeds, marshes and bush. S. J. Tyler. 2000. *Safring News* 29:24-26. Rm. 106, DAHP, Private Bag 0032, Gabarone, Botswana

(Review of features useful for age and sex determination and identification of nine warbler species in southern Africa.) MKM

Moult and eclipse plumages of Malachite Sunbirds in the Free State. D. de Swardt. 2000. *Safring News* 29:27. Natl. Mus., Box 266, Bloemfontein, 9300, South Africa (Comments on monthly patterns of primary, secondary and tail molt and body mass, based on 303 males, 129 females and 112 unsexed individuals caught during a one-year period.) MKM

An introduction to primary moult. L. G. Underhill. 2000. *Safring News* 29:44-46. Avian Demogr. Unit, UCT, Rondebosche, 7701, South Africa (Brief overview, with table of "molt strategies" as classified by Jenni and Winkler for Europe.) MKM

NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS

Philopatry and nest site reuse by Burrowing Owls: implications for productivity. R. S. Lutz and D. L. Plumptre. 1999. *J. Raptor Res.* 33:149-153. Dept. Wildl. Ecol., 226 Russell Labs, 1630 Linden Dr., Madison, WI 53706 (Of 555 Burrowing Owls banded with color-anodized alpha-numeric aluminum bands as nestlings or adults in Colorado from 1990-1994, 513 [92%] were not re-encountered after the banding year and 42 [8%] returned a year or two after banding and remained for two to four years. Birds banded as adults returned at higher rates [19% for males and 14% for females] than those banded as nestlings [5%]. Adult females nested in formerly used nest-sites at a similar rate [75%] as adult males [63%]. Productivity of philopatric adults was similar to that of presumed newly arrived adults, but past brood size was greater for philopatric females than for females that changed nest-sites the next season. Females banded as nestlings that returned to nest on the study area did so after an absence of one year, whereas most males banded as nestlings that returned to nest on the study area did so the year after hatching.) MKM

Phenology of three raptor species in central Alberta based on nest banding records. L.

Priestley. 2005. *Blue Jay* 63:26-30. Beaverhill Bird Observ., Box 1418, Edmonton, AB T5J 2N5 (Laying and hatching dates of broods in 295 Red-tailed Hawks, 231 Swainson's Hawks and 358 Great Horned Owl nests in the vicinity of Edmonton, AB, from 1991 to 2003 were based on dates of banding young.) MKM

Swainson's Hawk longevity, colour banding and natal dispersal. C. S. Houston. 2005. *Blue Jay* 63:31-39. 863 University Dr., Saskatoon, SK S7N 0J8 (A table lists numbers of Swainson's Hawks banded by each of 20 banders in Saskatchewan between 1924 and 2001, years when each banded, their banding locations, and numbers recovered dead and alive subsequently. The recovery rate of 76 hawks banded between 1924 and 1955 was 18.4%, considerably higher than the 3.9% encounter rate of 4991 hawks banded between 1995 and 2001, especially considering that the latter figure includes recaptures of previously banded birds. Details of 12 birds found poisoned in Argentina are tabulated. Details of 17 hawks banded as nestlings anywhere in North America and recovered at 17 years or older are also tabulated and discussed, with a living 24 year-old bird in California, the oldest known to date. None of Houston's banded nestlings in a study area around Kindersley, SK, were recovered indisputedly within a year of banding, prompting him to construct a life history table based on recovery data. Recoveries suggest that younger birds return from South American wintering grounds later than older individuals. An eight-year color-banding study indicated that most birds breeding in the study area did not hatch locally, with only 23 of 684 color-banded birds encountered later. Data on natal dispersal within Alberta and Saskatchewan of Saskatchewan-banded nestlings are also tabulated and discussed.) MKM

Seasonal fecundity and nesting success of shrub-steppe passerines in altered habitats. W. M. Vander Haegen. 2000. *Northwest. Nat.* 81:89. Wash. Dept. Fish & Wildl., Olympia, WA 98501 (Color-banding was used on males of two unspecified species to estimate seasonal fecundity at weekly intervals. Abstract only.) MKM

Variation in selection of microhabitats by Merriam's Turkey brood hens. M. A. Rumble and S. H. Anderson. 1996. *Prairie Nat.* 28:175-188.

U.S.D.A. Forest Serv., Rocky Mtn. Forest & Range Exper. Stn., 501 East St. Joe, Rapid City, SD 57701 (After 36 brood hens were captured and radio-marked in South Dakota, locations of 18 were obtained at least once weekly between 28 Jun and 29 Sep. These data indicated that poults that selected open-shrub microhabitats were younger than those that selected forest microhabitats.) MKM

Survival and reproductive chronology of female Ring-necked Pheasants in South Dakota. A. P. Leif. 1996. S.D. Dept. Game, Fish & Parks, Box 915, Huron, SD 57350 (Annual, monthly, and activity-specific survival estimates were derived from 55 radio-tagged females captured in walk-in traps between 1990 and 1992. Of 55 hens tagged, 14 survived into a second year of data collection and three into a third.) MKM

The ultimate needle in a haystack! D. J. Matthews. 2005. *B.C. Birding* 15(1):13. address not given. (An adult female Rufous Hummingbird banded in Langley, BC, in Apr 2004 was retrapped north of Port Alberni on Vancouver Island, BC, in May 2004, weighing 0.1 gm. less than on the initial capture.) MKM

British Columbia bird records: August – November, 2004. D. G. Cecile. 2005. *B.C. Birding* 15(1):26-30. 7995 Wilson-Jackson Rd., Vernon, BC V1B 3N5 (A Brant observed in spring 2004 at Parksville, BC, had been color-banded over 5,000 km away in the Lena River delta of Russia in July 2003. A Chestnut-backed Chickadee banded on 2 Aug 1997 at Rocky Point Bird Observatory on southern Vancouver Island was recaptured there on 18 Sep 2004, providing a new longevity record of at least 8 years 2 months.) MKM

NON-NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS

Research, monitoring, and conservation of Neotropical migratory land birds in the West Indies. S. C. Latta, A. Tossas, A. Sutton, H. Gonzalez, P. B. Hamel, and D. DeSante. 2003. *J. Caribbean Ornithol.* 16:1-19. PRBO Conserv. Sci., 4990 Shoreline Hwy., Stinson Beach, CA 94970 (Mist-netting has been used at 34 localities in Cuba from 1988 to 1999 in conjunction with linear transects and point counts to assess the importance of specific areas and habitats to North

American migrants, with recaptures demonstrating considerable site fidelity among years. Similar wintering site fidelity by migrants has been found in mist-netting/banding studies in Jamaica, the Dominican Republic, and Puerto Rico, including color bands in the Dominican Republic.) MKM

Recent colonization of St. Martin by the Scaly-breasted Thrasher (*Margarops fuscus*). A. C. Brown and N. Collier. 2003. *J. Caribbean Ornithol.* 16:24-25. Environ. Protection in the Caribbean, 200 Dr. Martin Luther King Blvd., Riviera Beach, FL 33404 (Four adults and three first-year birds caught in mist-nets and banded during February and March 2002 helped document an expansion of this very localized Lesser Antilles thrasher, with at least 25 observed in one search. This species was considered "accidental" on St. Martin previously.) MKM

Bird records in a montane forest fragment of western Sierra de Neiba, Dominican Republic. C. C. Rimmer, J. Almone M., E. Garrido G., D. A. Mejia, M. Milagros P., and P. R. Wiczorek. 2003. *J. Caribbean Ornithol.* 16:55-60. Vermont Inst. Nat. Sci., 27023 Church Hill Rd., Woodstock, VT 05091 (Mist-netting at 1800-1900 m elevation in a montane forest during three days in Feb 2003 resulted in the capture of 57 birds of 12 species, all of which were banded except that six Hispaniolan Emeralds were tail-clipped and released.) MKM

Occurrence of an over-wintering Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Dendroica pensylvanica*) on St. Martin, Lesser Antilles. A. C. Brown and N. Collier. 2003. *J. Caribbean Ornithol.* 16:66-67. Environ. Protection in the Caribbean, 200 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Riviera Beach, FL 33404 (A second-year female captured in a mist-net and banded on 12 Feb 2002 was the first record on St. Martin.) MKM

Vlakplaats Wastewater Treatment Works: 30 years of birding history. P. van Eeden. 2000. *Safring News* 29:9-10. Box 13434, Norkem Park, South Africa 1631 (Banding in the middle 1970s contributed to documenting the importance to bird populations of a significant wetland area.) MKM

The excitement for a UK bird ringer of ringing in Botswana. S. J. Tyler. 2000. *Safring News* 29:10-11. Rm. 109, Private Bag 0032, Gaborone,

Botswana (The opportunistic nomadic to semi-nomadic nature of most species of birds in southern Africa is reflected in the fact that of 82 species included in the 3667 birds caught by the author between Mar 1966 and Feb 2000, only 24 have been captured in numbers of 20 or more. The few resident species have been recaptured frequently.) MKM

The importance of ringing for management of South Africa's seabird populations. R. J. M. Crawford and L. Staverees. 2000. *Safring News* 29:14-18. Marine & Coastal Mgmt., Private Bag X2, Roggebaai, 8012, South Africa (Banding is helping to determine the degree of inter-colony movements among South Africa's seabirds, monitor life history parameters, monitor population trends, and monitor effectiveness of conservation efforts.) MKM

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica* ringing in Bloemfontein, South Africa. R. Nuttall. 2000. *Safring News* 29:20-24. Natl. Mus., Box 266, Bloemfontein, 9300, South Africa (From 1998-2000, 7400 adult and first-year swallows were trapped in staggered mist-nets and banded at a roost of 40,000-50,000 birds. Also captured were 23 birds banded in five European countries. At least 11 of the banded birds have been recaptured the following year, while intra-season recaptures indicate that at least some swallows use the roost for at least 56 days.) MKM

Ringing in the new century. S. E. Piper. 2000. *Safring News* 29:28-30. 2 Canal Dr., Westview, 3630, South Africa (Outline of banding activities by scientists, conservationists, and amateurs in South Africa, with projections on future efforts, specific projects, and desirable directions.) MKM

Analysis of ringing records at Witsand. H. D. Oschaedleus and L. G. Underhill. 2000. *Safring News* 29:50-53. Avian Demogr. Unit, UCT, Rondebosch, 7701, South Africa (From 4-12 Mar 2000, 2656 of 91 species were banded at a site in the Northern Cape of South Africa. During the banding session, 176 birds were retrapped, 23% of which were Red Bishops and 20% were Whitebrowed Sparrowweavers. Two birds were also recovered in nearby areas after the project. Molt data from six colonies of Social Weavers are included.) MKM

MKM = Martin K. McNicholl