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Recent Literature

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Recent Literature

BANDING HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHIES

In Memoriam [:] Bruce William Duncan (1946-2006). R. Curry. 2007. *Ontario Birds* 25:36-40. 30-3115 New St., Burlington, ON L7N 3T6 (Biographical summary of the life of one of Ontario's leading bird-banders, conservationists and hawk watchers, who banded more than 17,000 raptors at Hawk Cliff in 17 years and served on the boards of several conservation and ornithological organizations. He was President of the Ontario Bird Banding Association, Editor of *Ontario Bird Banding* and author of numerous banding related notes and papers in *Ontario Bird Banding*, *Ontario Birds* and other serials.) MKM

EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUES

Radio-tagging the Eastern Bristlebird: methodology and effects. J. Baker and J. Clarke. 1999. *Corella* 23:25-32. Dept. Biol. Sci., Univ. of Wollongong, Wollongong, New South Wales 2522, Australia (Of 22 birds captured in mist-nets and radio-tagged, 19 produced useful data. The tags remained on the birds for one to 41 days [median 5.5]. Effects on the birds were noticeable, but usually less than one day in contrast to some previous studies in which trapped bristlebirds died during processing. A review of 23 studies of 31 species of small- to medium-sized birds fitted with small radio-tags suggested that effects of the tags were usually minimal, with an acclimation period of less than one day.) MKM

IDENTIFICATION, MOLTS, PLUMAGES, WEIGHTS AND MEASUREMENTS

Nikon photo quiz. G. Coady. 2007. *Ontario Birds* 25:44-47. 604-60 Mountview Ave., Toronto, ON M6P 2L4 (Photograph of first fall female Blackpoll Warbler and review of distinguishing features from other plumages and from other warbler species that occur in Ontario.) MKM

Leucistic birds in Ontario. B. Cherriere. 2007. *Ontario Birds* 25:113-176. 506-575 Queenston Rd., Hamilton, ON L8K 1K1 (Detailed descriptions of one Horned Grebe, one Red-necked Grebe, two Black-crowned Night-Herons and one immature American Kestrel, with excellent photographs of the Horned Grebe, one heron and the kestrel.) MKM

Nikon photo quiz. G. Coady. 2007. *Ontario Birds* 25:171-174. 604-60 Mountview Ave., Toronto, ON M6P 2L4 (Photograph of adult female Common Merganser and review of features distinguishing that plumage from those of female Red-breasted Mergansers and male mergansers in eclipse.) MKM

Plumage polymorphism and kleptoparasitism in the Arctic Skua *Stercorarius parasiticus*. T. Jones. 2002. *Atlantic Seabirds* 4:41-52. Address not included; e-mail: trevjones@hotmail.com (Although the proportion of dark-phase to light-phase Parasitic Jaegers in Europe is roughly clinal, the proportion of light-phase birds breeding on Handa Island, Scotland, is higher than expected for its position near the southern edge of its breeding range. Analysis of 1421 attacks on Common Murres there in 2000 revealed no differences between morphs in success rates of kleptoparasitic attacks, methods of attacks or response of murres to the attacks.) MKM

Distinguishing Black-legged Kittiwake mates at the nest-site using wing tip patterns. J. W. Chardine. 2002. *Atlantic Seabirds* 4:81-90. Box 6227, Sackville, NB E4L 1G6 (Variation in patterns of black and white in tips of kittiwake primaries in Prince Leopold Island, Nunavut, and two Newfoundland colonies were classified according to amount of white on the tip. Primaries 5 or 6 were the most variable among individuals, primaries 9 and 10 the least variable. The shape, number and position of black patches at the tips of primaries 5 and 6 varied among individuals, as did relative white spots on primaries 6 through 10. Patterns were consistent, though not identical, between molts. Eight of ten skins examined showed full left-right symmetry in wing-tip patterns.) MKM

Hybridization between Little Tern *Sterna albifrons* and Fairy Tern *Sterna nereis* in Botany Bay, New South Wales. G. A. Ross, K. Egan and D. Pridell. 1999. *Corella* 23:33-36. NSW Natl. Parks & Wildl Serv., Box 375, Kurnell, New South Wales, Australia 2231 (A female Little Tern and a male Fairy Tern hatched two eggs of a three-egg clutch during an expansion of the breeding range of Fairy Terns into that of Little Terns. Both adults were trapped in a circular clap-trap and banded. Weights and measurements of tarsus, wing and tail are given for both parents and other males and females of both species and details of plumages are described. The young were also banded, but were too similar in appearance to young of Little Terns in the same colony to ascertain whether or not they fledged unless they are recaptured in the future. Apparent hybrids have been observed in two other Australian states and may increase as the breeding ranges of both species are expanding.) MKM

Eye colour, aging, and decoy trap bias in Lesser Scaup. M. Fast, R. G. Clark, R. W. Brook, P. L. F. Fast, J.-M. Devink and S. W. Leach. 2008. *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 122:21-28. Dept. Biol., Univ. Saskatchewan, 112 Science Place, Saskatoon, SK S7N 5E2 (Adult female scaup aged by eye-color at a distance at study sites in Saskatchewan and Northwest Territories were found to be misidentified frequently as yearlings when checked by aging in the hand, whereas yearling females were aged correctly. Distance from the observer, observation quality and cloud cover did not influence age determination at a distance. A larger proportion of scaup captured in decoy traps were males than the proportion observed in the field. Decoy-trapped females had lower body masses and were more likely to be yearlings than females that were shot.) MKM

NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS

Satellite tracking and recovery of a Marbled Godwit at the Last Mountain Lake National Wildlife Area, May-September 2006. R. D. Dickson and P. S. Taylor. 2009. *Blue Jay* 67:68-76. Last Mountain Lake Natl. Wildl. Area, Box 280,

Simpson, SK S0G 4M0 (An adult female godwit fitted with colored leg bands and a solar-powered radio transmitter in Utah in April 2006 flew from the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge, UT, on 30 Apr, arriving at Old Wives Lake Migratory Bird Sanctuary, SK, approximately 1100 km NE on 1 May. The bird moved another 150 km NE to Last Mountain Lake the next day. After nesting, the bird failed to leave the area, and the transmitter and bands were found with its skeleton after a prolonged search.) MKM

Colony distribution and nest numbers of Double-crested Cormorants on the upper St. Lawrence River, 1991-2007. D.V.C. Weseloh, I. Mazzocchi, T. Havelka, L. Harper, J. Farquhar III, C. Pekarik and B. Andres. 2007. *Ontario Birds* 25:142-154. Can. Wildl. Serv. -Ont. Region, 4905 Dufferin St., Toronto, ON M3H 5T4 (Cormorants color-banded on Little Galloo Island, NY, have been observed at St. Lawrence River colonies in years when they have been harassed at Little Galloo Island.) MKM

Ontario Bird Records Committee report for 2008. I. M. Richards. 2009. *Ontario Birds* 27:58-79. 2230 Heidi Ave., Burlington, ON L7M 3W4 (A male Barnacle Goose shot in Nov 2005 had been banded as a juvenile in Scotland in Nov 2004. The band provided evidence that this was a truly wild bird, the first Ontario record that was definitely not an escapee from captivity. Previously applied color bands on a pair of Piping Plovers at Sauble Beach helped document nesting chronology and chick fate there and a color band on one of another pair that appeared for one day only helped document that these were different birds. Photos of a hand-held Bell's Vireo and a hand-held Townsend's Warbler at Thunder Cape suggest that banding operations helped document these extralimital records.) MKM

The southern expansion and urbanization of the Merlin in Ontario [:] Nesting Merlins in Waterloo Region, 2008. B. Read and W. G. Wilson. 2009. *Ontario Birds* 27:80-107. 24 Brant Place, Cambridge, ON N1S 2V8 (When two of four young at a nest in Cambridge, ON, were grounded in a site considered dangerous after flying from the nest,

they were taken into captivity overnight, banded and released the next morning. The bands helped document their subsequent development and compare their interactions with those of their siblings.) MKM

Management implications of molt migration by the Atlantic Flyway resident population of Canada Geese, *Branta canadensis*. S. E. Sheaffer, R. A. Malecki, B. L. Swift, J. Dunn and K. Scribner. 2007. *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 121:313-320. Dept. Nat. Resources, Cornell Univ., Ithaca, NY 14853 (In 2001 and 2003, 27 adult female Canada Geese were captured in New York and six New England states and fitted with satellite-tracked transmitters during the nesting season. Three of these did not nest and the nests of the other 24 were destroyed late in incubation to prevent re-nesting. Twelve of the birds migrated to northern Quebec, reaching areas along the coasts of Hudson and James bays and in the interior area of Ungava and they remained there from Jun through Sep. The other 14 marked birds remained within 60 km of their capture sites throughout the molting period. This dichotomy of behaviors complicates management efforts in the region, where growing goose populations are eliciting public demands for population control.) MKM

Lesser Snow Geese, *Chen caerulescens caerulescens*, and Ross's Geese, *Chen rossii*, of Jenny Lind Island, Nunavut. R.H. Kerbes, K.M. Meeres, J.E. Hines and D.G. Kay. 2008. *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 122:34-39. Ducks Unlimited Canada, 200-10720 178 St., Edmonton, AB T5S 1J3 (Birds captured for banding helped provide data on productivity of Snow, Ross's and Lesser Canada geese as well as document the changing proportion of blue phase among Snow and Ross's geese during attempts to estimate populations and population trends of these species from 1988 to 2006.) MKM

The race! The spring 2007 Peregrine Falcon race north from Colombia to Alberta. G. Holroyd and H. Trefry. 2008. *Nature Alberta* 38(1):32-36. Can. Wildl. Serv., Environ. Canada, Rm. 200, 4999-98 Ave., Edmonton, AB T6B 2X3 (Details of

movements of two satellite-transmitted female Peregrines from Colombia to Calgary or Edmonton, including notes on distances moved and routes covered. The transmitter on the Edmonton female also helped document a conflict between her and a new female that had arrived at the same nest-site and eventually usurped the previous female from this site.) MKM

The Evening Grosbeak. R. Alison. 2008. *Nature Alberta* 38(1):37-39. [address not included]. (In a review of declines of Evening Grosbeaks in Alberta, notes David Prescott's analysis of 35 years of banding data, showing that males tend to winter farther north than females and mentions recoveries of Ohio-banded grosbeaks in MA and NH.) MKM

NON-NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS

Colony size, adult survival rates, productivity and population projections of Black-legged Kittiwakes *Rissa tridactyla* on Fair Isle. P. Rothery, M.P. Harris, S. Wanless and D.N. Shaw. 2002. *Atlantic Seabirds* 4:17-28. Centre for Ecol. & Hydrol., Monks Wood, Abbots Ripton, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, PE28 2LS, England (Annual resightings of 177 birds color-banded on South Gunnawark Island and 91 color-banded on Goorn Island suggested an annual survival of adults of 86% between 1986 and 1996, 51.6% in 1997 and low rates in 1998. Survival from fledging to recruitment was estimated at 20%, with age of first breeding four-five years.) MKM

Effect of food shortage on the reproductive output of Common Eiders *Somateria mollissima* breeding at Griend (Wadden Sea). R. Oosterhuis and K. Van Duk. 2002. *Atlantic Seabirds* 4:29-38. Kluisat 14, 9732 EM Groningen, The Netherlands (Of about 300 dead eiders found on Griend, an island in the Dutch Wadden Sea, in 1999 or 2000, six had been banded previously [1979-1985] as chicks at three Wadden Sea sites, one had been as a chick in Denmark in 1995 and one as a chick in Finland in 1999.) MKM

Movements of Yellow-legged Gulls *Larus [cachinnans] michahellis* from two small western Mediterranean colonies. A. Martinez-Abrain, D. Oro, J. Carda and X. Del Senor. 2002. *Atlantic Seabirds* 4:101-108. Instituto Mediterraneo de Estudios Avanzados (CSIC-UIB), Miquel Marques 21, 07190 Esporles, Mallorca, Spain (Observations and recoveries of 1411 gulls banded as chicks from 1993 to 2001 [471 with color bands] in two small colonies along the eastern and southeastern Mediterranean Iberian coasts indicate that these birds follow the same migratory routes as gulls from other western Mediterranean colonies. After fledging, some gulls move to the Atlantic coast of France and Iberia while others remain close to natal colonies. One- and two-year-olds return to the vicinity of their natal colonies. Longer range movements to productive areas of the Atlantic appear related to periods of food shortage in the Mediterranean, with adults doing shorter-term long-range movements than younger birds.) MKM

Common Guillemots *Uria aalge* successfully rear a Razorbill *Alca torda* chick. M.P. Harris and L.J. Wilson. 2002. *Atlantic Seabirds* 4:123-126. Centre for Ecol. & Hydrol., CEH Banchory, Hill of Brathens, Banchory, Kincardineshire AB314BW, Scotland, UK. (A nest of a color-banded and an unbanded Common Murre was apparently usurped by an unbanded Razorbill pair. The murre egg disappeared, but the Razorbills were apparently displaced by the murre pair. They incubated a Razorbill egg and produced a chick, which apparently fledged in spite of growing more slowly than most murre eggs. The color-banded male murre had bred successfully at this site for several years.) MKM

Recruitment to the breeding group in the Black-legged Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla*. J. Coulson. 2002. *Atlantic Seabirds* 4:141-142. 29 St. Mary's Close, Sheincliffe Village, DH1 2ND, Durham City, UK. (Critique of paper by Rothery *et al.* [abstracted above], citing banding evidence indicating much more inter-colony movement among European colonies than implied in their paper. A reply by

Rothery *et al.* is also included [*Atlantic Seabirds* 4:142, 2002]. MKM

Recovery of Curlew Sandpiper from China. S.G. Lane. 1999. *Corella* 23:32. 66 Fairview Rd., Moonee, via Coffs Harbour, New South Wales, Australia. (A sandpiper banded in New South Wales in November 1977 was recovered in China in December 1979, 8,967 km NNW of the banding site. The band was turned in to banding authorities in 1998, 19 years after its recovery.) MKM

Breeding of Australian White Ibis, Straw-necked Ibis and Silver Gulls on Winter Swamp, Ballarat from 1990-1997. B. Kentish. 1999. *Corella* 23:37-42. Centre for Environ. Manage., Box 663, Ballarat, Victoria 3353, Australia (Numbers of ibis pulli banded annually increased 6.8 times from 1990 to 1996. Number of ibis pulli banded each month was used as a measure of breeder effort. Between 1991 and 1995, numbers of pulli banded increased 15 times.) MKM

Quail that go bump in the night. M.M. Crowther and K.W. Crowther. 1999. *Corella* 23:43-47. Post Office, Darymple Heights, Eungella, Queensland, 4757, Australia. (After flights of button-quails and quails were discovered to occur, primarily between 22:00 and 24:00, on foggy or drizzly nights in towns of relatively high elevation in Australia, the authors caught, measured and banded 200 birds of four button-quail and two quail species, with Red-backed Button-quail the most caught [156] from 1990 to 1998. Mist-netting was found to be too cumbersome, the birds being caught readily in hand-nets and sometimes by hand. Tables indicate numbers of each gender of each species caught, with means and ranges of masses, head + bill lengths and wing chords summarized for three button-quail and one quail species.) MKM

MKM= Martin K. McNicholl

