

2010

## Atlantic Flyway Review: Spring 2009 Bedford Valley

Janet Shaffer

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/nabb>

---

### Recommended Citation

Shaffer, Janet (2010) "Atlantic Flyway Review: Spring 2009 Bedford Valley," *North American Bird Bander*. Vol. 35 : Iss. 2 , Article 18.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/nabb/vol35/iss2/18>

This Eastern News is brought to you for free and open access by the Searchable Ornithological Research Archive at Digital Commons @ University of South Florida. It has been accepted for inclusion in North American Bird Bander by an authorized editor of Digital Commons @ University of South Florida. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@usf.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@usf.edu).

egg in her oviduct, that was originally a HY in 2002. We have followed her progress each year as she nests in the same spot. She feels like an old friend! Our largest daily catch was 47 birds on 19 May, and 8 May was the day with most species diversity (14).

<u>No.</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>% SY</u>	<u>% ASY</u>	<u>% AHY</u>
81	Gray Catbird	86	14	0
67	American Goldfinch	70	30	0
25	Common Yellowthroat	68	32	0
20	Black-capped Chickadee	80	10	10
19	Pine Siskin	79	16	5
17	Song Sparrow	47	12	41
11	Myrtle Warbler	73	27	0
11	Northern Cardinal	54	0	45
10	Prairie Warbler	80	20	0
10	Slate-colored Junco	70	30	0

An exciting new species captured for the first time this year was a Worm-eating Warbler on 25 Apr. Surprisingly, we captured both Tree and Barn swallows this year for the first time even though they have been observed around our nets since banding began in 2000. We also captured a Scarlet Tanager this spring, previously banding them only in the fall. An irruptive year for Pine Siskins enabled us to band quite a few of them this season.

An interesting capture was that of a chickadee with a dried grapevine wrapped around its leg. I can only speculate that the vine had grown around the bird's leg as it slept. It was very difficult to remove! A Gray Catbird and Common Yellowthroat presented with avian pox and a Yellow Warbler had scaly leg.

We continue to cooperate with the Landbird Migration Monitoring Network and the Center for Tropical Research in California pulling feathers and swabbing birds for avian flu. A paper was submitted to *NABB* on our findings from larval ticks pulled from birds and this year we began relieving birds of their tick burden for Yale University. Thanks very much to banders Gretchen

Putonen and Carolyn Kennedy and assistants Antonia Stephens, Peter Brown, and Tom Burgess, along with many others for helping this spring.

### **Bedford Valley**

**395-0783**

Bedford, Bedford County, PA

**Janet Shaffer, Bander**

[jgshaffer@yellowbananas.com](mailto:jgshaffer@yellowbananas.com)

Banding results for spring 2009 were pretty typical of this station. Almost half the birds encountered were repeats, from previous years, or earlier bandings. Weather was definitely a factor. I noted that on at least 15 occasions, rain prevented opening or caused early closing. Several times high winds or low temperatures were cited as problems. Thanks to Al Geis's son Dean, I was given some nets in good condition after Al passed away.

<u>No.</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>% SY</u>	<u>% ASY</u>	<u>% AHY</u>
19	Chipping Sparrow	0	0	100
14	American Goldfinch	35	28	35
13	Gray Catbird	7	0	92
8	House Wren	0	0	100
8	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	0	0	100

Warblers banded included Myrtle, American Redstart, Common Yellowthroat, Northern Parula, Northern Waterthrush, Yellow, and Mourning. A Veery banded on 12 May was the first ever for this station. A Great Crested Flycatcher was the first in many years. A pair of Wood Thrush were netted twice and Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Purple Finch, and Northern Parula were banded and obviously nesting in the area. Efforts to control invasive plant species has meant the 3-ac field has not been suitable to species such as Field Sparrow, Indigo Bunting, and Common Yellowthroat.

In many cases, only one or two individuals of a particular species were banded. Chipping Sparrows usually are the most common each year. If feeders are maintained, goldfinch and House Finch may be caught frequently. Unfortunately feeders had to be brought in nightly, due to bear visits.