

## GENERAL NOTES

**Cowbird with Tuberculosis.**—Recent experience with a Cowbird (*Molothrus a. ater*) may be of interest. On May 5th last, a male and female Cowbird were taken together in my drop-door trap No. 3, the female receiving band No. 580811 and the male No. 580812. This pair of Cowbirds repeated in the same trap on June 24th, and another male was noted hanging around the outside of the trap when I went out to get the pair. The female alone repeated again on June 25th. On July 25th a near neighbor brought in the male Cowbird, No. 580812, which had been found in a pony stable on his place and seemed unable to fly. The left side of the breast bulged very noticeably. We kept this bird in a cage over night where it partook readily of water and a mixture of hemp, canary, and millet seed. The next morning it seemed so much better and was making such efforts to escape from the cage that it was released early in the forenoon. The same evening (July 26th) it was returned to us by the same neighbor, having been again found in close proximity to the stable. Its evident condition was such that we returned it to the cage, where it showed less interest in food and water. During the next day or so, it was observed less and less seldom to pay any attention to food or water, and on July 28th, in mid-afternoon, it was found to have died.

The bird, in accordance with my recent practice, was forwarded by first-class Special Delivery to Dr. C. B. Hudson, Poultry Pathologist, New Jersey State Experiment Station, New Brunswick, New Jersey. He has just made the following report to me:

"The specimen which you sent in has been examined and found to have tuberculosis. This is rather an important finding in that tuberculosis has not been reported to have been found in wild birds. We will probably publish a note on this finding, in which case we will send you a reprint. I wish to thank you for sending in this specimen."—B. S. BOWDISH, Demarest, New Jersey, August 7, 1928.

**Some Catbird and Brown Thrasher Nesting Data.**—The following records have to do with two years' experiences with nesting Catbirds *Dumetella carolinensis* and Brown Thrashers (*Toxostoma rufum*) in Riverside Park, Indianapolis, Indiana. The nests of all the Brown Thrashers were placed close to the edge of a lagoon or on an island therein. It will be noted that the Thrashers show no tendency to remate on succeeding years, though the adults return to the place where they were banded. In the case of this species it is too early to see whether the fledglings also return.

In the case of the Catbirds, however, one pair which raised two broods in 1926 returned in 1927, mated for the second year, and raised a brood within a few feet of their former ones in the same clump of syringa. The details follow:

July 20, 1926. Catbird 166026 and Catbird 166030 nested and raised brood of two fledglings (166043 and 166044) in small tree. No. 166030 was retrapped thirty feet away in a syringa clump at nest mated with 172727 on July 2, 1928. This pair raised three fledglings (172728, 172729, and 172730).

Catbird 476814 was mated with Catbird 356968 on June 16, 1927, and brought off four fledglings (476811, 476812, 476813, 356969) in a syringa clump. No. 356968 was trapped on June 21, 1928, mated with Catbird 579504, ten feet from former nest in an adjoining clump of osier dogwood, where the nest contained four fledglings (627064, 627065, 627066, 627067).

Catbird 146857 and Catbird 146858 nested in a syringa clump, where

they and a brood of two (166018 and 166019) were banded June 6, 1926. The same pair of adults built again in the same clump and raised three young (166033, 166034, and 166035) in July, 1926, banded July 11, 1926. On June 23, 1927, the same pair was retrapped, still mated, at their nest a few feet from the former ones in the same clump, where the fledglings were banded with numbers 476804, 476805, and 356971.

*Brown Thrashers*

1925

357021 adult ♀ }  
357022 " ♂ } mates, banded July 13th.  
(Fledglings 357001)

1926

357022 adult ♂ }  
357932 " ♀ } mates, banded, May 19th  
(Fledglings 357921  
357925  
357926  
357927)

357932 adult ♀ }  
467866 " ♂ } mates (2d brood for 357932), banded July 14th  
(Fledglings 360197  
360198)

357022 adult ♂ }  
— " ♀ } mates (2d brood for 357022), banded July 20th  
(Fledgling 339259)

SAMUEL E. PERKINS III, Indianapolis, Indiana.

**Interesting Banding Totals from Milford, New Hampshire.**—

Mr. James P. Melzer, of Milford, New Hampshire, sends some unusual banding records for the winter season of 1927–28. His totals for four species were: Purple Finches, two hundred and fifty-six; Goldfinches, seventy-six; Chickadees, thirty-one; and Siskins, seventeen.

The number of Chickadees banded in a single season is especially noteworthy and appears to indicate a concentration in a given locality. The details of the grouping of these thirty-one birds from day to day would be of interest.

Wintering Goldfinches to the number of seventy-six is another rather unexpected number of this species wintering in the latitude of Milford, and so, too, is the abundance of Purple Finches. In Peterboro, New Hampshire, seventeen miles northwest of Milford, we have noted that Purple Finches and Goldfinches have not been seen during the winter-time for the last five years.—C. L. W.

**Purple Finch Recovery.**—One of the more than five hundred Purple Finches we banded in the winter of 1922–1923, No. 67518, was banded at Demarest, February 6, 1923, and trapped by W. H. Moore at Glassville, New Brunswick, Canada, June 14, 1928.—B. S. BOWDISH, Demarest, New Jersey, July 20, 1928.

**A Cowbird Recovery.**—A Cowbird (*Molothrus a. ater*) banded by me in Cohasset, Massachusetts, May 5, 1926, was shot by Mrs. P. Blew at Bridgeton, New Jersey, August 9, 1928.—L. B. FLETCHER.

**A Common Tern Recovery.**—Mr. Charles B. Floyd reports that a Common Tern, a nestling, banded by him at Tern Island, Chatham, Massachusetts, July 5, 1927, was killed by Dr. Passerieux at Colonial Hospital, Cayenne, French Guiana, December 20, 1927.