

**Tree Swallow Mates With Son.**—In 1938 the adult Tree Swallows (*Iridoprocne bicolor* (Vieillot)) occupying box No. 3, edge of meadow, were 37-69318, male, banded June 16, 1937, and 38-59917, female, banded June 10, 1938. This pair of birds raised five nestlings. These were banded on June 17, 1938, with bands 38-89818—22.

Except for a record of the finding dead of 38-89818 on June 29, 1938, which must have been very soon after it left the nest, no records were made by members of this brood until June 9, 1942, when 38-89822, male, was trapped in box No. 3, edge of meadow, the same box he was born in. Trapped with him on that date was 38-59917, female, his own mother, who had raised him in the same location four years previously.

This unusual mating resulted in six eggs being laid, five of which ultimately hatched, the young being banded on June 9, 1942.—EDWIN A. MASON, Wharton Bird Banding Station, Groton, Massachusetts.

**Six-Year Old Tree Swallow.**—Returning for the fourth time on June 12 1942, Tree Swallow 37-69318, banded June 16, 1937, as an adult male, automatically records its age as being at least six years.—EDWIN A. MASON, Wharton Bird Banding Station, Groton, Massachusetts.

**Eight-Year Old Barn Swallow.**—Going out after adult Barn Swallows (*Hirundo erythrogaster* Boddaert) at night with flash light and hand net, is always high adventure. The very atmosphere of the becobwebbed barns, silent and dark except for the rhythmic grinding of cattle chewing their cud, occasionally punctuated by the metallic noises of rattled stanchions and halter chains, is strange and uncanny. From your position high above these sounds in the deep darkness near the roof, the un-reality is still further heightened as the piercing beam of a flashlight stabs the blackness to illuminate fluttering forms moving back and forth a few feet over your head. One by one the birds are netted and placed in gathering cages. After repeated check-ups reveal there are no further lurkers in corners and behind beams, the party sits down to band the new birds and record the returns captured. Thus it was that on June 13, 1942, the light of a flashlight made it possible to slowly intone "34-88541." As the age of the bird was realized by the serial prefix, the number was repeated and doubly checked. Banded on July 1, 1935, as an adult female, this bird was at least eight years old when it was taken this year for the sixth time in the same barn it was originally banded in.—EDWIN A. MASON, Wharton Bird Banding Station, Groton, Massachusetts.

**A Northern Blue Jay in its Ninth Winter.**—On December 30, 1934, I trapped and banded a Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata cristata*), at my bird banding station near McMillan, Luce Co., Mich., to which I gave band number 34-333164. The next time this bird was trapped was on December 21, 1942; thus it lacked only nine days of being eight years since the time of banding.

This bird is now in at least its ninth winter, and it is the oldest of the Blue Jays that I have banded up to this time. At my station I have also recovered a Snow Bunting No. L 73527, in its ninth year (see *Bird-Banding*, Oct. 1941).

Of the birds that I have trapped at my station, this Blue Jay holds the record also for the longest period of time between dates of capture, which is nearly eight years. In reading this bird's band number, I noticed that the band was open nearly enough to drop off and that it was very thin. I closed the band and also put a new one (number 41-306629) on the other leg, in case it should be retaken without its first band. It will also be interesting to see how long this old band will last.