



CLEVELAND REGION

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The Cleveland Museum of Natural History
and
The Kirtland Bird Club

THE CLEVELAND REGION

The Circle Has A Radius of 30 Miles Based on Cleveland Public Square

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 Beaver Creek | 30 Lake Rockwell |
| 2 North Amherst | 31 White City |
| 3 Lorain | 32 Euclid Creek Reservation |
| 4 Black River | 33 Chagrin River |
| 5 Elyria | 34 Willoughby |
| 6 LaGrange | Waite Hill |
| 7 Avon-on-the-Lake | 35 Sherwin Pond |
| 8 Clague Park | 36 Gildersleeve |
| 9 Clifton Park | 37 North Chagrin Reservation |
| 10 Rocky River | 38 Gates Mills |
| 11 Cleveland Hopkins Airport | 39 South Chagrin Reservation |
| 12 Medina | 40 Aurora Lake |
| 13 Hinckley Reservation | 41 Aurora Sanctuary |
| 14 Edgewater Park | 42 Mantua |
| Perkins Beach | 43 Mentor Headlands |
| 15 Terminal Tower | 44 Mentor Marsh |
| 16 Cleveland Public Square | 45 Black Brook |
| Cuyahoga River | Headlands State Park |
| 17 Brecksville Reservation | 46 Fairport Harbor |
| 18 Akron | 47 Painesville |
| Cuyahoga Falls | 48 Grand River |
| 19 Akron Lakes | 49 Little Mountain |
| 20 Gordon. Park | Holden Arboretum |
| Illuminating Co. plant | 50 Corning Lake |
| 21 Doan Brook | |
| 22 Natural Science Museum | |
| Wade Park | |
| 23 Baldwin Reservoir | 51 Stebbin's Gulch |
| 24 Shaker Lakes | 52 Chardon |
| 25 Lake View Cemetery | 53 Burton |
| 26 Forest Hill Park | 54 Punderson Lake |
| 27 Bedford Reservation | 55 Fern Lake |
| 28 Hudson | 56 LaDue Reservoir |
| 29 Kent | 57 Spencer Wildlife Area |



CLEVELAND METROPOLITAN
PARK SYSTEM



PORTAGE ESCARPMENT
(800-foot Contour Line)

THE CLEVELAND BIRD CALENDAR

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THE WEATHER

June -The month was generally warmer than normal during the first 18 days and cooler than normal during last 12 days with the result temperatures averaged barely warmer than normal.

Precipitation totaled 4.98 inches which was 1.55 inches in excess, part of which was provided by cloudbursts and flooding on the 21st and 24th when rainfall measured 1.08 and 1.24 inches respectively.

July Cooler than normal days exceeded warmer than normal days by one day so that the month balanced out with a normal temperature average.

Precipitation was well scattered during the month and totaled 4.14 inches — in excess by 0.83 inches.

August- Overall, the month was excessively dry. Temperatures averaged less than 0.5 degrees cooler than normal.

Measurable rainfall occurred on only three days. Of these days, the 0.05 inches on the 16th was barely significant and the precipitation on the 19th and 23rd accounted for the bulk of the rainfall. The total precipitation of 0.92 inches was in deficit by 2.36 inches.

COMMENT ON THE SEASON

Although there were sightings during the summer season that were momentous, observer reports indicated for the most part a consensus of “commonplace”.

Shorebirds. The arrival of Semipalmated Sandpipers at White City on July 17 (Hocevar) introduced the shorebird migration but the numbers were scanty and appearances were fleeting. A tally of 20 Sanderlings was made at Fairport Harbor on the 22nd, a rather early date (Hammond). This year the “dumping basins behind Burke Lakefront Airport, difficult of access and observation, appeared to be a favorable gathering and holding area” (Klamm).

Two uncommon migrants were sighted at White City during August: Willets (Hocevar) and a Baird’s Sandpiper (Carrothers and Gaede) (for details see Noteworthy Records section).

Gulls and Terns Make Reluctant Return. “Only the Ring-billed Gull was present in any number by July 1 with non-breeding birds being dominant. Infiltration was slow but continuous during July, with the exception of Herring Gulls, which did not arrive until after mid-July and then in small numbers. A major influx for all species was dramatic in the first eight days of August but the almost total absence of Bonaparte’s Gulls prior to this period was somewhat unusual -- their population became normal in this influx period.

Terns, often evident on the wing, were not found in readily observable loafing haunts but concentrations were noted in the airport basins which were probably the only regularly utilized places” (Klamm).

Nighthawks and Swifts. The first movement of Common Nighthawks was reported on August 19 from Waite Hill, where 26 birds were feeding together with about 50 actively feeding Chimney Swifts between 7:50 and 8:15 PM (Flanigan). A count of 60 to 70 birds was made on the same evening in Lakewood, where Nighthawk activity was also noted each evening during the week of August 23, beginning about 7:00 PM and continuing until dark. The largest concentration occurred on the evening of the 25th and comprised about 175 birds. At times Purple Martins were circling together with the Nighthawks, and then again passed directly through the milling birds and headed southward. The Martins were relatively few, numbering a dozen birds one night to a maximum of 35 birds another evening (Stasko).

Also on August 25 more than 75 Nighthawks were active at Pepper Pike at 7:15 PM (English) and 31 were tallied at Forest Hill Park (Newman). A count was made of 50 at Warrensville Heights on the following day as they circled about, heading

generally in a westerly direction, at altitudes varying from tree top to 200 feet (Peskin). At Forest Hill Park 58 Nighthawks were noted on the 27th (Newman) and 20 were observed over Upper Shaker Lake on the 30th (Knight).

According to a regular observer, "Nighthawk migration, mostly from west to east-northeast over Lakewood, was confined to a three-day period of moderate strength. A total of 216 birds passed between 8:00 and 8:30 PM on August 26 -- the following day flights moved between 7:30 and 9:00 PM and totaled 839 -- on the 28th all flights passed in the 7:30-7:55 PM period and totaled only 70 birds" (Klamm).

Only one concentration of Chimney Swifts was reported, numbering 100, at Elyria on August 16 (Johnson) although small numbers were noted on the move in late August.

Bank Swallows Gather. Large numbers of Bank Swallows gathered on two sections of utility wires in the northern section of Mentor-on-the-Lake on July 12. They arrived at 5:30 each morning thereafter -- by 9:30 AM they were all scattered. At the peak of the gathering they numbered well over 1,000 birds, sometimes struggling for position, as they were in close formation on as many as five wires. On July 23 there were 300 birds present. The next day all were gone (Booth).

Brown Creeper Reported Through Summer. As reported in the 1969 Summer issue there is growing evidence the Brown Creeper is becoming a regular, though uncommon, summer resident. This species continued to be seen through the 1970 season although no nest was found this year. Single individuals were observed on June 1 and 7 near Chardon and observations were reported from the same area on August 16 and 23 (Spare). [August dates are extremely rare. - Ed] Two birds were observed at North Chagrin Reservation on June 6 as they flew to the trunk of a sycamore tree together and touched bills briefly before flying off (Sahli). Three birds were present at the same time on June 28 at Carlisle Reservation, Lorain County (Johnson). On July 10 a lone bird was noted at Deep Lock Quarry, Peninsula (Hocavar) and one was reported from Mentor Marsh on the 24th (Hammond).

Mockingbird Repeats 1969 Performance. The Mockingbird that nested in Willoughby Hills during 1969 is now regarded as a resident bird since it remained through the 1969-70 winter and began nesting activity again in early April. Since they are engaged in multiple nestings this season also and a nesting is in progress as the summer season ends a complete report will be made in the Autumn Issue (Carrothers, Reutter, Silliman),

A Mockingbird that sang frequently from the same grove of trees at Highland Cemetery was found on twelve dates between

June 14 and August 12 (Knight). A singing bird was observed at Seneca Golf Course, Brecksville, during June and again on August 7 (Jerry Piskac fide Knight).

White-eyed Vireo Summered in Rocky River Reservation. A White-eyed Vireo was found on June 8 in a thicket frequented by Catbirds and Brown Thrashers at Rocky River Reservation and thereafter it was usually located by its calls. The bird was also sighted on July 3, 5, 18, and August 2, and was heard calling, but not seen by the observers, on three other occasions (Stasko). A singing White-eyed Vireo was observed on August 7 at French Creek Reservation, Lorain County (Johnson). These August records are only the second and third in the history of the region.

Warbler Migration Makes Early Beginning. On August 8 the first transient warbler, a Blackpoll, appeared at Waite Hill matching the early fall date of arrival set in 1941 (Flanigan). At Boston Ledges, Peninsula, two Black and White and single Blackburnian and Blackpoll Warblers were found on the 13th (Knight). By the 18th the migration was fairly regular at Waite Hill where a daily survey was made which resulted in a tally of 17 transient species by August 31 -- more than twice the number of species recorded in any previous August. Twelve species were recorded on the 30th which was the highest count of any given day (Flanigan).

Nashville Warbler Returns to Stebbins Gulch. As reported in the CALENDAR a singing male Nashville Warbler was studied in Stebbins Gulch after its discovery on June 4, 1969. It was not until June 24 that the female bird was sighted, at which time she was feeding a fledgling Brown-headed Cowbird. On April 19 of this year a Breeding-Bird Census map was made of the same area which was to be covered on subsequent trips in order to ascertain the status of the Nashville Warbler and other species that had been studied in 1969.

On May 19 a Nashville was found singing when the territory which it had occupied in 1969 was reached -- in fact in the exact spot where it was first discovered. On the 22nd it again was on this territory and during one five-minute interval delivered its song nine times. When the bird was observed on the 29th it was actively feeding in the usual area and several times the crown patch was clearly visible as it ranged at a low level. No Nashville was heard or seen on the June 5 trip to the Gulch. One lone song was heard on the 9th but it was heard several hundred feet from the area occupied heretofore, and this was the last indication I had of its presence (Flanigan).

On June 6 when a conducted walk was in progress through the Gulch a Nashville Warbler was encountered and was observed

by the group (Bole, Jr.). [It was seen within several hundred feet of the site of all my observations. - Ed.] On July 3, a male Nashville which appeared tired after a summer storm, was observed as it rested near a residence in Kirtland Hills (Barbara Webster fide Flanigan). [We speculate on the possibility of all these being one and the same bird -- falling to find a mate and wandering thereafter. - Ed.]

Presence of Red Crossbills a Summer Feature. After a spring season in which they were frequently reported Red Crossbills continued to be present during the summer. Sightings which suggest a successful nesting were made at Rocky River Reservation where a flock numbering as many as 25 birds had been encountered through the spring. On June 8 an adult pair was observed. On the 28th a band of six birds was present, one of which was identified as a male with the remaining birds being of duller plumage. On this date the birds were calling in tones that were loud and clear. The final sighting, on July 11, was of an adult male together with one young bird on which the down was still apparent on the neck (Stasko).

Other reports were of single occurrences: (1) two on June 2 at a feeding station in Geauga County where a small band had been observed on various spring dates (Kremm); (2) at least 12 birds present on June 4 at a Chagrin Falls residence (fide English); (3) a small flock at a feeding station at a residence near Stebbins Gulch in early June (W. E. Scheele fide Flanigan); (4) a male and female closely observed on July 20 as they fed beneath a feeder at a Willoughby Hills residence (fide Sherwin).

Slate-colored Junco. A visit to Stebbins Gulch invariably results in a view of members of this species and evidence of successful nesting at this location was made on August 6 when three young were encountered still bearing stripes on their throat and breast (Bole, Jr. and Flanigan). At South Chagrin Reservation, where Juncos were found in August 1969, they were again present. Two individuals were seen near Squaw Rock on July 17 (Peskin) and a lone bird was observed in the same area on August 13 and 17 (E. Hudgeon fide Carrothers).

Tardy Transients. A number of birds were quite late in their migration, lingering at Stebbins Gulch and Holden Arboretum into the first week of June: 2 Swainson's Thrush, June 6; Tennessee Warbler, June 7; 10 Pine Siskins, June 7; White-throated Sparrows, June 6 and 7 (Bole, Jr.).

An Ovenbird was discovered feeding beneath the closely-clipped shrubbery surrounding the Mall in downtown Cleveland in the early morning of June 26, attention being called by its loud, clear song. The Mall was visited at the same morning hour for the following week but the bird was not seen again. On June 7 at 2:00 PM a male Mourning Warbler in full song was present at Forest Hill Park (Corbin).

Nesting Notes. Reports are uncommon for nesting Red-headed Woodpeckers in the eastern portion of the Cleveland region outside the environs of Mentor Marsh. Therefore, with dismay we view the July 11 report from Timberlake of a dead tree destroyed which harbored one such nest containing two half-grown nestlings which were killed (Martin). A tally of 13 Red-headed Woodpeckers at Mentor Marsh on July 24 indicates a successful season (Hammond).

A survey was made on August 22, through Rocky River and along Lake Road to Lorain and return trip by a different route, for concentrations of Purple Martins. Flocks were found in seven places as they perched on overhead wires and resulted in a count of 460 birds. In the opinion of this observer a decline of this species is noted in this area (Stasko). Two successful nesting colonies were reported from Chardon locations where they had not nested for some years (fide Spare),

Bluebirds continue to be of concern which reports of this nesting season dispel slightly. Successful nestings were reported from Lorain (Dolbear); Painesville - 2 (Storer); Chester Township, Geauga County (fide Spare). Negative reports came from Chardon (Spare) and Waite Hill (Flanigan).

At least one Canada Warbler nest at Stebbins Gulch was productive as parents were observed feeding fledglings on June 19 (Flanigan). A Common Gallinule with 4 young was seen in a swamp adjacent to LaDue Reservoir on August 9 (English).

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Little Blue Heron - An adult bird, with lanceolate plumes at rear of crown plainly displayed, perched on a fallen tree at the edge of a small pond in Waite Hill on June 17 (Flanigan). This is the first June record for the Cleveland region.

Common Egret - (1) One on Upper Shaker Lake on August 23 (Knight); (2) one on a small lake in Little Mountain area of Kirtland Hills on the 30th (Kitson).

Yellow-crowned Night Heron - Two adult birds were frequently observed feeding and loafing along the Chagrin River, Chagrin Falls, where they worked along the rocks on the edge and in the middle of the river and fed on crayfish. At least one bird was present on August 2 (Tussel) and subsequently the presence of two birds was established (Leach, Peskin, Sahli) being last reported on the 18th (Hocevar).

Pintail - Three were found in the basins at Burke Lakefront Airport on August 29, quite an early date (Klamm).

Green-winged Teal - A very early individual was found at Mentor Marsh on July 24 (Hammond).

Ruddy Duck - A male in breeding plumage was viewed at mid-day on July 6 on Corning Lake, Holden Arboretum (Hocevar). This is a new earliest fall date and the first July report since 1958.

Red-breasted Merganser - A female was observed along the east breakwall at Fairport Harbor at close range from a boat on July 22 and 26 (Hammond). These are the first July records in the history of the region.

Bald Eagle - In the sun of mid-afternoon on August 2 at Kirtland Hills an immature was observed for almost five minutes as it flapped and soared at an altitude of about 150 feet (Booth).

Black-bellied Plover - Two very early individuals appeared at Edgewater Park on August 2 and two were present at Burke Airport on the 16th and 22nd (Klamm).

Ruddy Turnstone - Two in breeding plumage were observed at White City on July 26. August sightings of from one to eight birds were made at Burke Airport, Edgewater Park, and White City (Klamm).

Willet - Three were present at White City on August 11 from 12:00 until 12:45 PM when they were driven away by young boys throwing rocks (Hocevar).

Baird's Sandpiper - One observed at White City on August 27 (Carrothers and Gaede).

Franklin's Gull - One was present at White City on August 8 and three at Edgewater Boat Basin on the 29th (Klamm).

Forster's Tern - At White City two fed in the company of Common Terns on August 8, a very early date (Klamm).

Olive-sided Flycatcher - One at Boston Ledges, Peninsula, on August 13 and one at Bedford Reservation on the 22nd (Knight).

Red-breasted Nuthatch - One was present in the pinewoods area of Rocky River Reservation on July 24 (Stasko).

Short-billed Marsh Wren - Two Lorain County reports: one individual on July 28; one singing bird on August 11 (Johnson).

Hermit Thrush - One sang five or six times from a tree top at a Lorain residence in the early evening of June 1 (Dolbear). This is a new latest spring date.

Philadelphia Vireo - Two very early migrants were observed at LaDue Reservoir on August 16 (Hammond).

Golden-winged Warbler - An adult male fed in company with eight other species of warblers at Waite Hill on August 27 (Flanigan). Autumn records for this species are a rarity.

Cape May Warbler - On August 18 one was observed in Waite Hill (Flanigan). This is a new earliest fall date.

Chestnut-sided Warbler - A singing male was present at Bedford Reservation on July 17 (Knight).

Addenda (Spring 1970):

Violet-green Swallows - On the Sunday morning Bird Walk at Mentor Marsh on May 3, 1970, Violet-green Swallows were observed through a telescope as they perched on a branch overhanging Shipman Pond. The birds were viewed also in flight, as they fed, which showed the distinctive white rump patches (Booth, Strock, Vallender). This is the first record of this western species for the Cleveland region.

Brewster's Warbler - On the morning of May 11 a male of this species sang in the upper branches of an aspen at Deep Lock Quarry Metropolitan Park, Peninsula, while simultaneously two female birds fed in the same or adjacent trees. While under observation these birds remained within a 150 x 150 foot area. Sightings continued to be made through June -- last noted on the 12th (Szabo). This species was reported from the same area on several dates in the 1969 Spring season.

From an Adjoining Locality:

Lark Bunting - On June 28 an adult male of this species was closely viewed and heard singing south of Conneaut where it had been present for some time and viewed by many observers (Perkins).

FIELD NOTES

House Wren Attacks Red Squirrel. About 7:00 PM on August 3 a red squirrel dropped down into the wisteria vine from the roof of the enclosed porch of our home in Waite Hill and from there jumped a few feet to a perch-feeder that held sunflower seeds. Within seconds a House Wren, whose nest box was within ten feet beneath the roof overhang on which the vine is supported, appeared and at once flew at the squirrel and struck it on the back. After a second pass and hit by the Wren the squirrel retreated to the shelter of the vines and remained quiet in their concealment. The Wren still pursued and stayed within several feet in watchful attitude. The watch-and-wait continued until arrival of traffic on the walk below -- about ten minutes. The following day it became apparent the Wren nest was abandoned -- whether from the squirrel or other actions is not known. - ANNETTE B. FLANIGAN

Yellow Warbler Builds Three Successive Nests. At Upper Shaker Lake this summer a Yellow Warbler constructed three successive nests, dismantling each of the first two to use as building material for the next one.

On June 7, I discovered the first nest, seemingly completed, which was located 11 or 12 feet high and about one foot from the top of a quite narrow, rather cylindrically-shaped hawthorn. The walls of the nest appeared thick, and the nest as a whole was a sturdy structure. As I watched, the female flew into the hawthorn but did not settle on the nest. In brief visits to the nest site in the evening of subsequent days through June 11, I saw the female and heard or saw her mate within a radius of 150 feet of the nest. On the 10th she was actually in the hawthorn though not on the nest. On the evening of the 12th I heard the male singing but did not observe the female.

At mid-afternoon on June 13, I discovered the female taking material from the first nest and using it to build nest #2 on the south side of a large, squat hawthorn standing exactly 60 feet from the site of nest #1. This second nest, whose outer layer seemed almost completely formed, was placed near the outer end of a horizontal branch about eight feet from the ground. It was shaded by the foliage of the longer branches above. The female was working on the interior of the nest, shaping it with her body by pressing against it while at the same time fluttering her wings and pushing with her feet. The male was singing nearby.

At 9:15 AM on June 14, I approached nest site #2 from the west, paused briefly to note that the female was not present but did not discern any change in the condition of the nest. When I returned to the nest site at 11:30 AM, I found that the female was dismantling nest #2 and was using the material to build nest #3 on the east side of the very same hawthorn.

This third nest was located about one foot from the outer end of a down-sweeping branch and was just five and one-half feet from the ground. Since it was so low, I was able to examine it carefully, noting that it was completely formed, the bottom quite solid though the rim was rather loosely woven. In fact, the entire structure seemed to need tightening, for the fibers were not closely bound or compacted. In addition to taking building material from nest #2, the female had also apparently drawn upon nest #1, of which only the bottom now remained.

At 7:30 PM on June 15, the female was lining the nest with cottony white fibers which her beak had compressed into tiny, ball-shaped masses. By this time both nests #1 and #2 had entirely disappeared. But it was obvious that not all of the

material from these two nests had been incorporated into nest #3, for it was much less bulky than #1 and seemed even more thinly walled than #2.

On the evening of June 15, the third nest contained one Yellow Warbler egg. And on each of the three succeeding evenings there was an additional warbler egg. On none of these evenings did I see or hear the female, though admittedly my visits were exceedingly brief, lasting only a few minutes. Nor did the male appear; however, each evening he was singing not far away. At mid-afternoon on June 20, the nest still contained four eggs, but again the female was absent.

Not until June 28, did I return to the nest area, only to find that nest #3 had all but disappeared; just strands of the base and of the sides remained. I could find no egg shells or even shell fragments on the ground beneath the hawthorn. If a predator such as a Blue Jay or Common Grackle had taken the eggs, it would surely not have removed most of the nest as well. And so I cannot help but wonder whether the Yellow Warbler dismantled nest #3 to build a fourth nest.

- DONALD L. NEWMAN

ATTRACTING BIRDS BY SELECTIVE PLANTING

For 12 years I have kept detailed records of the native foods eaten by birds, both migrants and resident species, on a 25-acre tract in Waite Hill. Clearing, replanting, and pruning projects have retained and given preference to choice plants, with the ultimate objective an area that is "bird oriented". As a result there are thickets of sumac, barberry, buckthorn, and berry patches.

In the following evaluation of those plants which are particular favorites of various species of birds, I have named only those birds actually feeding on the fruit since many birds may come to feed on the insects associated with the fruit rather than on the fruit itself.

(1) Staghorn Sumac (Rhus typhina) is the greatest attraction during fall, winter, and spring. There is a general belief that sumac is "emergency" food -- not according to my observations as it is used in May when other foods are available, and Bluebirds feed on it all through the winter. The Brown Thrasher has been seen feeding on the seed-heads the latter part of October, but it does not become generally attractive until January when the Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Robin, Bluebird (particularly), and Cardinal feed. As the year advances the sumac becomes progressively attractive to the birds, being a source of food during March and April for the Goldfinch and Mockingbird, but it is not until May that it attains the highest degree of importance as a food source here. At that

time the Hermit and Swainson's Thrushes make use of it during their passage. Other species that feed on the sumac during May are the Red-headed Woodpecker, Eastern Kingbird, Common Crow, Catbird, Veery, Yellow-breasted Chat, Rose-breasted Grosbeak. During the winter of 1968-69 the wintering White-crowned Sparrows were seen to partake. It is eaten by the Black-capped Chickadee throughout the year.

(2) Barberry (Berberis sp.) ranks high on the list of choice plants and is eaten as tender forage (flower-budding stage), in addition to the fruiting stage, by the Cedar Waxwing. The fruit attracts the Mockingbird, as I have observed fruits taken in October, November, December, January, March and April. This attribute alone would place it among the first to be cultivated. The Ring-necked Pheasant and the Robin eat the fruits during mid-winter and the Bluebird in early spring. It serves as a regular food source to the Catbird during the month of May. The berries are valuable to summering birds when they first arrive and find their preferred food is scarce.

(3) High-bush Cranberry (Viburnum opulus) berries are taken during August by the Flickers and Robins, during October by the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker and Hermit Thrush, but it is during February and March it is most heavily eaten and by the Cedar Waxwing almost exclusively. A flock numbering between 300 and 350 fed upon the berries at mid-day on February 13, 1963. The flocks varied from 60 to 90 birds in 1966.

(4) The berries of the Alder Buckthorn (Rhamnus frangula) are taken by many species, the thrushes and Catbird in particular. After mid-July the Bluebird partakes, in August the Robin, but the height of desirability is reached in September. Here I have noted instances of warblers departing from the insect diet. The Bay-breasted Warbler was seen to eat the pulp of the fruit in September 1960 and 1961; August 1963; September 1969 and 1970. Other warbler species that have eaten the fruit are: Tennessee, Nashville, Cape May, Black-throated Blue, Chestnut-sided, Blackpoll, Ovenbird, and Hooded. On September 8, 1969, at a time when other food was plentiful, Tennessee Warblers were observed feeding on the pulp of the fruit at two widely separated locations. On September 7, 1962, an Empidonax Flycatcher was observed feeding on one of the berries, finally swallowing it whole. In September 1969, White-crowned and Swamp Sparrows fed on the fruit, with the White-crowned continuing to do so into October.

Certain of the warblers have a unique method of taking these buckthorn berries -- spearing the fruit by piercing with the beak closed thus allowing the point to protrude on the other side with the result the fruit is impaled on the bill. Then the bird manipulates the mandibles in a manner to allow the fleshy part of the berry to be eaten without breaking

the outer skin. When the inner portion is consumed the outer skin is then dropped to the ground. I have not been able to determine what disposition is made of the seed -- if it is eaten or discarded. The Bay-breasted, Black-throated Blue, Nashville, and Blackpoll Warblers have all been observed feeding on the buckthorn berries in this manner.

(5) The berries of the Bush-Honeysuckle (Lonicera tartarica) are a great attraction in June and July for the Flicker, Eastern Kingbird, Catbird, Robin, Bluebird, and Cedar Waxwing (once seen to swallow 14 berries without a pause). In addition to providing food, this bush also provides nesting material. I have observed the Yellow Warbler grasp a loose portion of bark and peel off a thin strip with ease.

(6) Privet (Ligustrum vulgare) is a food source during February, March, and April when it is much needed by Ring-necked Pheasant, Cedar Waxwings, and Robins.

(7) Crabapple and apple trees that retain their fruit are a most desirable planting. It is November when I first note feeding taking place -- by the Red-headed Woodpecker and Robin at that time, joined in December by the Ring-necked Pheasant, Flicker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Hairy Woodpecker, Blue Jay, Starling, and Cardinal. In 1966, on January 4, 6, and 11, a Cape May Warbler -- in another instance of warbler departure from the insect diet -- fed upon the flesh of apples. During February the apples apparently reach the high point of edibility for the Cedar Waxwing as on only one occasion have I observed them partake before this month. The Chickadee is an occasional feeder. By April the apples are totally consumed.

(8) Dogwood (Cornus florida, Cornus circinata, Cornus stolonifera, Cornus amomum, Conius alba) are attractive to the thrushes, Baltimore Oriole, and Scarlet Tanager, and in October to the Flicker and White-throated Sparrow.

(9) Poison Ivy (Rhus toxicodendron) berries are taken by Bluebirds and four species of woodpeckers: Flicker, Pileated, Hairy, and Downy.

(10) The blue berries of the Arrow-wood (Viburnum dentatum) are particularly relished by the Eastern Kingbird and in August I have seen as many as seven birds feeding in one bush. Also attracted are thrushes.

(11) The fruits of the wild black-cherry tree (Prunus serotina) attract almost every south-bound songbird, including the insectivorous species, and are eaten avidly by thrushes, orioles, tanager, and grobeaks.

(12) Blackberry (Rhubus sp.), Dewberry or Low Running Blackberry (Rhubus sp.) and Black Raspberry (Rhubus occidentalis) thickets are exceptional favorites, attracting almost every species of songbird. The Black Raspberry is never allowed to attain full ripeness here due to its extreme attractiveness to the Catbird.

(13) Common Dandelion (Taraxacum officinale) attracts many species, being eaten as tender forage (lower stage) by the Purple Finch, and when in seed is considered choice by the Goldfinch and White-crowned Sparrow. It is also eaten by Chipping, Field, and Song Sparrows.

(14) Crabgrass is a prime attraction during fall migration and sparrows feed avidly. It is choice for Tree, Chipping (flocks often number 50 or more birds), Field, White-crowned, White-throated, Song, and occasionally the Lincoln's Sparrow.

[Acknowledgement is made to Adela Gaede for her assistance in plant identification.]

- ANNETTE B. FLANIGAN

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AN INVITATION: The Kirtland Bird Club meets at 7:45 PM on the first Wednesday of each month, with the exception of July and August, in the Natural Science Museum, Cleveland. Visitors are always welcome to attend these meetings.