

House Sparrow	13	8
Baltimore Oriole	3	0
Common Grackle	15	22
Brown-headed Cowbird	2	0
Cardinal	2	0
American Goldfinch	6	4
Chipping Sparrow	9	2
Field Sparrow	2	0
White-crowned Sparrow	5	0
White-throated Sparrow	5	1
Swamp Sparrow	1	0
Song Sparrow	1	1
Total individuals	123	74
Total repeats (not shown above).....	20	14
Total species	28	17

Proving dripping water appears to bring about a fifty percent increase in the number of individuals caught.

--The Pennsylvania State University
State College, Pa.

July 22, 1954

ABOUT CHICKADEES

Maurice Broun, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, Route 2, Kempton, Pa., has this to say about Chickadees as of January 19, 1954:

"Chickadees are our mainstay each winter. We had only eleven individuals at our feeders the first winter (1946-47) that we took up year-round residence here. But these eleven grew to at least 63 birds three winters ago. Last winter, 42 survived the big ice storm, and, of these, 19 represented returns from previous winters. Two of the latter were at least five years old.

"On the last day of 1953, I captured 141-4255, the second bird banded at Hawk Mountain after the war, on January 2, 1947 - a veteran of (at least) eight winters!

"Well, we had at least forty Chickadees at the feeders during December 1953. During the past two weeks, however, the number has declined to about ten; we are much disturbed and perplexed. I don't see how predation could eliminate 75% of our Chickadees. I suspect an epidemic, particularly since there has been a reduction of the number of Chickadees at a feeding station four miles east of us.

"I wonder whether other banders have had similar experiences."

* * *

MORE ON CHICKADEES: COINCIDENCE OR CONNUBIAL?

Paired Chickadees:

- 1) 20-26377 - trapped together and banded, December 17, 1950;
378 retrapped together, March 22, 1951.
- 2) 21-33958 - trapped together and banded, December 1, 1952;
retrapped together, February 28, 1953.

--Maurice Broun

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A NEW WAY OF GETTING RETURNS

This is from Mr. W. A. Jarvis, Pemberton, New Jersey, who wrote on April 7, 1953:

"Thought you might be interested in three somewhat unusual recoveries which we had at our banding station recently.

"On March 27th, we had a visit from a Loggerhead Shrike. Three small birds were in one of our large traps, and the Shrike did not hesitate to dive in after them. Before we could do anything about it, the Shrike had killed all three of the other occupants.

"One of the occupants was an unbanded Tree Sparrow. Another was a Field Sparrow which had been banded here April 19, 1952, by Dr. Paul H. Fluck who was at that time operating a sub-station at our farm. The third bird was a Tree Sparrow that we had banded on December 27, 1952.