

1954. It repeated again on October 5th, but I haven't seen any grackles around this month (November).

"A young Cowbird that I hand-reared during June, 1952, was killed in Grantsville, North Carolina, January 6, 1954.

"To date, while there are a goodly number of Slate-colored Juncos in this area, no Tree Sparrows have come to my attention. They were very plentiful ten years ago but gradually have disappeared."

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#### CATS MAY BE OF SOME VALUE

Dr. C. Brook Worth, 516 Walnut Lane Swarthmore, Penna., contributes the following concerning the possible usefulness of the much maligned cat:

"Who says cats are not an asset at a banding station? Formerly, I would have listed my equipment as so many traps, but now I must add our cat to the standard equipment. As long as I have been banding (since 1927), I have never trapped any other bander's bird. But this morning, December 12, 1954, I found my cat on the front doormat, happily munching on the remains of a White-throated Sparrow that had a foreign band on its leg. Had it not been for the cat, I would probably not trapped the bird, for my station is very small and operated only on weekends.

"The band, incidentally, was 52-117473. The cat, incidentally, is named Licorice and lives here because I happen to be married to, and am the father of, cat-lovers all the way down the line."

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