

SONG SPARROW

- 174445 Banded September 19, 1927, found dead March 7, 1928 at Hazelhurst, Georgia.
- 35-126206 Banded October 8, 1935, killed November 2, 1935 at Pitts-ville, Maryland.
- 36-147875 Banded October 23, 1936, killed February 23, 1937, at Stevens Pottery, Georgia.
- 40-186674 Banded March 11, 1941, caught by a cat August 15, 1941, at Millburn (near Newark), New Jersey.
- 41-124585 Banded July 5, 1941, found dead April 5, 1942, at Baltimore, Maryland.
- 20-137134 Banded July 29, 1950, shot November 26, 1950 at Grimesland, North Carolina.

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TRAPPING SHRIKES

By Normand St. Jacques

I found this method of trapping Shrikes by accident one day, upon checking my trap line. I noticed from a distance that I had trapped a field mouse in one of the compartments of a 4-cell Glenhoven Standby (a trap I recommend to all banders). In a tree above the trap was a Northern Shrike looking down at the trapped field mouse. I waited awhile to see what the bird would do.

In a few minutes the Shrike pounced down upon the trap and tried desperately to get at the mouse from the top, but without any success. Soon the bird descended to the ground, circling the trap in his efforts to reach the mouse. Failing in this, he entered the cell next to that occupied by the field mouse, tripped the lever and was himself caught. I approached the trap, and after a few nipped fingers banded the Shrike.

Knowing that there were two Shrikes in the area at the time, I left the mouse in the trap. When I checked later, the second Shrike had been caught. I have caught four Shrikes in a month by this method and I believe it would work on Sparrow Hawks too. (Ed. - I caught and banded a Sparrow Hawk recently that went into one cell of a 10-cell Potter trap trying to get at a White-throated Sparrow.)

Incidentally, I have yet to see a Shrike capture and kill a song bird, although I have seen them kill a good many field mice.

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