

SWAINSON'S THRUSH - GUATEMALA TO OREGON  
By John V. Dennis

In the May-June 1962 issue of EBBA News, I described a mist netting operation at Finca Pacayal in western Guatemala. Although only 144 birds were banded, considerable information was obtained on how and where to band birds at an elevation of 4,000 feet on the Pacific slope. Of the birds captured between November 6 and 24, 1959, the banding period, 61 individuals representing fifteen species were considered to be North American migrants. Among these were seven Swainson's Thrushes (Hylocichla ustulata). One of them, a bird banded on November 21, has since been recovered in Portland, Oregon. This bird was found dead on June 16, 1963.

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HERON DISPERSAL STUDY

Dr. Andrew J. Meyerriecks, Department of Zoology, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida, is currently studying the movements of young herons in Florida. His work is being done in cooperation with the Encephalitis Research Center of Tampa, a division of the State Board of Health. All of the herons and egrets found in the United States breed in Florida and occur in goodly numbers. A fascinating aspect of the life history of herons is that the young ones, newly fledged, engage in dramatic dispersal movements. Strangely enough, detailed information is lacking on the movements of these young herons in Florida and nearby states.

Dr. Meyerriecks is banding each young heron with a standard government aluminum band placed on its right leg, and then the bird has some of its feathers dyed a bright color. Each heronry is assigned a special color code so that observers can tell where the young heron was born. If you see a strangely marked heron or egret of any kind, please send this information to the address below: DATE: PLACE: SPECIES OF HERON (if known): HOW BIRD WAS COLORED (for example, on the right wing only, left wing only, belly, both wings, and so on). Please give us your name and address so that we may tell you where your heron came from. Your help will be greatly appreciated and will contribute to the success of this project.

Please report to: Heron Project, Encephalitis Research Center,  
4001 Tampa Bay Boulevard, Tampa, Florida 33614

