

## MULTIPLE RECOVERIES OF EVENING GROSBEAK AND AMERICAN GOLDFINCH

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Multiple recoveries of an individual bird are uncommon enough to be worthy of record.

In checking the banding records and recoveries of birds banded by the late Elizabeth F. Romaine of Middleboro, Massachusetts two such recoveries have appeared.

An adult female Evening Grosbeak (Hesperiphona Vespertina), #62-134006, banded in North Middleboro on 13 January 1963, was reported as having been trapped and released at Enfield, Maine on 8 May 1964. On 21 April 1969 the bird was found injured and subsequently died at Brevard, North Carolina. This grosbeak would have been at least  $6\frac{1}{2}$  years of age at the time of death.

An adult male American Goldfinch (Spinus Tristis) #102-94271, banded in North Middleboro on 29 April 1963, had not done as much traveling, if the recoveries are indicative of maximum wandering (which they probably are not), The bird was trapped in South Hingham on 9 December 1968 and found dead six months later in Fairhaven on 28 May 1969. All of these towns are in southeastern Massachusetts, 19 and 22 miles from Middleboro, respectively, and the two recoveries were 40 miles apart.

Both of these second recoveries were made after the death of Mrs. Romaine and would have been undetected had not her records remained intact and recoveries continued to accumulate. The Manomet Bird Observatory has been made the repository of the banding records of two deceased Massachusetts banders, Mrs. Romaine and Kurt R. Groote of Walpole. In the future the Observatory will be notified by the Banding Office of any recoveries of birds banded by these individuals so that their records may remain complete and available to interested researchers.

William Pepper's 1958 article, "It's Later Than You Think" (EBBA News, 21(5):84-85), raised the question of what should be done with the records of persons no longer banding. Deposition at the nearest permanent Bird Observatory would seem to be one solution. Unfortunately, (unlike Great Britain, with 22 observatories and a dozen or more Field Study Centers) North America has only three observatories. These are all less than six years old and are the Long Point Bird Observatory in Ontario, the Point Reyes Bird Observatory in California and the Manomet Bird Observatory in Massachusetts. Space, funds and available staff are problems at all three observatories but, we hope, not insoluble problems.

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