

Mist nets were used from May 15th to June 15th and from September 1st to November 1st. The nets contributed the largest number of species taken from 32 to 67. They were tried in various locations and were much more successful in sheltered areas. Seed traps were less successful this year than before. Several factors contributed to this: 1. The pattern of agricultural crops, in surrounding areas, was less favorable. 2. The crop of wild seeds and fruits was abundant in the area because of good growing conditions all summer. 3. The weather remained high until after the first of November, when banding was discontinued. No hard frosts and no heavy movements of sparrows had taken place. 4. The number of chipmunks about the traps was larger because less time was devoted to removing them.

Results to date seem to justify a more intensive effort and a standardization of procedures so that comparisons between seasons will be more meaningful. Health permitting, I may try this in 1972.

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FRIENDSVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA

The fall of 1971 was the third year of fall migration study at the Friendsville, Pa., station. Six nets were used for an average of four hours daily. Netting was done on 46 days using the period from Aug. 5 to October 30. Total net hours: 1224; with 528 new birds of 57 species banded. This year three of the nets were moved to a new section of lanes, one to a lane surrounding a large pond and two to lanes in a large vegetable garden. These nets captured 84% of the total number of birds banded. The five most numerous birds trapped were: Chipping Sparrow, 91; Myrtle Warbler 68; American Goldfinch, 64; Song Sparrow, 43; and Eastern Phoebe, 24. Three new species were banded: Palm Warbler, 2; Rusty Blackbird, 2; and Cape May Warbler, 2.

At this station an obvious absence of Ovenbirds, White-throated Sparrows and Black-capped Chickadees was noted. Possibly this is a result of the net changes.

As this is only the third year of comparable studies made for this inland station it is hard to analyze the collected data and make any positive conclusion. It does appear that the general direction of the movement of birds through this station is from southwest to northeast, possibly to the Susquehanna River and its tributaries and then southward. It also appears that the agricultural practices in the area have a great influence on the numbers and species captured.

This has been a warm, calm fall with very little frontal activity and no strong winds. Days with the largest daily totals of captured birds were September 7, 21, 26, 30, October 1, 2, and 19. The largest number of species banded on a day was 11 on September 21.

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Banding operations at this station this fall were kept as nearly the same as in 1970 as possible. The same number of nets were used (10) on the same number of days (36) in the same net lanes (see EBBA NEWS 34 (2): 97-98 for description). The nets were set up for about four hours a morning every second or third day. The total number of net hours was close to 1970: 1207 vs. 1293 this fall; but the total catch was down from 700 last year to 567 this year.

In addition to that basic banding plan, two or three nets were operated by Frank Fish in scrub willows bordering Cape Pond, some 600 yards to the southwest of my netting area. His nets were in use in the morning on most days between August 24 and September 25. His species and numbers were similar to those of the upper lanes, with one exception - he caught twice as many Cedar Waxwings, reflecting the fact that they were still nesting in the vicinity of his net lanes.

The following figures (and the remainder of this report) include results from both areas:

	1970	1971
Birds banded	700	705
Net hours	1207	1530
Birds/100 NH	58	46
No. of species	65	58

The most abundant species was the Catbird (84); other common birds were White-throats, Chickadees, Song Sparrows, and Yellowthroats.

The weather was recorded from several sources: a recording barometer, N.Y. Times weather maps, and daily notes on temperature, cloud cover, rain, wind, etc. It was hoped that approaching cold fronts could be anticipated so that no waves of migrating birds would be missed, but the weather did not cooperate this year. The first cold front passed through on August 11, dropping the temperature about 15 degrees. Banding was fairly good on the 10th and 11th, just prior to the passage of the front. (Little did we guess that we would not catch as many birds in a day again until early October, more than seven weeks later!) Another weak cold front passed on August 22 with no appreciable effect on banding. It was too windy to band on the 23rd, and the cooler air on the 24th and 25th brought only a few birds. August had begun with three or four days of rain; on the 27th tropical storm Doria began to affect us and we had over five inches of rain to end the month in the same way. For the entire three months we were never able to check the nets without wearing boots, as the lanes never dried out.