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EBBA ARM PATCHES are \$1.00 each; WORKSHOP MANUALS are \$1.25 each. Volume I, III & V are out of print. Volumes II and IV are still available in limited quantities. EBBA RECORDS SHEETS contain space for 50 bands on each side. They are standard 8-1/2"x11" sheets, holed for insertion in standard three-ring binders, of durable paper. Prices: 40 sheets for \$1.75; 100 sh. for \$3.50. Order from: WILLIAM PEPPER, 445 EAST ABINGTON AVE, PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19118.

BANDING PLIERS: Long Nose Pliers with openers and holes to fit band sizes. One plier handles size 0, 1, 1B and 1A: \$6.50; the other handles soft and hard 2 and 3 bands: \$6.50. There is also a pair for size 3A for \$5.50. Ppd. in USA. Order from: R.N. MACDONALD, 850 MAIN STREET, LYNNFIELD, MA. 01940.

GATHERING CAGES. Wooden, Mahogany color, finished with clear plastic. Prepaid east of Miss.- 8 cell \$16.00; 10 cell \$20.00; 12 cell \$24.00; 15 cell \$30.00; 16 cell \$32.00. Order from: RAY P. MARGERUM, 375 SECOND STREET, TRENTON, N.J. 08611.

WING MEASURE. 6" and 30cm Stainless Steel Rule. The 6" rule is metric-english, rigid, 3/4" wide, graduated in 10th and 32nds inch, .5mm, mm, and cm. The 30cm model is spring tempered, satin-chrome finish, 12.7mm wide, .33mm thick, 30cm long. It is graduated on the three edges in mm, one edge .5mm. Both rules feature a Stainless Steel "bend of wing" fixture secured at right angles to the end of the rule. The 6" rule is \$4.85 ppd; the 30cm rule is \$15.00 ppd., within USA. Institutional orders: please remit when ordering only one unit. Order from: CHRIS N. ROSE, 98 LOPEZ ROAD, CEDAR GROVE, N.J. 07009.

MOSQUITOE HEADNETS USED AS HOLDING BAGS are not easy to obtain. After an extensive search for models suitable for this function, we found the only source, offering consistently the same model: HERTER'S INC., ROUTE 2, MITCHELL, S.D. 57301. When writing this company, please refer to Stock Number AJ9G1 "Herter's Universal Improved Insect Headnet". Supplies are limited or non-existent during the winter months. (This is not an advertisement for Herter's Inc. The information is provided by the Editor so that banders can obtain this product easily.) Editor

EBBA NEWS accepts advertisements free of charge for items related to bird banding activities. Advertisers should reconfirm their ads once a year in January. If we do not hear from our clients, the ads will be taken out. No commercial ads accepted. Editor

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MAILBAG

June 10, 1973, South Orleans, Mass....DO NOT AGE AMERICAN GOLD-FINCH BY THE OLYPHANT SYSTEM (*Bird-Banding* 1972, 43:173-181). The Olyphant System for ageing American Goldfinch, recently reprinted by WEBBA, used the white at the base of some primaries as a diagnostic characteristic.

These white 'spots' have not proved valid for returns at Manomet Bird Observatory, at the Fisk Station at S. Orleans, Cape Cod, Mass., and for one bird reported to Fisk by Dorothy Bördner in February (a fully adult male).

Number 1270-43888 was banded at Manomet on 8/2/72 as an adult female with a 3 broodpatch and 3 ossification. It returned 6/1/73 with 17mm of white on the outermost of the white 'spotted' feathers, measured from the base of the feather.

Number 1310-07142, taken at Manomet 6/4/73 was ASY-M with more than 20mm of white.

Band Number 78-65947, banded 8/5/72 as AHY-F with a brood spot returned 6/7/73 with 18mm of white, to Fisk at S. Orleans.

Band 125-22208 banded by Fisk as AHY-M 8/13/71 returned 6/7/73 with concealed white.

Four birds judged SY-F on the basis of their nondescript olive plumage, taken by Fisk the first week in June showed no white at all.

This white can be recorded as Minimal, Concealed, Visible or Prominent; or if time permits can (and should on a fair sample) be measured either from the base of the outermost primary, or if only the visible portion is recorded, from the covert. The latter will not present a true picture. Admittedly the sample contradicting the Olyphant system is small. The species should be studied further to find out the significance of this character.

Erma J. Fisk