

Flicker (10 in 1971 to 0). Besides the Flicker, species missed this fall that were banded last year were Wood pewee, Bluebird, Sapsucker, Carolina wren, Red-bellied woodpecker, and Brown creeper.

Birds of interest each month were:

Louisiana waterthrush netted on the 5th and 11th of August.
Hooded warbler netted on August 10th
Broad-winged hawk netted on August 25th
Screech owl banded on August 31st

Philadelphia vireo on Sept. 4th
Connecticut warbler on Sept. 27th
Lincoln's sparrow on Sept. 28th

Saw-whet owl on Oct. 26th
Grasshopper sparrow on Oct. 11th
White-cr. sparrow on Oct. 13th
Lincoln's sparrow on Oct. 9th

August saw no noticeable flight days and September was quiet until the end of the month when a front on the 28th produced a catch of 50 birds of 20 species. A storm system on the 29th and 30th followed by a frontal system on Oct. 1st produced catches of 43 and 84 birds on the 1st and 2nd. The best flight of all at the station was on Oct. 10th and 11th when 70 and 115 birds resp. were caught.

The increase in nets makes comparison with last year, our first year of operation difficult. Fall of 1973 will see the operation run the same as 1972. I was assisted by my wife Mary Jean, whose help was invaluable in the operation of the station.

--Mid-Fairfield County Youth Museum, Westport, Conn. 06880

AN EASILY MADE AND HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL BIRD TRAP

LERROY C. STEGEMAN

The trap described here has pleased me very much because it is easy to make and highly successful in catching seed-eating birds. It is small enough to be easy to carry and can be placed in a variety of locations without difficulty. It is light enough so that chipmunks frequently push under it to escape and therefore do not injure the birds as often. Birds injure themselves less in a round trap because they drift along the side without any corners to stop them.

It is a simple round trap 24 inches in diameter and 12 inches high with a single funnel entrance. There is nothing magic about these dimensions, however, they have proven very satisfactory. See the drawing. The removal door is a square opening in the top of the trap. It is about five inches square and is closed by a hinged piece of double-thickness hardware cloth. The entrance of the funnel is about eight inches wide and six inches high. The funnel is about eight inches long so that the inner opening is near the center of the trap. A low circular fence is attached to the inner end of the funnel as shown in the figure. This fence is three inches high and forms a circle about five inches in diameter. Its presence prevents the birds from seeing the inner opening to the funnel and adds greatly to the success of the trap. For easy carrying a small wire handle was attached to the side of the trap as shown in the figure.

Two traps can be made from one piece of hardware cloth two feet wide and thirteen feet long. I used one fourth inch mesh and found it quite satisfactory. The trap was joined together with solder. Solder is easy to use because it adheres freely to the new galvanized hardware cloth. Solder makes the joints more smooth. There are no points or loose ends to injure the birds or the bander. The trap is also more durable when solder is used.

I have captured as many birds in one of these traps as I have in a double funnel government sparrow trap. If you try this simple trap I wish you every success in its use.

(Drawing appears on
p. 214. Editor)

--871 Ostrom Avenue, Syracuse, N.Y. 13210