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**Xanthochromism in the Rose-breasted Grosbeak.**—Xanthochromism, considered very rare in wild birds (Van Tyne and Berger 1976, *Fundamentals of ornithology*, second ed., New York, Wiley & Sons), is an abnormal coloring of a bird's plumage in which yellow replaces the normal coloring and it has been recorded in an Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*), a female Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*), 2 Evening Grosbeaks (*Hesperiphona vespertina*), and a Purple Finch (*Carpodacus purpureus*) (Gross 1965, *Bird-Banding* 36: 240-242).

On 26 April 1980 at 1600, 7.2 km E of Gulf Breeze, Escambia County, Florida, in a wooded area 500 m N of Santa Rosa Sound, I observed a Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) with xanthochromic portions of its plumage. The bird, an adult male, was in a flock (10-15) of normally colored Rose-breasted Grosbeaks. The bird's plumage was normally colored in all the white and black areas but the triangular area on the breast was yellow (color chart in Palmer 1962, *Handbook of North American birds*, vol. 1, New Haven, Yale Univ. Press) where it normally would be rose-colored. Unfortunately, I did not note the color of the underside of the wings.—DONALD G. RICHARDSON, 7830 Folkstone Drive, Pensacola, Florida 32504.

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**An increase of Boat-tailed Grackles in Leon County, Florida.**—Until recently there have been only a few sporadic records of the Boat-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus major*) in the interior of north Florida and most have occurred in Leon County, the northwesternmost inland breeding locality of the species in Florida (Stevenson 1978: 40). Early Leon County records are from Lake Jackson and include an adult pair and three young on 2 June 1959 and single birds on 22 July 1959 (Stevenson 1959) and 19 May 1960 (Stevenson 1960). After 1960 there are no records until 10 March 1972 when a male was recorded at the same lake (Stevenson 1972).

Except for 1977, Boat-tails have been recorded annually from 1974 to 1979 for several parts of the county. Records for 1974 include single males on 28 April, Lake Miccosukee (James Stevenson, pers. comm.) and on 8 June, Buck Lake Road (Henry M. Stevenson, pers. comm.), and two males on 25 October, Lake Miccosukee (H. M. Stevenson, pers. comm.), the first post-breeding record for the county. On 9 July 1975, five individuals, suspected to be a family group from a local nesting, possibly in nearby Jefferson County, were at Lake Miccosukee (Ogden 1975). Other post-breeding records are of four males on 26 September 1976, Tallahassee Sewage Plant (G.E.M.), two males on 15 November 1978, Lake Jackson (H. M. Stevenson, pers. comm.) and a male on 19 November 1978, Lake Miccosukee (G.E.M.).

At several lakes in Leon County during the spring and summer of 1979 Boat-tails were numerous totalling at least 19 individuals, including three females and several fledglings. Early single males were on 21 February, lakes Iamonia and Lafayette (Stevenson 1979), 16 March, Lake Miccosukee and 2 April, Lake Iamonia (G.E.M.). Numbers soon increased; I recorded five males and the first female on 5 April, Buck Lake Road and Roger Shea (pers. comm.) saw a male and two females in late April at Lake Jackson. Nesting probably occurred at Lake Jackson within one km of the intersection of Interstate 27 and State Road 157 where I found two females carrying nesting materials on 13 May and 27 May (G.E.M., R. Carter). On 9 June I found six individuals, including two fledglings, two females and a male, and on 16 June with H. M. Stevenson I saw about ten individuals including fledglings that were probably from two broods. The vegetation at this site consisted mostly of wax myrtle (*Myrica cerifera*), blackberry (*Rubus* sp.), various grasses and much American lotus (*Nelumbo lutea*) in the lake shallows. I estimate that eggs were laid in late April or early May and that nestlings fledged by 1 June. The Boat-tails were last seen at this site on Lake Jackson on 29 June where I found one female with two fledglings, but elsewhere on the lake two males were

seen on 13 June and a molting male on 29 August (G.E.M., H.M.S.). Late male Boat-tails I recorded were two on 11 October, Lake Jackson, and one on 13 October, Lake Miccosukee. I suspect that Boat-tails might have also nested at lakes Iamonia and Lafayette during 1979. Although Boat-tails are yet unrecorded in December and January from Leon County, just a short distance north they have been recorded on 14 December 1964 and 26 December 1971 in Thomas County, Georgia (Crawford and Dozier 1973).

In Florida, Boat-tailed Grackles nest almost throughout the peninsula (Stevenson 1976) but not in the interior west of Tallahassee (Stevenson 1978: 40). The only inland records for Jefferson County are of four individuals, probably near Monticello, on 29 June 1966 (Stevenson 1966) and a female east of Monticello on 30 May 1975 (R. L. Crawford, N. O. Wamer, pers. comm.). To the east, the only inland record is of an adult and several fledglings 12 miles east of Live Oak (Suwannee Co.) on 9 July 1971, which represents the northern breeding limit of the species in peninsular Florida (Ogden 1971). Most of the inland counties of north Florida probably have fewer field naturalists than Leon County which could account for the relative scarcity of records. A more important factor, however, could be the smaller number of natural lakes with abundant aquatic plants that are prerequisite to nesting and typical of the lakes and ponds in northern Leon County. The man-made impoundments in adjacent counties, i.e. lakes Seminole (Gadsden and Jackson cos.) and Talquin (Gadsden and Leon cos.) are mostly devoid of such habitat.

Most of the increasing inland records of the Boat-tailed Grackle in north Florida remain limited to Leon County, where the species may become a regular (but rare) breeding summer resident and where it also occurs during most of the year with the possible exception of mid-winter.

#### LITERATURE CITED

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