

Agelaius xanthomus xanthomus of Puerto Rico is now found in the coastal littoral where it is abundant and well distributed. I presume that the new form *monensis* may have come originally from the main island to Mona, either in wanderings or through the force of some tropical storm. Due to geographical isolation after the bird adapted itself to the rocky, cactus-covered plateau of Mona, the color of the shoulder patches changed from the deep, rich, golden yellow color of the birds of the main island to the much lighter yellowish white or entirely white condition now characteristic of *monensis*.

I wish to acknowledge to Dr. Alexander Wetmore my sincere appreciation for the examination of my specimens and for his critical comments relating to them, some of which are included in this work. Let these lines convey to him my thanks for his kindness.—VENTURA BARNÉS, JR., *Division of Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation, Department of Agriculture and Commerce, Mayaguez, Puerto Rico.*

A pale mutant Mourning Dove.—On July 31, 1944, two fledgling nest-mates of the Mourning Dove were collected at Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. The larger of the two was a male and of a very light color, while the smaller bird was typically dark and a female. Skins of both birds were prepared and are now in the collection of the American Museum of Natural History (A. M. N. H. nos. 308356 and 308357, respectively).

The wild parents of these specimens appeared to be quite normal. The mutant superficially resembles the juvenile stage of the domestic ring-dove in color, and the beak and claws were lighter than those of the normal sister. Closer inspection of the mutant reveals the characteristic Mourning Dove color pattern; each spot or band which, in the normal, is black is represented here by a drab facsimile. The effect is somewhat similar to that of the "dominant opal" color factor found in certain strains of domestic pigeons.

We have found no other report of a similar color mutant in this species, and no similar specimen exists in the collection of the American Museum. A light-colored example of *Zenaida aurita* from Cuba (A. M. N. H. no. 690) somewhat resembles it, but is darker.

We are indebted to Dr. Ernst Mayr for helpful comments and to Mrs. Guinevere C. Smith for assistance in preserving the skins.—C. F. GRAEFE AND W. F. HOLLANDER, *Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island, New York.*

Red-eyed Vireo with vocal defect.—On June 15, 1942, in a low, tamarack-bordered, deciduous woodlot at Rose Lake Wildlife Experiment Station, near East Lansing, Michigan, I heard a strange, wheezy song consisting of two or three frequently repeated husky whispers. Though the jerky, unmusical notes suggested an *Empidonax* flycatcher, the song was so unlike that of the more familiar Michigan members of that genus that a detour was taken through the woods in anticipation of discovering something unusual. A tree-top view of the singer disclosed a vireo-like bird, with distinctly vireo-like feeding and singing habits, thus putting the new flycatcher theory completely at rest.

A check-up the following morning, with 8× binoculars, found the bird still present, still singing its peculiar husky song. A fairly satisfactory view of the singer disclosed what appeared to be a Warbling Vireo, flaunting a conspicuous white feather in the position of the upper tail coverts; but the song, broken up into choppy notes, uttered in a series of two's and three's, was totally unlike the continuous song of that species.

Still dissatisfied, I returned on the third morning in company with a member of the Rose Lake Station staff, who collected the specimen. On examination it proved