

the state of Veracruz, some Blue Geese have been recorded in marshes at the southern end of Laguna Tamiahua; 37 were observed by me among flocks of Lesser Snow Geese in the Papaloapan sector on January 23, 1947.

During January, 1951, Mr. Wiebe of Cuauhtemoc, Chihuahua, an experienced goose hunter and long-time resident of that locality, reported to Mr. George Engleheart of Chihuahua City the killing of a Blue Goose from a flock of Snow Geese. His description of the Blue Goose was accurate in every detail.

The sector near Cuauhtemoc is a famous goose-wintering ground. On February 16, 1947, I estimated a total of 38,260 Snow Geese present on lakes and flats west and northwest of the city of Chihuahua, which area includes two lakes near Cuauhtemoc. Thus, it is not surprising that an occasional Blue Goose accompanies them to this important wintering ground on the Mexican plateau.

The Mottled Duck has been shot by many hunters in coastal marshes and ponds on the Gulf coast near Brownsville, Texas. It is equally common across the Rio Grande in similar marshes and ponds of Tamaulipas. I first observed it in Tamaulipas in 1937, east and southeast of Matamoros on the Arroyo Pita and Arroyo Gomeno.

On a reconnaissance trip from Matamoros southward along the coast to Tamiahua, Veracruz, on February 2 to 4, 1938, I recorded 245. Most were seen in the fresh-water marshes west of Tampico, Tamaulipas.

Since then I have observed the Mottled Duck regularly in that part of Mexico, both during the winter and in the breeding season. No nests were found, but adults with broods of young were recorded occasionally at coastal ponds east of Matamoros from April through June. On a trip to the Rio San Fernando delta, Tamaulipas, July 24 to 26, 1941, I observed two family groups of adults and month-old juveniles. Three other broods of young were seen at Altamira, near Tampico, on July 30, 1941. Localities in Tamaulipas where I have observed this duck during the breeding season are: Matamoros, San Juan (near Laguna San Juan), Tomates, Mogote Largo, Loma Chica, Arroyo de la Pita, Arroyo Gomeno, Anacahuities, a dozen others east and southeast of Matamoros, the vicinity of Barra Jesus Maria, the delta of the Rio San Fernando, Rio Tordo, and Rio Tigre or Cachimbas, the Laguna de San Andres, and near Tampico.

No large numbers have been observed together. To date, the largest flock recorded was one of 16 observed at a fresh-water pond near Anacahuities, a ranch near the north end of Laguna Madre. During the aerial reconnaissance made each January as a part of the Fish and Wildlife Service waterfowl inventory, several hundred Mottled Ducks were seen in the localities listed.

In the state of Veracruz I have recorded this duck in the winter at marshes near the village of Tamiahua, near Tuxpan, near the city of Veracruz, and in several places in the vast delta of the Rio Papaloapan, south of Alvarado.

There is a specimen (No. 419794) in the Fish and Wildlife Service collection taken by me on December 2, 1949, near Tampico, Tamaulipas.—GEORGE B. SAUNDERS, *Fish and Wildlife Service, Atlanta, Georgia.*

A Record of the Green-winged Teal (*Anas carolinensis*) from Puerto Rico.—The Green-winged Teal is a rare winter migrant to the West Indies. It has been recorded from Cuba, Hispaniola, Jamaica, St. Croix, St. Vincent, the Grenadines, Grenada, Barbados, and the Bahamas.

In 1951, the hunting season for ducks began in Puerto Rico on December 15. The second day of the season a Green-winged Teal was collected in the Anegado Lagoon near the town of Lajas, Puerto Rico. The specimen was brought for identification

to the Department of Biology of the College of Agriculture of the University of Puerto Rico. The bird, a beautiful male, is at present in the bird collection of the Department of Biology. The same day two other specimens were collected and reported by Professor Jenaro Maldonado who was making a bird census at the Anegado Lagoon. This bird is apparently a regular winter migrant to Puerto Rico, since several hunters claim they have collected specimens during previous seasons.—VIRGILIO BIAGGI, JR., *Department of Biology, College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts, Mayaguez, Puerto Rico.*

A Breeding Record for the Ring-necked Duck in Massachusetts.—Since 1938, several articles have appeared recounting breeding records for the Ring-necked Duck (*Aythya collaris*) in the Northeast. Mendall (Auk, 55: 401–404, 1938), Peters (Auk, 58: 401–402, 1941), and Squires (Auk, 63: 600, 1946) discussed breeding trends in Maine, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, respectively. The breeding population in New Brunswick is apparently one of quite long standing, but recent nesting in other northeastern areas is without historical precedent. While migrant Ring-necks have become increasingly common in Massachusetts, I have found no previous nesting records in New England south of Maine.

Observers of the spring migration through the Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge in Concord, Massachusetts, have been aware of the tendency of a small number of Ring-necks to linger into May and June. Considerable interest was aroused in the possibility of a pair remaining to nest on or about the refuge. The event was, in fact, predicted by Griscom (Birds of Concord, 1949: 190). During April, 1951, as many as 40 Ring-necks were observed on the refuge impoundments, but only one pair remained after the first week in May. Their behavior was observed by David Grice. The apparent territorial behavior of the male and the repeated presence of the female in a particular section of the marsh led him to believe that a nesting attempt was being made, although his searches for the nest did not disclose it.

On the morning of May 22, the writer, using a Labrador Retriever dog, flushed the duck from the nest. It was situated on a semi-floating island of decayed plant material about five yards out from the hummocky zone which lines the shores of the impoundment. The nest was placed in a small grassy tussock shaded by a sparse buttonbush. The 12 olive-buff eggs were a scant two inches above the surface of the water. A sample of the down and breast feathers was removed and later identified as that of a Ring-necked Duck. Late in the afternoon, Joseph A. Hagar, State Ornithologist, accompanied the writer as the nest was reapproached by canoe. The duck was observed from a distance of less than ten feet, making positive visual confirmation of her identity possible.

On May 26, after several days of rain, the nest was found to contain only broken shells and membranes. In spite of the obscuring effects of the rain and the earliness of the season, it is believed that the clutch may have hatched successfully. While the brood has not been observed, few of the broods known to be hatched on the marsh are seen, owing to the density of the emergent vegetation present. Indeed, the nest itself could easily have gone undiscovered. Although it was located within 70 feet of a regularly visited Wood Duck box, and was in plain view of an observation tower less than 300 feet distant, the duck had kept her nest secret until scented by the dog. It seems altogether possible, therefore, that nests occurred here in previous years when Ring-necks were observed in late May and June.—EMERSON H. CHANDLER, *285 Webster St., Auburndale, Massachusetts.*