

Breeding of the Purple Gallinule in Illinois.—On 20 July 1963 we saw an adult Purple Gallinule (*Porphyryla martinica*) accompanied by two small downy young on Lake Mermet at the Mermet Conservation Area about 12 miles northwest of Metropolis in Massac County, extreme southern Illinois. We observed the birds under exceptionally favorable conditions for over 20 minutes through 8× binoculars at ranges of 25 to 40 yards.

Lake Mermet is large, shallow, and artificially impounded. Almost its entire surface is covered by a dense growth of floating and emergent vegetation. *Nelumbo lutea* (American lotus) is by far the most dominant plant, but *Salix* sp. (willow) and *Cephalanthus occidentalis* (buttonbush) are also abundant. The birds were walking about on the large floating leaves of *N. lutea* at the edge of the dense growth of vegetation. The adult was almost constantly in the open just at the edge of the open water. The black downy young were sometimes a little farther back from the edge beneath the shelter of the aerial leaves of *N. lutea*, but were often in the open and never more than three or four feet from the adult. All three birds appeared to be feeding.

To our knowledge this observation constitutes the first record of the Purple Gallinule breeding in Illinois. Reelfoot Lake in Tennessee is the northernmost point of the regular breeding range as indicated in the A.O.U. Check-list (fifth edit., 1957). The Mermet Conservation Area is approximately 60 miles north of Reelfoot Lake. H. R. Smith and P. W. Parmalee, in *A distributional check list of the birds of Illinois* (Illinois State Mus. Pop. Sci. Ser., IV, 62 pp., 1955), list the Purple Gallinule as an accidental visitor to Illinois and cite only five records of its occurrence since 1900. This research was supported by Grant No. CC 00037-01 from the Communicable Disease Center, U. S. Public Health Service, Atlanta, Georgia, to the Center for Zoonoses Research.—G. P. WALDBAUER, *Department of Entomology and Center for Zoonoses Research, University of Illinois, Urbana*, and J. HAYES, *Southeastern Illinois College, Harrisburg, and Center for Zoonoses Research, University of Illinois*.

First United States record for the Slate-throated Redstart, and first specimens of various species for New Mexico.—The specimens recorded below were all taken in southeastern New Mexico between December, 1961, and December, 1962. For the eight species involved, these apparently represent the first records for New Mexico based on specimens. To the best of my knowledge, some of these species were not formerly represented even by sight records in the state. Unless otherwise noted, identification has been confirmed by Dr. Dale A. Zimmerman, Western New Mexico University, Silver City, where most of the specimens have been deposited.

Louisiana Heron (*Hydranassa tricolor*).—R. C. Brummett and I took an adult female on 25 August 1962, at Lake McMillan, 25 miles north of Carlsbad, Eddy County, New Mexico. It was feeding with a group of Snowy Egrets (*Leucophoyx thula*) on a mud flat of the lake, which was being drained at the time. There are at least six earlier sight records for the Louisiana Heron in New Mexico.

Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*).—A female was taken at Lake McMillan on 7 May 1962. The bird was first discovered by Mr. and Mrs. O. R. Letson, who told R. C. Brummett. The latter notified the writer and assisted in securing the bird. This is evidently the first record for the species in New Mexico.

Knot (*Calidris canutus*).—I observed five Knots at Lake McMillan on 2 September 1962, and three of these were collected. Two of the birds were forwarded to Dr. James Findley at Albuquerque. The third specimen was deposited in the collection