

- PRESTON, F. W., AND E. J. PRESTON. 1953. Variation of the shapes of birds' eggs within the clutch. *Ann. Carnegie Museum* 33: 129-139.
- ROWLEY, J. S. 1966. Breeding records of birds of the Sierra Madre del Sur, Oaxaca. *Proc. Western Found. Vert. Zool.* part 1. 3: 107-204.
- STEPHENS, F. 1918. Frank Stephens—an autobiography. *Condor* 20: 164-166.
- VISHER, S. 1910. Birds of Pima County, Arizona. *Auk* 27: 279-288.
- ZIMMERMAN, D. A. 1965. The gray hawk in the southwest. *Audubon Field Notes* 19: 475-477.

DALE A. ZIMMERMAN. *Department of Biological Science, Western New Mexico University, Silver City, New Mexico 88061.* Accepted 1 Jan. 76. This paper was subsidized by the Western New Mexico Research Committee.

Western Flycatcher in Oklahoma.—On 6 September 1974 I collected an immature female Western Flycatcher (*Empidonax difficilis*) 10 km east of Kenton, Cimarron County, Oklahoma. The bird was perched alone in a willow alongside the stream bed in the bottom of a small canyon. The specimen was prepared as a study skin and deposited in the National Museum of Natural History (USNM 567683).

This record is the first of a Western Flycatcher in Oklahoma. Sutton (1974: 26) gave hypothetical status to the species on the basis of two specimens taken in extreme southwestern Kansas on 3 and 5 September 1952 (Graber 1954). Krehbiel (1961) considered the species an occasional transient visitor in New Mexico's Union County, which adjoins Cimarron County, Oklahoma. According to Hubbard (1970: 53), however, no specimen records exist from Union or the other eastern tier counties of New Mexico. The species seems not to have been reported from the eastern plains of Colorado (Bailey and Niedrach 1965: 531) nor from the Texas Panhandle (Oberholser 1974: 559-560).

The Oklahoma specimen is notable because, as J. P. Hubbard (pers. comm.) pointed out, *E. difficilis* seems to be extremely rare east of the Rockies, compared especially to Dusky (*E. oberholseri*) and Hammond's (*E. hammondi*) Flycatchers, even though the species breeds in the Black Hills. During 8 days (6-13 September) of field work in the Kenton area, I encountered about 20 other *Empidonax* flycatchers, including Dusky, Hammond's, Least (*E. minimus*), and Willow (*E. traillii*), but none was seen that looked yellowish enough to be another Western Flycatcher.

Two races of the polytypic species *E. difficilis* might be expected in Oklahoma, the nominate form of the Pacific Coast and *E. d. hellmayri* of the Rocky Mountains. One of the Kansas specimens mentioned above was identified as *hellmayri* and the other as intermediate between nominate *difficilis* and *hellmayri* (Graber 1954). As immature Western Flycatchers in early autumn are in juvenal plumage, I compared eight *E. d. hellmayri* juvenals, of both sexes, with a long series of nominate *difficilis*. No consistent differences were apparent in ventral coloration, which is highly variable. Foxing affects the color of the upper parts, but when skins of the same approximate age are compared, *hellmayri* averages more greenish, more grayish, and darker on the dorsum than *difficilis*. The Oklahoma specimen was compared with the most recent material available (1948 to 1962). It is perceptibly greener in dorsal color than any of the reference skins, whether *hellmayri* or *difficilis*, but it is closer to the *hellmayri* series than to the latter.

In evaluating measurements, I have been hampered by a scarcity of juvenal material of the larger race, *hellmayri*, and by the probable missexing of birds in my reference series of juvenal *difficilis*. The measurements (in mm) of the Oklahoma specimen are: wing chord 63.7, tail 54.8, bill length (nostril to tip) 7.8, bill width

5.1. It is longer-winged than all but one of nine juvenal *difficilis* from California which, in my opinion, are correctly labeled as females.

Because breeding populations consist not only of fully adult birds but also of first-year birds, which still possess juvenal remiges, it is not inappropriate to refer to their measurement ranges when identifying autumn immatures. The wing chords of breeding females (adult and first-year combined) measure: 28 *hellmayri*, 63.5–68.1 (\bar{x} = 65.9, SD = 1.3); 30 *difficilis*, 59.6–65.3 (\bar{x} = 62.1, SD = 1.5). As first-year birds tend to be smaller than adults, the wing chord of an autumn immature would be most likely to fall in the lower part of the range for breeding birds of its subspecies. The Oklahoma specimen's wing chord lies in the zone of overlap for breeding females, but it is at the low end of the *hellmayri* range and longer than most *difficilis*.

Because of geographic proximity, it is more likely that a Western Flycatcher wandering into the Oklahoma Panhandle would be a member of the race *hellmayri* rather than of the nominate form. Thus, geographic probability supports evidence from coloration and measurements, and I have identified the specimen as *E. d. hellmayri*.

I am grateful to A. R. Phillips for suggestions on subspecific identification of *E. difficilis* and to R. C. Banks for helpful criticism of the manuscript. D. M. Niles of the Delaware Museum of Natural History and W. E. Lanyon of the American Museum of Natural History kindly allowed me to examine specimens in their care. I also thank Eugene Boyd for permitting field work on his property and George Wint of the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation for granting my collecting permit.

LITERATURE CITED

- BAILEY, A. M., AND R. J. NIEDRACH. 1965. Birds of Colorado. Denver, Denver Museum of Natural History.
- GRABER, R. R. 1954. Additional notes on the birds of southwestern Kansas. Wilson Bull. 66: 149–151.
- HUBBARD, J. P. 1970. Check-list of the birds of New Mexico. New Mexico Ornithol. Soc. Publ. No. 3.
- KREHBIEL, A. J. 1961. Check-list of the birds of the Clayton, New Mexico vicinity. Published by the author.
- OVERHOLSER, H. C. 1974. The bird life of Texas. Austin, Univ. of Texas Press.
- SUTTON, G. M. 1974. A check-list of Oklahoma birds. Norman, Univ. of Oklahoma.
- JOHN S. WESKE, *National Fish and Wildlife Laboratory, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D. C. 20560*. Accepted 15 Mar. 76. This paper was subsidized by the National Fish and Wildlife Laboratory.

First breeding records of Wilson's Phalarope for James Bay, Ontario.—

There appear to be no published records of Wilson's Phalarope (*Steganopus tricolor*) on the James Bay coast, though R. H. Smith reported 10 birds at Boatswain Bay (51°50'N, 78°50'W), Quebec, in southeast James Bay on 7 July 1943 (MS, 1944). The nearest known major breeding area in Canada is 500–600 miles to the southwest on sloughs and potholes on the Manitoba prairies, though the species also breeds very locally in marshes in southern Ontario (Godfrey 1966, Natl. Mus. Canada Bull. 203: 168), and in 1974 a nest with four eggs was found on Nun's Island near Montreal, Quebec (Steeves and Holohan 1975, Canadian Field-Naturalist 89: 185).

During fieldwork at North Point (51°29'N, 80°27'W), Ontario, in southwest James Bay in August 1974 and May–August 1975, we recorded the species regularly