

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

Audubon Warbler Eating Grapes.—On November 16, 1926, in the eastern suburbs of Stockton, California, while waiting in front of a house where my companion was calling, I saw an Audubon Warbler (*Dendroica auduboni*) thrust its bill into some grapes lying within a few feet of the automobile in which I was sitting, and drink the juice. This was repeated several times. Wood warblers are generally credited with being mainly insectivorous. It therefore seems worth while reporting a clear case of one of these birds taking any other kind of food, especially fruit juice, which could probably never be identified among stomach contents of collected birds. Audubon Warblers are not very brilliantly colored in November; but they are so frequently seen that any of us amateurs may, I assume, be trusted to make sight identifications.—CLAUDE GIGNOUX, *Berkeley, California, November 22, 1926.*

A Note on the Longevity of the Pintail.—The longevity of birds is of interest to the ornithological investigator and much has already been written on this subject. Unfortunately, the sources of information have been limited largely to zoological parks and private aviaries which, while supplying important data concerning the span of life that a bird *can* enjoy, fail to furnish a standard by which it is possible to calculate the life term of the bird in a state of nature, there confronted with all the perils attendant upon its every-day existence. The advent of the banding method, particularly through systematic trapping, was promptly recognized as a means of obtaining exact data bearing upon this subject. There can be little doubt that this confidence will be justified by the records from trapping stations, when operations have been carried on continuously for a sufficient period to make possible the computation of proper averages. Obviously, some time must elapse before such records will be forthcoming, and premature deductions should be carefully avoided.

Records from banded game birds will, of course, be reported through the medium of sportsmen, and in this connection the following case seems worthy of record, especially since it appears to represent the longest time record for any bird banded in America. On September 16, 1914, Dr. Alexander Wetmore banded an adult male Pintail (*Dafila acuta tzitzihoa*) at the mouth of Bear River, Utah, using Biological Survey band no. 519. This bird had been suffering from the duck sickness (alkali poisoning) and had been successfully treated and brought to complete recovery by Doctor Wetmore. It was killed on October 16 or 17, 1926, ten miles north of Brawley, California, by Mr. H. W. Seybert. The band was accordingly carried by this bird for 12 years and 22 or 23 days, a most remarkable record, in view of the fact that each season it had run the gauntlet of hunters and also had escaped the poisonous alkali areas and other natural enemies.

The band was of the type that carry the legend "Notify U. S. Dept. Agt., Wash., D. C.," and was made of thin but well-tempered aluminum. Mr. Seybert has forwarded the band to the Biological Survey, and it is in excellent condition. The edges show considerable wear, but the legend and number are clear and legible, indicating that it would have lasted for many additional years. As the bird was adult when banded, it was at least 13 years old when killed.—FREDERICK C. LINCOLN, *Biological Survey, Washington, D. C., January 11, 1927.*

Some Results of Removing Banded Birds to a Distance.—In the latter part of August, 1926, while the writers of this paper were at Big Bear Lake, an attempt was made to continue experiments in removing banded birds to a distance, which had previously been commenced by Pierce (*Condor*, xxvii, 1925, p. 120). Bear Lake, with an elevation of about 6750 feet, in the San Bernardino Mountains, is at present some 5½ miles long by a little less than a mile in width, with Baldwin Lake lying about three miles to the east. All the localities mentioned below, with the exception of the slope 1½ miles up Red Ant Creek, are on the floor of Bear Valley; the Red Ant Creek locality is some 500 feet up a one thousand foot ridge overlooking the south side of Bear Lake.