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SOME FRINGILLID RECORDS FOR TEXAS

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Recent specimen acquisitions and numerous records made available to the author prompt this note on some fringillid species. The specimens are deposited in a small collection of birds at the University of Dallas unless otherwise indicated.

Evening Grosbeak. *Hesperiphona vespertina*. The Audubon Field Notes (1969:494, 498) and Wolfe (1970) cite accounts of this species invading Texas during the winter of 1968-1969. The reports indicate that the birds invaded east Texas proper, and on reaching the southern part of this area they then moved westerly across to the Edwards Plateau.

In the northern part of the state the species barely reached the Dallas-Fort Worth area. There are only two reports: one is for Dallas, Dallas County, when a lone female visited the feeder of Mrs. Virginia Daggett 13-15 January 1969; the other is for Denton, Denton County, when two females and several males were observed by Mrs. J. R. Kilpatrick on 25 January 1969.

There is little doubt that the invading birds were from the east. Five specimens which I acquired at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ross DeLay of Gladewater (approximately 125 mi. E of Dallas-Ft. Worth), Gregg County, on 4 February-3 March 1969 (three females and two males with ossified skulls) proved to belong to the nominate race *vespertina*. Also recovered at the same location on 27 January was a banded male over eight years old. It was at least a year old when banded by Miss F. Brierly on 18 April 1962 near Savey, Massachusetts.

The only previous records of Evening Grosbeaks for the area are three from Fort Worth, Tarrant County: a lone bird observed by Mr. Charles F. Crabtree et al. on 1 December 1962; a specimen taken in April 1963; and a single bird seen on 13 September 1964 by Mmes. Wade Smith and Robert Hardwicke. Dr. Kenneth C. Parkes of the Carnegie Museum identified the specimen as "an intermediate between *vespertina* and *brooksi*." This specimen is in the Fort Worth Science and History Museum.

Cassin's Finch. *Carpodacus cassinii*. On 8 April 1961, while leaving a cedar brake on the E. S. Dorman ranch 7 mi. E of Cayote, Bosque County, my son and I noticed an unusual looking finch perched high in an elm (*Ulmus* sp.) in the vicinity of a cattle feeding corral. We collected the bird which proved to be an adult female Cassin's Finch. Wolfe (1956:79) indicates that the species is a migrant and a rare winter resident in the western part of the state. This bird was approximately 250 miles from where the species was recorded previously, and represents the only record for the north-central part of the state, as well as one of the few specimens for Texas. It apparently pushed its way into Texas during the species' invasion

into western Oklahoma (Sutton 1967:269) and west-central Kansas (Ely 1961).

House Finch. *Carpodacus mexicanus*. On 9 January 1960 my son and I collected a lone male as it fed on ragweed (*Ambrosia* sp.) on the University of Dallas property in Irving, along the Elm Fork of the Trinity River. The species normally ranges 100 miles to the west. The specimen was identified as belonging to the race *frontalis* and represents the first record for Dallas County.

Pine Grosbeak. *Pinicola enucleator*. Mrs. Phil Huey found a dead adult male Pine Grosbeak in Dallas, Dallas County on 24 November 1969. The bird was given to Mrs. Tie Davis who in turn gave the bird to me for confirmation. The bird, in excellent condition, was prepared as a study skin. Dr. Richard C. Banks of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife identified it as belonging to the race *montana*.

Observers in Amarillo reported Pine Grosbeaks in the panhandle January-March 1970.

Wolfe (1956:75) cites a specimen from Pampa, Gray County, in the Panhandle in December 1933; thus, the Pine Grosbeak from Dallas represents the second specimen record for Texas.

Pine Siskin. *Spinus pinus*. An immature Pine Siskin given to the daughter of C. F. Crabtree to care for during a vacation period was brought to me on 31 July 1969 for identification. The bird was extremely tame. It had been found with two dead nest males on the grounds of the Amarillo City Hall in Potter County by Kathy Crane after a severe hail storm on 17 June 1969. From its sparsely feathered body the surviving siskin was estimated to be only a few days old at the time. The bird died on 5 January 1970 and was prepared as a study skin.

Wolfe (1956:75) records the species as resident in southwest Texas. Sutton (1967:592) cites one nesting record in 1911 for the panhandle of Oklahoma near Kenton, Cimmaron County. Although local bird enthusiasts indicate that the species may have nested previously in the panhandle of Texas this is the first authentic nesting record for the area.

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