

EASTERN FIELD SPARROW MIGRATION
IN TENNESSEE

By AMELIA R. LASKEY

A STUDY of the records of Field Sparrows (*Spizella pusilla pusilla*) banded at my trapping stations in Nashville, Tennessee, from August 5, 1931, to March 31, 1933, indicated that there was a definite migration movement in spring and fall, although Field Sparrows had been considered permanent residents in this State, as the species is present every month in the year. (*Journal Tennessee Academy of Science*, Vol. VIII, No. 3, pp. 265-7.) In that time 620 individuals were banded; 347 of that number were recaptured many times, including fifty "returns" in the nineteen-month period. The records of the ensuing fifteen-month period further substantiate this theory of a definite spring and fall migration movement, and in addition show how very few birds of this species are present in a given location throughout the entire year. A total of 1115 Field Sparrows have been banded up to June 17, 1934, 500 of which have not been retaken since banding. The remainder, 615, have yielded several thousand repeats, thus giving a very definite idea of the length of time an individual frequents the vicinity of the banding station. Field Sparrows here enter traps readily for millet and water, the repeat records giving a fairly accurate account of the number about the station. A study of these records (Table No. II) shows that they may be classified as winter residents, summer residents, and spring and fall migrants, with a few that have changed their status during a two-year period, migrating one year but remaining the second year. Among the large number banded only seven may be considered as probable permanent residents, for their non-appearance as repeats during a period one of or two months could easily be accounted for by an abundance of water and natural food near by.

In the spring the migrants can be distinguished from the wintering birds by their brighter plumage and clean appearance in contrast to the dull, darker-colored birds that have come in contact with suburban soft-coal soot. Repeat records show that many of these spring and fall migrants enter traps almost daily for a few days or weeks, and then disappear, some of them returning the next season, as shown by the tabulated returns herewith. A few remain for either the winter or the summer. Unfortunately not one recovery has been reported as yet to

indicate either distance or direction traveled by these banded Field Sparrows after they leave the station.

The following table (No. I) shows definite spring and fall peaks in number of birds banded. October and November in the fall, and February, March, and April in the spring, bring increased numbers of new birds as well as the largest number of returns of banded birds. In 1934, the spring peak occurred in April and was doubtless due to the unusually cold, stormy weather in early spring this year here.

TABLE I

| | | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. |
|------|--------|------|------|------|------|-----|-------------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|
| 1931 | Adults | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 26 | 0 | 0 |
| | Immat. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1932 | Adults | 0 | 20 | 57 | 23 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 2 | 5 | 66 | 72 | 23 |
| | Immat. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 44 | 21 | 5 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1933 | Adults | 13 | 60 | 145 | 51 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 17 | 1 | 31 | 50 | 25 |
| | Immat. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 31 | 25 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1934 | Adults | 25 | 16 | 70 | 127 | 2 | 1 | | | | | | |
| | Immat. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | (nestlings) | | | | | | |

TABLE II

FIELD SPARROW RETURNS AND REPEAT RECORDS

| Status | Age | Date of Banding | Return-1 | Return-2 | Return-3 | No. of Repeats |
|--------|-----|-----------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| M | | F70903 | Oct. 3, 1931 | Apr. 6, 1932 | | 1 |
| M | | F70905 | Oct. 3, 1931 | Mar. 9, 1932 | | 66 |
| X | | F70913 | Oct. 13, 1931 | Oct. 9, 1932 | Mar. 28, 1933 | 28 |
| X | | F70915 | Oct. 13, 1931 | June 25, 1932 | Oct. 30, 1932 | 1 |
| M | | F70921 | Oct. 23, 1931 | Mar. 2, 1932 | Mar. 6, 1933 | 37 |
| M | | F70924 | Oct. 27, 1931 | Feb. 18, 1932 | (remained until 5/16/32) | 79 |
| W | | F70942 | Feb. 12, 1932 | Nov. 14, 1932 | | 30 |
| M | | F70944 | Feb. 13, 1932 | Nov. 12, 1932 | | 5 |
| M | | F70948 | Feb. 18, 1932 | Oct. 14, 1932 | | 2 |
| W | | F70950 | Feb. 23, 1932 | Nov. 22, 1932 | Nov. 21, 1933 | 46 |
| M | | F70951 | Feb. 23, 1932 | Nov. 2, 1932 | Nov. 8, 1933 | 16 |
| M | | F70954 | Feb. 24, 1932 | Mar. 2, 1933 | | 13 |
| M | | F83311 | Feb. 28, 1932 | Nov. 12, 1932 | | .. |
| W | | F83325 | Mar. 4, 1932 | Dec. 4, 1932 | | 3 |
| W | | F83328 | Mar. 6, 1932 | Dec. 14, 1932 | Jan. 26, 1934 | 23 |
| W | | F83330 | Mar. 7, 1932 | Oct. 23, 1932 | | 55 |
| M | | F83332 | Mar. 7, 1932 | Mar. 21, 1933 | | 4 |
| X | | F83338 | Mar. 8, 1932 | Nov. 11, 1932 | Mar. 16, 1933 | 29 |
| W | | F83348 | Mar. 11, 1932 | Dec. 14, 1932 | | 5 |
| W | | F83349 | Mar. 12, 1932 | Jan. 4, 1933 | | 11 |
| X | | F83350 | Mar. 12, 1932 | July 26, 1932 | Mar. 14, 1933 | 26 |
| M | | F91208 | Mar. 17, 1932 | Mar. 6, 1933 | | 30 |
| X | | F91221 | Mar. 24, 1932 | Mar. 16, 1933 | | 137 |
| M | | F91234 | Mar. 31, 1932 | Sept. 6, 1932 | | 4 |
| S | | F91262 | Apr. 24, 1932 | July 17, 1933 | Apr. 4, 1934 | 6 |
| S | Ad. | F91276 | May 10, 1932 | Apr. 28, 1933 | | 13 |
| M | Ad. | F91279 | May 16, 1932 | Apr. 4, 1934 | | 8 |
| M | Ad. | F91283 | May 18, 1932 | Mar. 22, 1933 | | 23 |
| S | Ad. | F91293 | June 6, 1932 | Mar. 18, 1933 | July 23, 1933 | 5 |
| .. | | F91607 | June 18, 1932 | Oct. 6, 1933 | | 1 |
| S | Ad. | F91609 | June 18, 1932 | Mar. 16, 1933 | Mar. 17, 1934 | 42 |
| S | Ad. | F91622 | June 22, 1932 | Mar. 18, 1933 | | 53 |
| M | Im. | F91630 | June 22, 1932 | Oct. 6, 1932 | Apr. 7, 1933 | 6 |
| M | Im. | F91634 | June 23, 1932 | Feb. 25, 1933 | | 22 |
| M | Im. | F91646 | June 24, 1932 | Mar. 23, 1933 | | 14 |
| M | Im. | F91655 | June 24, 1932 | Mar. 14, 1933 | Mar. 22, 1934 | 7 |
| M | Ad. | F91683 | July 18, 1932 | Mar. 18, 1933 | | 24 |

| Status | Age | Date of Banding | Return-1 | Return-2 | Return-3 | No. of Repeats |
|--------|--------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------|--------------|----------------|
| M | F91685 | Im. July 19, 1932 | Mar. 21, 1933 | | | 3 |
| M | F91697 | Im. July 23, 1932 | Mar. 15, 1933 | | | 13 |
| M | H17804 | Im. July 30, 1932 | Feb. 27, 1933 | | | 5 |
| S | H17805 | Ad. July 30, 1932 | June 26, 1933 | Apr. 24, 1934 | | 16 |
| S | H17808 | Ad. July 31, 1932 | Feb. 27, 1933 | | | 69 |
| X | H17818 | Im. Aug. 25, 1932 | Aug. 15, 1933 | (remaining to date) | | 85 |
| M | H17828 | Im. Sept. 1, 1932 | Apr. 7, 1933 | | | 4 |
| X | H17829 | Im. Sept. 1, 1932 | Mar. 16, 1933 | Oct. 11, 1933 | | 70 |
| S | H17838 | Ad. Sept. 9, 1932 | Apr. 1, 1933 | Mar. 15, 1934 | | 71 |
| M | H17873 | Oct. 3, 1932 | Mar. 31, 1933 | | | 3 |
| S | H17876 | Oct. 5, 1932 | July 6, 1933 | Apr. 15, 1934 | | 36 |
| W | H17877 | Oct. 5, 1932 | Dec. 8, 1933 | | | 31 |
| M | H17880 | Oct. 5, 1932 | Mar. 15, 1933 | Aug. 28, 1933 | Mar. 9, 1934 | 33 |
| M | H17894 | Oct. 7, 1932 | Mar. 23, 1933 | | | 1 |
| M | H27504 | Oct. 8, 1932 | Mar. 18, 1933 | | | 14 |
| M | H27509 | Oct. 9, 1932 | Apr. 2, 1933 | | | 20 |
| M | H27511 | Oct. 9, 1932 | Mar. 16, 1934 | | | 1 |
| M | H27517 | Oct. 9, 1932 | Mar. 18, 1933 | | | 8 |
| W | H27524 | Oct. 10, 1932 | Jan. 17, 1934 | | | 10 |
| M | H27563 | Oct. 28, 1932 | Mar. 16, 1933 | | | 15 |
| M | H27583 | Nov. 1, 1932 | Mar. 7, 1933 | | | .. |
| W | H27585 | Nov. 2, 1932 | Dec. 11, 1933 | | | 77 |
| M | H27587 | Nov. 2, 1932 | Mar. 24, 1934 | | | 3 |
| M | H27595 | Nov. 6, 1932 | Mar. 29, 1933 | | | 2 |
| W | H27598 | Nov. 8, 1932 | Nov. 6, 1933 | | | 25 |
| M | H32617 | Nov. 10, 1932 | Mar. 2, 1933 | | | 1 |
| M | H32636 | Nov. 13, 1932 | Feb. 27, 1933 | | | 37 |
| M | H32637 | Nov. 13, 1932 | Mar. 10, 1933 | | | 6 |
| W | H32646 | Nov. 25, 1932 | Nov. 27, 1933 | | | 24 |
| W | H32647 | Nov. 25, 1932 | Jan. 28, 1934 | | | 7 |
| W | H32658 | Dec. 4, 1932 | Dec. 11, 1933 | | | 16 |
| W | H32670 | Dec. 12, 1932 | Nov. 20, 1933 | | | 36 |
| W | H32673 | Dec. 15, 1932 | Dec. 27, 1933 | | | 28 |
| W | H32676 | Dec. 17, 1932 | Mar. 28, 1934 | | | 2 |
| W | H32679 | Dec. 19, 1932 | Nov. 28, 1933 | | | 16 |
| W | H32707 | Jan. 9, 1933 | Dec. 10, 1933 | | | 21 |
| M | H32719 | Feb. 3, 1933 | Mar. 18, 1934 | | | .. |
| S | H32774 | Feb. 15, 1933 | July 7, 1933 | Mar. 15, 1934 | | 71 |
| M | H3372 | Mar. 7, 1933 | Nov. 11, 1933 | | | 45 |
| S | H3374 | Mar. 27, 1933 | Mar. 24, 1934 | | | 61 |
| M | H33986 | Mar. 28, 1933 | Mar. 27, 1934 | | | 47 |
| M | H33776 | Apr. 24, 1933 | Nov. 13, 1933 | | | 3 |
| S | H38801 | Ad. July 4, 1933 | Mar. 30, 1934 | | | 22 |
| S | H38833 | Im. July 18, 1933 | Mar. 13, 1934 | | | 180 |
| S | H38845 | Ad. July 29, 1933 | Mar. 2, 1934 | | | 23 |
| S | H38848 | Im. July 31, 1933 | Mar. 16, 1934 | | | 68 |
| S | H38863 | Ad. Aug. 9, 1933 | Apr. 4, 1934 | | | 36 |
| M | H38878 | Ad. Aug. 19, 1933 | Mar. 3, 1934 | | | 1 |
| S | H38911 | Ad. Aug. 28, 1933 | Apr. 28, 1934 | | | 3 |
| S | H38960 | Oct. 6, 1933 | Mar. 15, 1934 | | | 33 |
| S | H38962 | Oct. 6, 1933 | Mar. 9, 1934 | | | 85 |
| M | H38972 | Oct. 10, 1933 | Apr. 14, 1934 | | | .. |
| M | H38973 | Oct. 10, 1933 | Feb. 13, 1934 | | | .. |
| S | H38974 | Oct. 10, 1933 | Apr. 28, 1934 | | | 9 |
| M | H38993 | Oct. 27, 1933 | Apr. 14, 1934 | | | .. |
| M | L38807 | Nov. 11, 1932 | Mar. 14, 1934 | | | 13 |
| M | L38844 | Nov. 19, 1933 | Apr. 14, 1934 | | | 4 |
| M | L38862 | Nov. 22, 1933 | Mar. 6, 1934 | | | 16 |
| M | L38874 | Nov. 26, 1933 | Mar. 26, 1934 | | | 2 |

M indicates repeat records which show migration stops in the spring, or fall, or both (migrating returns).

S indicates the bird is a summer resident.

W indicates the bird is a winter resident.

X indicates birds that have changed their status, migrating a portion of the time and spending either one winter or one summer at the station during either their first or second year banded.

The ages of birds are given only during the summer months of May through September, because after the fall molt age cannot

be determined by plumage in this species. Birds designated as immature were not banded from the nest, and therefore may have traveled some distance to the banding station from their nesting-grounds.

These Field Sparrow repeat records show that my returns may be divided into three kinds as follows: (1) returns to nesting grounds; (2) returns to wintering grounds; and (3) returns taken while the birds are migrating, migrating returns. About fifty per cent of the Field Sparrow returns listed should be classified as migrating returns, one third of them being trapped in the spring and the remaining two thirds returning both in the spring and in the fall.

June 17, 1934.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF MICHIGAN RECOVERED EASTERN EVENING GROSBEEKS NEAR THE ATLANTIC SEABOARD

By M. J. MAGEE

As there has been during the fall and winter seasons of 1933-34 a large influx of Eastern Evening Grosbeaks (*Hesperiphona v. vespertina*) in New England and Canada, and as additional recoveries of birds banded in Michigan have been made in the East, it seems desirable to publish a complete list of known recoveries, and to show their distribution on a map. In addition to birds banded in Michigan and recovered in the East, two Grosbeaks banded in the East have been recovered in Michigan, one of these occurring on May 31st, indicating that the bird nested in that State.

The map only shows recoveries between the Eastern part of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and the East.

To the West there are light records: Manitoba, one; Minnesota, three; and Western part of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, four.

Eight Evening Grosbeaks, banded in the Eastern part of the Upper Peninsula, have also been taken in southern Michigan, and one banded in southern Michigan was trapped at my station in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

Owing to this scarcity of food for seed-eating birds, the Evening Grosbeaks began moving out of the eastern part of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan early in October, 1933, and during the winter, except for a small flock at my feeding station,