

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.

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## 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,

there were practically none about. Reports indicate that many more Evening Grosbeaks than usual were in Southern Michigan and the New England States, and birds banded in the eastern part of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan were in many of the flocks.

Usually as winter wanes the number of Evening Grosbeaks feeding at my station increases, until by March it is not unusual to see seventy-five or more in the trees near my house almost any morning. This year practically none arrived until the last of April, and then many appeared. I banded over three hundred in May and could have banded many more if I had had the time to devote to it. Early in June all but a few strays left to nest. The last one banded was on June 17th, and the last seen were an adult male and an adult female, June 20th.

Evening Grosbeaks can be found during the nesting season in the heavily-wooded portions of the eastern part of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, beginning about forty miles west of Sault Ste. Marie. So far as I know, however, only once have nests been located there, and that was in 1922. Five nests and an injured fledgling were found at Whitefish Point, about forty-five miles Northwest of Sault Ste. Marie. The list follows:

RECOVERIES IN MICHIGAN AND AT POINTS  
IN THE EAST AS OF JUNE 30, 1934

Banded by M. J. Magee at  
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan

A221387, Adult Male  
Dec. 14, 1930  
A309057, Adult Male  
March 16, 1929  
A280171, Adult Male  
Feb. 19, 1933  
110630, Adult Female  
March 23, 1924  
  
393454, Adult Male  
Feb. 2, 1927  
  
338520, Adult Male  
March 14, 1925  
A221441, Adult Female  
March 1, 1931  
  
462170, Adult Female  
March 10, 1927  
A217456, Adult Female  
May 16, 1929  
331320, Adult Male  
Nov. 16, 1925  
A309060, Adult Female

RECOVERIES

Caught June 18, 1932, Harcourt, Ont.,  
by C. Holbrook. (16)  
Found Jan. 1, 1930, Conklin, N. Y., by  
C. J. Getman. (15)  
Caught Oct. 18, 1933, Bigelow, N. Y.,  
by Mrs. A. Cassaw. (14)  
Found, reported March 13, 1926, St.  
Charles, Quebec, by L. K. Richard.  
(2)  
Caught Feb. 10, 1928, Loretteville,  
Quebec, by M. Verret. Was kept  
until spring and then released. (1)  
Trapped Jan. 30, 1928, West Hartford,  
Conn., by Mrs. H. J. Pratt. (12)  
Found dead about Dec. 31, 1933, North  
Scituate, Rhode Island. Not re-  
ported by whom found. (13)  
Trapped Feb. 22, 1928, Huntington,  
Mass., by D. Messer. (7)  
Trapped Feb. 8, 1930, Topsfield, Mass.,  
by Miss E. V. Perkins. (8)  
Found dead April 10, 1930, Cohasset,  
Mass., by Thomas Brown. (9)  
Found dead, March 31, 1930, Boston,

- March 16, 1929  
462165, Adult Female  
March 9, 1927  
Returned March 12, 1928  
Returned March 14, 1931  
B248797, Adult Female  
April 9, 1933  
B261619, Adult Female  
Oct. 12, 1933  
691353, Adult Male.  
Jan. 27, 1929  
Banded by Dr. K. Christofferson  
at Blaney Park, 80 miles, West  
South West of Sault Ste. Marie,  
Mich.  
A275847, Adult  
March 11, 1932  
Banded by Mrs. R. D. Kilborne  
at Hanover, N. H.  
581875, Adult Female  
March 9, 1928  
Banded by J. P. Melzer  
at Milford, N. H.  
34-208502, Adult Female  
Jan. 11, 1934  
The appended numbers also appear on the accompanying map.
- Mass., by F. B. Bemis. (10)  
Trapped March 22, 1930, Sandwich,  
Mass., by Mrs. George Burbank. (11)  
Trapped Dec. 4, 1933, Peterboro, N.H.,  
by C. L. Whittle. (5)  
Trapped Feb. 26, 1934, Milford, N. H.,  
by J. P. Melzer. (6)  
Found dead April 2, 1934, Gardiner,  
Me., by R. S. Dowling. (4)  
Trapped Feb. 28, 1934, Presque Isle,  
Me., by G. D. Chamberlain. (3)  
Trapped Jan. 27, 1929, Sault Ste.  
Marie, Mich., by M. J. Magee. (17)  
Trapped May 31, 1934, Sault Ste.  
Marie, Mich., by M. J. Magee. (18)

That readers may have a glimpse of the extent and wide distribution of the exodus of Evening Grosbeaks from Michigan during the fall and winter season of 1933-1934, the following excerpts are taken from letters received from Mrs. Kenneth B. Wetherbee covering Massachusetts; from Mr. Lewis O. Shelley covering New Hampshire, and others. It will be noticed that the birds recorded by them have seldom departed from the transition life-zone in which they mainly nest.

*From Mrs. Kenneth B. Wetherbee*

Evening Grosbeaks were more abundant in Massachusetts and Connecticut last winter than usual. Although they are reported as regular winter visitors at least from North Brookfield, Massachusetts, and from Moosup, Connecticut, and doubtless from other sections of these States, their numbers at these stations last winter were much larger than during former winters. They were reported from many places where they have rarely if ever been seen before. The flocks numbered from five individuals to more than one hundred.

In Connecticut reports came from Wilton, New London, Windsor, East and South Windsor, Hartford, West Simsbury, Bloomfield, Hampton, and North and East Woodstock. These were casual reports, but as these towns are located in

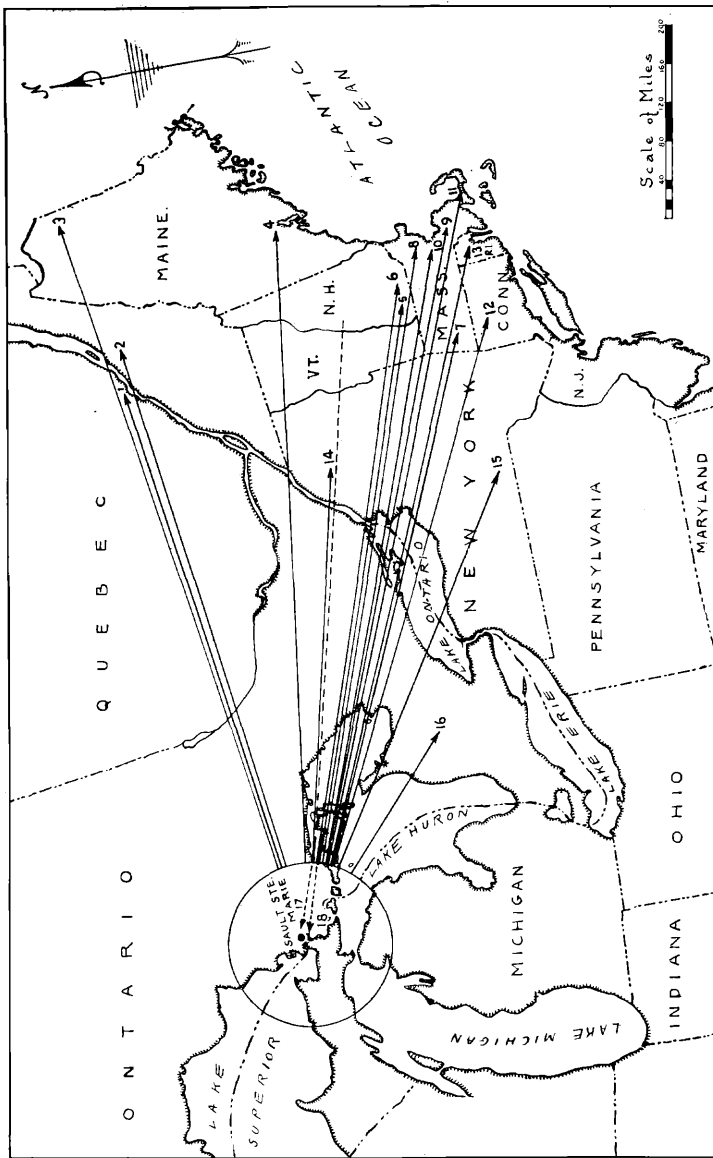


Figure 1. Map of Michigan Evening Grosbeak recoveries in the East, and recoveries in Michigan of birds banded in New Hampshire (dotted lines Nos. 17 and 18).

northern, eastern, southern, and western Connecticut, doubtless the birds were widely scattered over the State. Aaron Bagg reported them from Holyoke, and Laurence B. Fletcher reports them from Cohasset. They were also reported from Williamstown, Littleton, Sharon, Lexington, Hanover, Fitchburg and Boston. In Worcester County, where I gathered reports, Evening Grosbeaks were reported from nearly every town in the county. Only one town in the county reports them yearly — North Brookfield. One other town reported them in 1904, 1907, 1910, 1913, 1914, 1922, 1926, 1932 and 1933. In the other towns they had rarely or never been reported.

At a number of stations the birds came to feed mostly in the morning, though at some stations they fed at intervals during the day. The males seemed to be more numerous than the females at several stations, and at one place there were two or three males to one female. The earliest date reported was October 14th, and the latest May 19th.

At Mrs. Newman's in North Brookfield, where the birds were regular visitors, during the last days of their stay a male was seen taking a sunflower seed to a female, and in several places males were seen carrying twigs.

Dr. F. W. Keys, of Ipswich, Massachusetts, reports that he had more than fifty Grosbeaks for three weeks feeding within two feet of a window, eating more than a quart of sunflower seeds at a meal.

*From Lewis O. Shelley and others*

Mr. Shelley made a careful canvass of the Grosbeaks reported from many places in New Hampshire, securing reports from numerous towns.

In Antrim, Mrs. Rachel Caughey reports a flock of twenty wintering birds. In Barnstead twelve were seen. In Concord small flocks were noted in December. In East Westmoreland twenty-two were observed in November. In Elmwood they were present all through November, about one hundred in the flock, and they remained until snow covered the maple trees and the fruit on which they fed.

In Goffstown small flocks were present throughout the winter. On December 20th a flock of twenty were seen at St. Anselm's College grounds.

A flock of thirty fed on sunflower seeds at a feeding station near the Dartmouth College grounds, Hanover, the flock appearing on January 30th.

In Hillsboro on April 16th a flock of eighteen was still

present, feeding on sunflower seeds and chick-feed. Individuals remained here as late as May 6th. (D. A. Whittle.)

In South Lyndeboro on December 1st four birds were seen by Mrs. James Putnam at her home, and they came every day for a week. At her brother's home two miles distant they had a flock of twenty about the same time. About three hundred arrived the first part of November where a road is lined with maples having abundant fruit on which the birds fed. In late November, the flock dwindled to about thirty, and about mid-March decreased to twelve, and then all disappeared.

In Manchester on December 6th twenty were seen, and small flocks were noted throughout the month.

In Marlboro on January 3d twenty-nine were present, and again on January 10th. They remained all winter.

In Peterboro the Grosbeaks were first seen on December 1st, when twenty to twenty-five were seen at my feeding-shelf. A few days later forty were present, but by February 14th the flock was reduced to nineteen, seven females and twelve males. In all twenty-six were banded with colored bands. From April 10th to the 26th, when the last one was seen, the attendance became highly variable, but gradually decreasing, and the interest in food also lessened. (C. L. Whittle.)

Milford: Mr. James P. Melzer reports that he banded 81 Grosbeaks during the winter season, 46 of which were males, or nearly 57 per cent. That some importance should be attached to this ratio of the sexes is indicated by the fairly large number of birds considered. In addition to the 81 birds banded, Melzer estimates that there were about 300 more seen in various parts of the village.

In Mount Vernon a flock of twelve or fifteen were first seen on November 26th, feeding on maple seeds. (Mrs. Roy M. Hutchinson.)

Sandwich: April 3d, a flock seen feeding on maple seeds on the ground. (R. H. Thompson, Jr.)

Sanbornton: One bird came to a maple the morning of November 7th. The next morning fifteen appeared, and on November 17th there were twenty to twenty-five, on each occasion stopping only a few minutes. However, a mile distant a neighbor had forty feeding in her yard. (E. C. Weeks.)

Strafford: Eight birds (apparently the first reported for New Hampshire) were seen on October 26th, 1933, and thirteen on November 6th. Their stay was brief. (George C. Atwell.)

Squantum: First seen the last of January and the first of February, twenty-five birds in all.

A few Grosbeaks were also reported in Francestown, Franklin, Jaffrey, Barnstead, New Boston, and Greenfield (as late as April 30th).

In Vermont, L. O. Shelley reports several flocks seen, one flock not leaving until May 15th, when normally the birds should be on their breeding-grounds.

"Miss Anna Reynolds of Burlington, Vermont reports that during the winter of 1933-34 she had a few coming to her feeding station sometime in December and that they continued until May 1st, when there were twenty-four, six of the number being males. One Burlington woman last saw them on May 12th. In Grand Isle County, where there are extensive orchards, they were reported frequently during last winter, feeding on unharvested apples.

I have banded none at Wells River, Vermont. Flocks have never remained about the station for more than two days at a time and usually for only a few hours. They have never visited the feeding stands of which there are both those with traps and those that are trapless. The buds of maples, unharvested apples, and sometimes the fruit of *Rhus typhina* have been the only attractions in the food line. My dates follow: On December 16, 1933 six were seen, five of them adult males. A varying number were reported within a radius of two miles at intervals during January and February, but many details are lacking. As many as twenty-five or thirty were reported together. Two adult males were seen on May 8-9, 1934."

WENDELL P. SMITH.

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Saulte Ste. Marie, Michigan