

A Beginning in a Territorial Study of the Eastern Robin.—The editor has asked me to send him such details as I possess of the nesting behavior of my Robins (*Turdus m. migratorius*), having to do with the territorial distribution of the nests about my banding station in Sanbornton, New Hampshire, together with such data as I have of the same kind about the house of a near neighbor, Mr. John Morse.

My station is on the main street of a small village. The street is lined with many maples and elms, and in the rear of my home there are a few old apple trees. It has been my practice for several years to attract as many Robins as possible to my premises by providing them with Robin-shelters in which they can build their nests. These shelters have a two-pitched roof covering a shallow boxlike base, the front being open, and they are placed in maple, elm, cherry, and apple trees.

During June, 1935, eleven pairs of Robins nested about my station, and five pairs nested about Mr. Morse's home, three hundred and forty feet distant. Of my eleven nests, five were built in shelters, and six occupied natural sites, apple trees being preferred. Of the five nests about my neighbor's house, two were in Robin-shelters and three occupied natural sites.

On June 11th, when all the eleven nests were occupied by nesting pairs, measurements were made of the horizontal distances between them by pacing, so that such measurements fairly represent the territorial spacing of the nests. The distances between the nests on the Morse place were determined in the same manner. In the case of my station, the distances between nests ranged from eighteen feet to two hundred and twenty-five feet, the average distance being one hundred and seventeen feet.

The area occupied by my eleven nests is about four and a half acres, indicating an average territorial requirement of approximately two fifths of an acre.

While the conditions existing in the two tracts above mentioned are manifestly partly artificial, this fact probably does not influence the territorial requirement of this species.

The abundance of Robins in Sanbornton is probably largely due to the occurrence of many lawns, which are greatly favored as a source of angle-worms.—E. C. WEEKS, Sanbornton, New Hampshire.

Bluebirds and English Sparrows in a Cliff Swallow Colony.—In his colony of Tree Swallows (*Iridoprocne bicolor*) in nesting-boxes at Princeton, Massachusetts, L. B. Chapman (*Bird-Banding*, Vol. VI, No. 2) reported that Bluebirds (*Sialia s. sialis*) were often ousted by the Tree Swallows. He pointed out that the Bluebirds were left unmolested only when they chose a nest-box on the edge of the colony. The conditions seem to be reversed in the case of Cliff Swallows (*Petrochelidon a. albifrons*) and Bluebirds. On July 27, 1935, a large colony of Cliff Swallows nesting on the barn and other out-buildings of a farm near Westport, New York, was found to contain a family of Bluebirds and also a family of English Sparrows (*Passer d. domesticus*). The Bluebirds had evidently ousted the Cliff Swallows as soon as the mud nest was completed, and were bringing up their three young unmolested, with Cliff Swallows nesting but a few inches away on either side. The nest was about fifteen feet from the ground.—CARLTON M. HERMAN, Syracuse, New York.

Known History of Eastern Song Sparrows F121239 and 34-148621.—On April 13, 1934, a Song Sparrow (*Melospiza m. melodia*) was trapped and banded, F121239, a male bird. It is suspected his mate of that season might have been present, but that soon after something happened to her, and he later disappeared for he repeated but twice after banding, on April 21st and May 18th. Nothing more was seen of him until he came about the traps and acted as though he had been acquainted with them; and he was trapped and considered a return migrating south, on August 29th, after which he was not knowingly seen again that year.