

The following table will indicate the number of individuals trapped more than once in any one period.

	Number of times trapped in any one period				
	2	3	4	5	6
	times	times	times	times	times
Number of individuals.....	16	3	3	2	3

Eighteen other individuals were trapped two or three times; each time in a different period.

CONCLUSION

I realize that the above does not offer a solution of the problem of the times of feeding of birds as a group or of any individual, but rather suggests a problem and a method of approach for bird-banders with a limited amount of time to devote to investigation. I understand that there are other papers on this subject, but I have never been fortunate enough to run across them and so do not know what conclusions, if any, have been reached. This was attempted as a means of broadening my banding work and adding more interest to banding and releasing a bird. The figures are not large and therefore are not expressive of the country as a whole or even of this particular section. No attempt was made to register weather conditions or take them into consideration in this experiment. I only hope that other banders will consider doing some work along these lines, as I am convinced that it will bring many hours of interesting and profitable recreation. LOUIS G. FLENTGE, Box 68, Wheeling, Illinois.

A Six-Year-Old Bank Swallow.—One of the interesting and valuable contributions that banding has to offer in furthering human knowledge about birds relates to the length of life-span. Until recent years little definite information regarding longevity in our native birds has been available. But with the recovery as returns of more than 150,000 individuals banded under the sponsorship of the United States Bureau of Biological Survey in the last seventeen years, considerable light has been thrown on this subject.

For the past several years the present authors have been more or less concentrating their banding activities on the Bank Swallow (*Riparia r. riparia*). Our first efforts, undertaken at Lake Okoboji, Iowa, in 1923, terminated in 1927. We resumed banding activities at Oneida Lake, New York, in 1928 and have continued operations there through the current (1937) season. In addition, beginning with the season of 1933, we have conducted banding studies on this bird at Albany, New York.

In these three localities we have banded to date a total of 5576 young and adult Bank Swallows. Of the 4217 individuals presumed to have been available for returns during our last season of field work in the three localities mentioned, 147 (3.4 per cent) actually have been recovered as such.

For present purposes a period of at least eight months must have elapsed between the date of banding and the date of recovery in order that the bird be considered a return. Presumably, too, each return bird has made one or more round-trip journeys between the nesting grounds and the winter quarters.

Among all these returns only one individual has attained a known age of as much as six years. A brief account of this bird's history may be of interest.

Juvenal Bank Swallow No. F 55586, one of a family of four, was banded from a burrow in the south bank of Fish Creek near Oneida Lake, New York, June 30, 1931. On May 22, 1937, it was recovered as a laying or incubating bird from a burrow in the north bank of Fish Creek about half a mile northeast of the site of its natal burrow and the point of banding. The burrow was 36 inches deep and 16 inches below the turf, and contained an unlined grass nest.

The body-temperature of this bird registered 109.8° Fahr. at the moment of recovery, and its weight was 13.3 grams. All indications pointed to the fact that this was an egg-spent female. Its mate, weight 15.5 grams, also was banded.

Since No. F 55586 was about fifteen days old when it was banded, at the time of recovery it, therefore, lacked some twenty days of having attained the age of six years. This is our oldest known Bank Swallow and, so far as we are aware, the oldest recorded individual of this species. After having presumably made six round-trip journeys between its summer home and its winter quarters, this swallow returned to nest in the *general locality* of its nativity but *not in that colony*. None of the other members of its immediate family ever have been recovered.—DAYTON STONER, New York State Museum, Albany, New York, and LILLIAN C. STONER, Albany, New York.

A Northern Flicker's Unusual Manner of Bathing.—During a recent dry period of several weeks' duration, unbroken by thunder-storms, my bird-bath has been of great attraction to local birds. An occasional Blue Jay, Bronzed Grackles, Robins, and Starlings have bathed so frequently that the bath required filling twice daily. In the morning and evening when the sprinkler has been in operation, the birds are particularly abundant. The signal for their appearance is the running water shot into the air. The Robins in particular gather in small numbers.

The unusual action of a Flicker (*colaptes auratus luteus*) and its method of bathing is of interest. One evening, when the sprinkler was in use, and so placed that some of the water dropped in the bath, a Flicker was attracted and came to bathe. I had never seen this species use the bath, except to drink from it. This particular individual lighted on the lawn at the foot of the bath, which is mounted on a pedestal about three feet high, opened its wings, and fluffed out its feathers. In this position it faced the sprinkler for a few moments with drops of water falling over it, and then began to hop slowly through the wet grass as close to the earth as it could move, with wings and tail spread. The bird continued this action until it had apparently bathed sufficiently from the water on the grass and drops from the sprinkler and then flew to a nearby tree. Its flight was labored, as though the soaking had been complete. It ignored the water in the bath apparently preferring to bathe in the described fashion.—CHARLES B. FLOYD, Auburndale, Mass.

Some Brown Thrasher Returns.—At my station in Amherst, Massachusetts, there have been two Brown Thrashers (*Toxostoma rufum*) of interest, one an immature bird and the other an adult. Details are as follows:

B-247057, adult, banded July 14, 1933.

A Return-1 May 21, 1934, repeating June 1st, 6th, 11th, 15th, and 16th.

A Return-2 August 8, 1935.

A Return-3 June 17, 1936, repeating June 18th, 19th, 21st, and 28th.

A Return-4 June 21, 1937. This bird was also at least five years old on the last date of return.

A-298946, immature, banded August 19, 1932.

A Return-1 May 15, 1934, repeating May 20th and 29th, June 4th, 9th, 10th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 20th, and 28th, and July 3d.

A Return-2 May 17, 1935, repeating May 23d and June 8th.

A Return-3 May 16, 1936, repeating May 17th, 20th, June 17th, 20th, 27th, and 28th, and July 1st.

A Return-4 May 20, 1937, repeating June 17th and 25th. This bird was five years old when last trapped.

MRS. FREDERICK MORSE CUTLER.

Yellow Warbler Return.—A Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica æstiva*) was taken in a net and banded as an adult May 28, 1931, at the Austin Ornithological Research Station, North Eastham, Cape Cod, Massachusetts, by Mr. John M. Conkey. It was retaken in the same manner May 15, 1932, May 18, 1936, and August 6, 1937. Captures show that this species has been several times more abundant on the station land this season than usual, also that chick survival usually minimized greatly by cowbird parasitism, has been uncommonly high.—O. L. AUSTIN, North Eastham, Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

A Correction

In *Bird-Banding* for April, 1937, p. 60, Wren-Tit 91519 was stated to have been banded on March 22, 1935. This should read 1925.—MAY THATCHER COOKE.