

**An Overlooked Record of Parasitism of the English Sparrow, *Passer domesticus*, by the Cowbird, *Molothrus ater*.**—In his note concerning an observation of the Cowbird parasitizing the English Sparrow, Brackbill (*The Auk*, 68(4): 513. 1951.) quoted three previous records listed by Friedmann. The abstract of this note (*Biological Abstracts* 26(10): 29764. 1952.) refers to it as the fourth record. However, the writer reported earlier (*Cleveland Bird Calendar* 44(3): 15. 1948.) an observation of a female English Sparrow feeding two juvenile Cowbirds on the banks of the Cuyahoga River at Kent, Ohio, on July 1, 1948. Unfortunately this record was published in a local bulletin with restricted distribution and hence has been overlooked.—Ralph W. Dexter, Department of Biology, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio.

**Bluebirds Lured to Ground Traps.**—Although not considered a permanent resident in northern Westchester County, N. Y., each winter several small groups of Bluebirds (*Sialia sialis*) can usually be found. This past season, four females and two males were seen constantly in the immediate vicinity of my house. The weather during December was milder than usual; January was the coldest month, with several days of sub-zero temperatures; February was the second warmest in the N. Y. Weather Bureau's history.

Quite often, during December and January, the above group would sit quietly in the shrubbery overlooking my ground traps, watching the other species freely feeding. On January 31, I baited the traps with some layer cake (yellow) for the finches. The next morning, before sunrise, the Bluebirds were again perched in the shrubbery; of a sudden, one male flew down and without hesitation, entered a 1-cell trap. By February 5, three females and 1 other male had been trapped—no repeats. The temperature, during this period, ranged from 25 to 35 degrees.

The birds seemed to develop a wariness; their manner of securing the cake became similar to the Starlings I get, in that they stood in the entrance of the traps, thrust in the bill to seize a piece of cake, and either ate it on the ground a few inches away or flew into a nearby oak tree to do so. In all cases, it was definitely the cake that the birds were seeking. A. C. Bent, in his *Life Histories of N. A. Thrushes*, . . . (1949), cites Prof. Beal to the effect that of 855 Bluebird stomachs examined, only two were found to contain grain.

The behavior of the five birds, upon being trapped, gave evidence of a sexual distinction. The females remained docile and quiet throughout; the males being active and emitting irregular cries of alarm while in the trap and during handling.

I would be interested in hearing of other banders' observations in baiting and trapping Bluebirds with ground traps.—James R. Nolan, Edgewood Road, Peekskill, N. Y.

**Red-cockaded Woodpecker Banded in Rome, Ga.**—On February 17, 1953 I identified a Red-cockaded Woodpecker (*Dryobates borealis*) in a pine tree on my lawn. It was the first time I had seen and identified this species. Occasionally afterwards there were as many as four birds at one time feeding in my immediate area. After securing a bird banding permit in August, 1953, I learned through *Bird Banding Notes* that through the 1949 bird-banding year no individual of this species had been reported as banded. On November 18, 1953, of three birds at the birdbath, I was able to trap one in my drop-water-trap. Mr. G. L. Hight, Jr., took several pictures of this female in black and white and color film. It carries a size 1A band. In February, 1954 I banded another Red-cockaded, this time an adult male showing very clearly the red on its head. According to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Patuxent Research Refuge, Laurel, Md., there is no official record of this species having been banded up to May, 1953.—Dr. Fred Crenshaw, Battey State Hospital, Rome, Ga.

**A Turnstone Coincidence; Shrimp as Bait.**—During the late fall of 1950 I banded eleven Ruddy Turnstones (*Arenaria interpres*) in large Potter traps baited with dead shrimp. My visits to the banding area (the Titusville, Florida, causeway) are infrequent but on one made on December 5, 1952, I stopped my car to observe shore birds. I noticed a bird lying dead at the roadside; upon examination this bird (which had been killed within a few hours) proved to have been banded by me within a few yards of the place of recovery on November 21,