

**A measure of the effect of Hurricanes Carol and Edna.**—From the bandings of juvenal Eastern Purple Finches last summer and fall by Mr. and Mrs. Parker C. Reed at Lexington, Massachusetts, it is possible to get a one-point measure of the effect of the hurricanes of 31 August 1954 (Carol) and 11 September 1954 (Edna) on a bird population. This may be done by comparing departures over short periods adjacent to the hurricanes with the weeks including hurricanes.

On the weekend of 21/22 August, 28 birds were banded of which 54 per cent were not present on weekend of 28/29 August or later. The weekend of 28/29 August, 20 birds were banded and 60 per cent were not present after 31 August. The rate of departure was, then, 11 per cent greater for the week including Carol than for the preceding week.

After 31 August but before 11 September, 37 birds were banded of which 68 per cent were not present after 11 September. For comparison, 59 per cent of the 49 birds banded on 12 September were not present thereafter, an increased departure of 15 per cent for the week including Edna.

Regardless of the degree of confidence we may have in an average increased departure of 13 per cent of Eastern Purple Finches due to a hurricane, we can, I think, conclude that the effect was relatively small.—Charles H. Blake, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass.

**Celluloid color bands.**—I have been able to secure some practical data on celluloid color bands made by Messrs. A. C. Hughes, 1 High Street, Hampton Hill, Middlesex, England. These are split ring bands, like the aluminum bands now used, and come in four small sizes and several colors. The makers provide a special device for opening and applying the bands. They must be cemented shut, easily done with acetone. Four larger sizes are available in coil bands ("fat bands").

Hughes type and size	Inside diam.	F and W size
Split PX.F	2.08 mm	O
Split PX.C	2.80 mm	1B
Split PX.B	3.69 mm	Between 1A and 2
Split PX.3	4.40 mm	Between 2 and 3
Flat band Size 1	5.62 mm	3A (plus 0.1mm)
Flat band Size 2	6.74 mm	Between 4 and 5
Flat band Size 3	8.35 mm	Between 5 and 6
Flat band Size 4	9.52 mm	6

I suggest sizes for some common birds as follows:

PX.F	PX.C	PX.B	PX.3
Chickadee	Downy Woodpecker	Catbird	Blue Jay
Tree Swallow	White Breasted	Robin	Thrasher
House Wren	Nuthatch	Baltimore Oriole	Starling
Goldfinch	Bluebird	Cowbird ♂	
Tree Sparrow	House Sparrow	Rose Breasted	
Chipping Sparrow	Cowbird ♀	Grosbeak	
Field Sparrow	Purple Finch	Evening Grosbeak	
Junco	Song Sparrow	Towhee	

The bands are made in solid colors, wide stripe (two colors each occupying about half the height of the band), and narrow stripe (five narrow alternating horizontal color stripes). Even the wide stripes are rather hard to make out at a little distance and the narrow stripes are not recommended.

Through the kindness of Professor Stanley Backer and Mr. Roland Derby, a series of bands representing almost all the available colors were subjected to 900 hours in a fadeometer (about 6 months of sunny weather). Black, white, yellow, and brown were unchanged. Orange, green, and dark blue were slightly bleached, red bleached to pink. Heliotrope, light blue, pink, and light green were severely bleached.

Dark blue, black, and probably brown would hardly be distinguished at a distance. Green and light green seem to be different only in their resistance to bleaching.