

Japanese White Eye, <i>Zosterops japonica</i>	61
Brambling, <i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>	27
Grey Thrush, <i>Turdus cardis</i>	20
Brown-eared Bulbul, <i>Ixos amaurotis</i>	15
Willow Warbler, <i>Phylloscopus sp.</i>	9
Grey Bunting, <i>Emberiza variabilis</i>	9
Meadow Bunting, <i>Emberiza cioides</i>	6
Dusky Thrush, <i>Turdus naumanni</i>	5
Asiatic Sparrow Hawk, <i>Accipiter nisus</i>	3
Narcissus Flycatcher, <i>Siphia narcissina</i>	3
Varied Tit, <i>Parus varius</i>	3
Greenfinch, <i>Chloris sinica</i>	3
Bush Warbler, <i>Horeites diphone</i>	2
Japanese Robin, <i>Erithacus akahige</i>	1
Tiger Thrush, <i>Zoothera Dauma</i>	1
Mugimaki Flycatcher, <i>Siphia mugimaki</i>	1
Goldcrest, <i>Regulus regulus</i>	1
Great Tit, <i>Parus major</i>	1
Siskin, <i>Carduelis spinus</i>	1
Bull-headed Shrike, <i>Lanius bucephalus</i>	1

## SUMMARY

Three methods of bird netting practiced in Japan are described and their possible application to wildlife management problems are discussed.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- AUSTIN, OLIVER L. Mist netting for birds in Japan. General Headquarters Far East Command, Natural Resources Section, Report No. 88, Tokyo. 1947.

## SONG SPARROWS AT NORRISTOWN

BY RAYMOND J. MIDDLETON

Song Sparrows (*Melospiza melodia melodia*) are present in this area the entire year; Norristown being in Montgomery County is some twenty miles from Philadelphia and in the southeastern part of Pennsylvania. Those present may be divided into three groups, winter residents, summer residents and migratory individuals. The former appear in late November and December after most of the flocks of migrating sparrows have moved on to the south; this group seems fairly stationary through January and December.

The summer residents appear in flocks in March, though a few come the last week in February. No doubt some at this time move on to more northerly nesting sites but most of them remain to nest here. The summer birds, both young and adults, are taken through the spring and summer months until mid-September. At this time there is a decided drop in the population of the species and we have very few captures that show them to remain on into the fall months. Many no doubt depart earlier, but September seems to be the time when

summer residents leave for winter quarters south of us. The urge to migrate is now almost irresistible and seldom do any individuals overcome it.

In early October a flight of new Song Sparrows appears here just ahead of any large flights of White-throated and others of the sparrow group, suddenly all captures are new birds which are through their moult and ages cannot be determined accurately. Those taken during the main sparrow migration of October and most of November give few repeats and if retaken are seldom more than a few days after banding.

We have operated our station continuously at the same location since July of 1921 and the total band of this species is 3,614; from these we have 8,122 repeats and 316 returned in later years; 12 have been recovered elsewhere. Individuals banded during the last twelve months have as of this time (April, 1955) had no opportunity to return and their totals are not included in the following data.

March 1st to September 15th we have banded 1,470 adults and had 130 returns from them or 9%. This same period gave us 1,250 immatures or birds of the year and from these we had 90 returns or 7.3%. Eleven of these returns were not taken until 2 years after banding and 2 until 3 years after, 8 of them returned the following 3 and 2 the following 4 summers.

Fall and winter birds with ages undetermined were as follows: the former brought 600 birds banded and these gave 64 returns or 10.7%, while the winter-banded birds were 176 which gave us 25 returns or 14.2%. It is an amazing fact that this group, among which many must be migratory individuals when banded, actually gives us the highest percentage of returns. It is also interesting to see in what season of the year these 89 fall- and winter-banded birds did appear in later years. Of the 25 winter returns, 10 came back during the winter seasons while 15 came back during later summer periods. The 64 fall-banded birds that returned all came back during spring and summer seasons; one of these (B117947), which is of unusual interest, was banded October 18, 1930, returned first on July 15, 1932, returned secondly on May 22, 1934, and third on October 28, 1935.

Five of the fall- and winter-banded birds remained right on through the following spring and summer and thus form the only permanent residents in this species that we have recorded and all came during the first ten years of banding. Their records are as follows:

174413, banded December 17, 1926, returned March 9, 1928, and was taken later in June and August of the same year.

174448, banded October 13, 1927, was taken every month that winter and again in June and July of 1928.

578790, banded October 27, 1927, was taken often every month through and last on May 25th, 1928.

578824, banded December 11, 1927, repeated on until the next April 21st and again October 10th and December 7th of 1928, this bird returned June 3, 1929, and March 5, 1931.

174410 has a peculiar record—banded December 7, 1926, it returned August 16, 1929, October 20, 1930, and March 16, 1931.

It is interesting to note that while 174448 remained all winter 174445 banded September 19, 1927 or 24 days previously, was killed at Hazlehurst, Georgia, March 7, 1928; this is some 600 miles south of Norristown.

Other recoveries outside the state are:

36-147875, banded October 23, 1936, was killed at Stevens Pottery, Georgia, on February 23, 1937.

20-137134, an immature banded July 29, 1950, was shot with an air rifle at Grimesland, North Carolina, on November 26, 1950.

35-126206, banded October 8, 1935, was found dead 25 days later at Pittsville, Maryland.

41-124585, banded July 5, 1941, was found dead at Baltimore, Maryland, on April 5, 1942.

40-186674, an adult banded March 11, 1941, was caught by a cat at Millbourne, New Jersey, on August 15, 1941; this is near Newark.

Another recovery is of interest—39-106321, banded October 15, 1938, was killed by a dog in Philadelphia in May of 1941, reported by Joseph Cadbury.

The most consistent repeater was C146333, banded April 1, 1933, and was taken 113 times to July 23rd, this bird returned April 4, 1934, and was taken 19 times to July 18th.

The following returns are worthy of mention, some of which constitute some good age records:

611688, adult banded March 31, 1928, returned 1 on April 2, 1929, 2 on March 18, 1930, 3 on May 1, 1931, 4 on June 9, 1932.

36-154965, banded November 21, 1936, returned 1 on January 20, 1939, 2 on January 30, 1941.

C146454, adult banded July 14, 1933, returned 1 on April 2, 1934, 2 on March 21, 1935, 3 on March 22, 1936, 4 on May 30, 1937.

38-131989, adult banded July 18, 1938, returned 1 on April 24, 1939, 2 on April 7, 1940, 3 on March 18, 1943.

40-186770, adult banded May 7, 1941, returned 1 on March 31, 1942, 2 on May 1, 1943, 3 on May 7, 1944, 4 on April 13, 1946.

47-173285 banded October 9, 1947, returned 1 on August 10, 1948, 2 on January 16, 1950, 3 on December 14, 1950, 4 on December 25, 1951.

here is a bird banded during the fall movement and returned the next summer and the following three winters.

Here are two birds banded as immatures and returned the next year during the fall season—

A152804, banded August 6, 1929, returned October 6, 1930.

41-124645, banded October 8, 1941, returned October 8, 1942.

As to ages we find the following records:

169 individuals reached the age of 2 years  
49 individuals reached the age of 3 years  
26 individuals reached the age of 4 years  
13 individuals reached the age of 5 years  
5 individuals reached the age of 6 years

Many of these were banded as adults, consequently one year only can be added to their age, some were probably older. We do find in this species as in most other small song birds we band that few get beyond four years of age.

It must be kept in mind while considering these data that many more returns will probably be taken in the next year or two from those banded two or three years previously, thus the record is not complete and the book is never closed as long as your station continues to operate.  
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## LEG SIZES AND BAND SIZES: SECOND REPORT

BY CHARLES H. BLAKE

So many more data have accumulated since the writing of the first report (Blake 1954) that a sequel is indicated. Even more than the previous report, this is a cooperative undertaking. Mr. and Mrs. Parker C. Reed (Lexington, Mass.), Mr. E. Alexander Bergstrom (West Hartford, Conn.), Mr. and Mrs. James R. Downs (South Londonderry, Vt.), and Mrs. Richard Adams (Belmont, Mass.) have generously contributed data. In general, measurements from any one locality have been separately examined and later combined with those of other localities when the differences seemed insignificant. This course was rendered necessary by the implications of a recent article (Bergstrom 1954). The methods used are those of the report already referred to. In some cases I have used only the greater diameters provided by Mr. Bergstrom since, by direct comparison, it was found that his method of reading the lesser diameters gave results which differed systematically from the data of other observers. The data are summarized in Table I.

**Eastern Mourning Dove** (*Zenaidura c. carolinensis*). If the small series of measurements is taken at face value, it appears that 91 per cent of the birds would take size 3 at exact fit. However, the rather soft, nearly cylindrical legs of doves are hard to measure. The somewhat high value of the standard deviation suggests some inaccuracy in the measurements as well as variability in size. A too tight band would tend to directly constrict the leg because there is no thin and flexible lamella to take up the pressure by its deformation. Even for the smallest leg measured the clearance within a 3A band is only 1.5 mm. or 0.06 inches. The 3A band should be used until there is clear evidence of thin-legged populations that will safely accept a smaller band.

**Northern Flicker** (*Colaptes auratus luteus*). A series of 11 birds yields exactly the same greater diameter and percentages of band sizes as given previously.

**Northern Downy Woodpecker** (*Dendrocopos pubescens medianus*). The comments on the Mourning Dove apply almost as strongly to this species. Size 1B is recommended. About one bird in 25 appears small enough to take a 0 band. If this proves true we have the rare situation of four possible band sizes for a single species.