

Oct. 5 was a beautiful, calm, sunny day. Rest of week was overcast and windy with rain. Believe the birds' death was due to drinking salt water on deck; we saw them keel over and die. One junco was thrown overboard, invited a shark, but a Herring Gull got it first! Unfortunately, crew members threw the Juncos over before I could get them. Warblers were feeding on moths—abundant (a few were preserved in formaldehyde).—John S. Rankin, Jr., Director, Marine Research Laboratory, Noank, Conn.

Injury to Birds by Ice-coated Bands.—Two recent repeats at my station show evidence which indicates that metal bands may sometimes cause injury by freezing to the body of a bird wearing them. This is probably a rare event, occurring only with certain weather conditions, but perhaps other banders could report similar observations. It would be desirable to learn just how frequently such injury does occur.

A male American Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*) repeated on January 25, 1960, after being banded on January 23. There were a considerable number of body and down feathers adhering to the ice-coated band. Close examination showed that the feathers had come from the lower abdomen where the band might touch the body when the tarsus is drawn up close in perching. Skin and flesh were pulled away from an area about $\frac{1}{4}$ " X $\frac{1}{2}$ " in diameter, exposing what appeared to me to be the internal organs.

A banded Tree Sparrow (*Spizella arborea*) was trapped a few minutes later. This band was also coated with ice to which a small number of feathers were adhering. These feathers had come from the same area of the abdomen as noted in the Goldfinch, but the skin was not torn.

About four to six inches of snow lay on the ground, and flurries of snow had occurred during the morning. The temperature ranged from 24° to 32°.—Mrs. Roger N. MacDonald, 850 Main St., Lynnfield Center, Mass.

RECENT LITERATURE

BANDING

(See also Numbers 12, 13)

1. **A Bander's View of the 1960 Redpoll-Siskin Invasion.** Elinor G. McEntee. 1960. *EBBA News*, 23: 50-52. A general discussion of the March, 1960 flight of Redpolls (probably all or largely *Acanthis linaria*) and Pine Siskins (*Spinus pinus*) in northern New Jersey, with a list of numbers banded in the Northeastern U. S., as reported to the author. At least 6,800 Redpolls were banded, of which 3,450 were in Bergen County, N. J.; the author speculates that birds coming down the coast and others coming down the Hudson River Valley met at this point.—E. Alexander Bergstrom.

2. **Black or Striped Sunflower Seeds Equally Good As Bait.** Merrill Wood. 1960. *EBBA News*, 23: 53. Tests conducted at State College, Pennsylvania, in 1959 indicated no preference by seed-eating birds between the all-black or African sunflower and the striped or mammoth Russian. The smaller seed is becoming more widely sold (in my personal experience), possibly because the seed can be harvested with a combine. Merrill Wood will be remembered for other experiments, in particular that which indicated the most desirable color to paint banding traps was dull black, which increases their efficiency appreciably compared to unpainted hardware cloth.—E. Alexander Bergstrom.

3. **Long Distance Flyers—The Ospreys.** Mabel Gillespie. 1960. *EBBA News*, 23: 55-62. Results of 16 seasons (1926-1941) of banding of Ospreys (*Pandion haliaetus*), mostly in Cape May County, N. J., the remainder in Delaware. In all, 457 were banded as nestlings; 12 were reported as returns after the year of banding; and 57 were recovered elsewhere. The oldest bird reported was 18 years old. Ten of the recoveries were in the West Indies or South America, as far away as Rio de Janeiro in Brazil (close to 7000 miles, SSE, in 5 months). Details of all returns and recoveries are shown.—E. Alexander Bergstrom.

4. **Evening Grosbeaks in State College, Pennsylvania.** Dorothy L. Bordner. 1960. *EBBA News*, 23: 73-77 (2 maps). Comments on 7,685 Evening Grosbeaks (*Hesperiphona vespertina*) banded at the Bordner station from March, 1955 through the spring of 1960. Almost three-fourths of these, 4,933 to be