

Finally, the bill of the aberrant male is ivory-colored, except for brown coloration along its tomtia. Hairy Woodpeckers normally have a black bill.

This specimen is unusual even for a melanic individual in its ivory-colored bill, and its broadened white wing markings. I have considered the possibility of its representing an interspecific hybrid (e.g., *D. villosus* x *Picoides tridactylus* and *D. villosus* x *D. scalaris*). However, the structure of its bill and feet, and its body proportions show no tendency toward species of *Picoides*, and it does not exhibit tendencies toward *D. scalaris* in aspects of its morphology other than its barred tail. The cause of this woodpecker's peculiar coloration is not known, but hybridization appears not to have been involved.—Lester L. Short, American Museum of Natural History, New York, N. Y. 10024.

**Non-homing by Incubating Screech Owl Released Four Miles from Its Nest.**—When checking Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*) nesting boxes in Licking County, Ohio, on April 19, 1956, a Screech Owl (*Otus asio*) was found incubating two eggs in one of the nesting boxes. The bird was removed from its nest and transported to an area about four miles westward where it was marked and released. Because I had no bird bands with me at the time, the bird was marked on the head with airplane dope. There were seven nesting boxes within 100 yards of the site where the Screech Owl was released, but four of the boxes contained active Wood Duck nests. None of the seven boxes contained Screech Owl nests.

When checking nesting boxes three days after the release had been made, the marked Screech Owl was found in a nesting box about 60 yards from the release site. The eggs in the Screech Owl nest received no further incubation, further indicating that the removed Screech Owl did not later return to its nest.

Failure of this bird to return to its nest over such a short distance suggests that the Screech Owl may lack homing capability. Lack of homing capability may be an important part of the explanation for the failure of the species to develop migratory behavior. Bent (Life Histories of North American Birds of Prey. Part 2. Bull. 170 U. S. Natl. Mus., 260, 1938) reported this species to be non-migratory, although he stated (*ibid*, 258) that, "probably some migration takes place from the northern part of their summer range."—Paul A. Stewart, Entomology Research Division, Agricultural Research Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Oxford, North Carolina 27565.

**One Week Flight of a Least Sandpiper.**—In the late afternoon of Sept. 2, 1967, a Least Sandpiper, *Erolia minutilla*, was mistnetted at Rice Lake (520-1070), twenty miles west of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. It had a wing chord of 86 mm. and a weight of 23 grams when caught; band number 104-177408 was applied. That weekend, a total of 188 individuals of 21 species were netted along the shallow mudflats at the south end of the shallow marshy lake, using ten nets. Leading the list were 56 Semipalmated Sandpipers, *Ereunetes pusillus*, 51 Savannah Sparrows, *Passerculus sandwichensis*, and 49 Least Sandpipers.

Early on September 9, less than seven days later, 104-177408 was again caught in a mist net—this time along the east edge of the Cheyenne Bottoms Waterfowl Management Area, Great Bend, Kansas (382-0983), about 930 miles southeast of the initial banding location. Between dawn and 8.30 a. m. that morning, using three mist nets, 125 shorebirds of eight species were banded, including 54 Least Sandpipers and 48 Western Sandpipers, *Ereunetes mauri*.

Each of us has had only one other distant shorebird recovery. A Pectoral Sandpiper, *Erolia melanotos*, banded east of Saskatoon (521-1061) on Sept. 20 1961, was shot near Yanskij, Yakutia, U. S. S. R. (683-1344E) on May 28, 1963. (Houston, *Bird-Banding*, 36: 112, 1965). A Semipalmated Plover, *Charadrius semipalmatus*, banded at Great Bend on April 27, 1968, was collected August 1, 1968 at Chappice Lake, Alberta (501-1102).—C. Stuart Houston, 863 University Drive, Saskatoon, Sask., Canada, and Edmund F. Martinez, 5851 Hemlock, Great Bend, Kansas 67530.

**Avian Tuberculosis in a Swainson's Thrush.**—The final Swainson's Thrush, *Hyllocichla ustulata swainsoni*, of the 1967 Saskatoon fall migration was mistnetted for Operation Recovery in the backyard of the senior author on Sept. 22, 1967. When band 104-177591 was applied, it weighed 29½ grams and had a wing chord of 99 mm. Skulling disclosed the incomplete cranial ossification of an immature bird. No abnormality was detected at the time of banding although