

ADDITIONAL NOTES ON SUMMER BIOLOGY OF TRAILL'S FLYCATCHER

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Since I published a paper on "Summer Biology of Traill's Flycatcher," (*Wils. Bull.*, 78, (1), 1966: 31-46) I have studied the birds three additional years, 1965, 1966 and 1967. Following are some notes made during this period.

FEMALE 1F

A female, banded 7 June 1960 as an adult, tallied in my notes as 1F for convenience, returned every year through 1966. During 1967 she was not found and the territory she and her two mates had

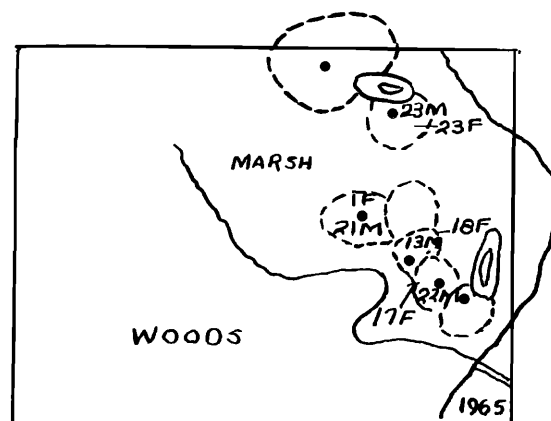
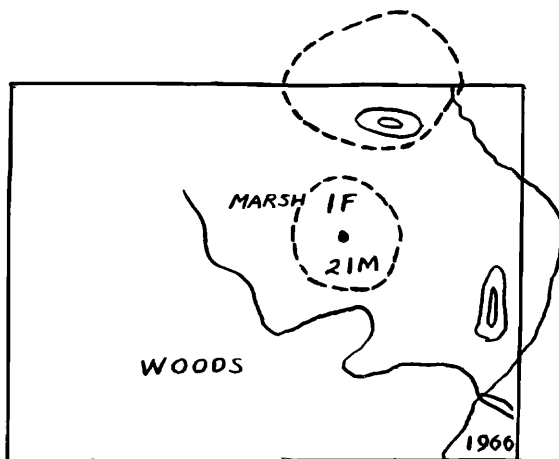


TABLE 1. RETURNS OF BANDED TRAILL'S FLYCATCHERS BANDED WHEN ADULTS

MALES	KNOWN AGE						
	1st Year	2nd Year	3rd Year	4th Year	5th Year	6th Year	7th Year
Muskegon Co., Montague	3	3	2	0	0	0	0
Calhoun Co., Convis Twp., Ackley Lake	7	2	1	1	0	0	0
Calhoun Co., Convis Twp., Baker Sanctuary	15	5	3	2	1	0	0
TOTAL	25	10	6	3	1	0	0
PER CENT		40.0	24.0	12.0	4.0		
FEMALES							
Muskegon Co., Montague	5	2	0	0	0	0	0
Calhoun Co., Convis Twp., Ackley Lake	9	3	1	0	0	0	0
Calhoun Co., Convis Twp., Baker Sanctuary	21	5	1	1	1	1	1
TOTAL	35	10	2	1	1	1	1
PER CENT		28.6	5.7	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9
TOTAL FOR BOTH SEXES	60	20	8	4	2	1	1
PER CENT		33.3	13.3	6.7	3.3	1.7	1.7

occupied was taken up by a new pair. Following is a history of her nesting activities:

1960: On 7 June Female 1F started to build a nest in a small rose bush in the marsh. It was nearly completed 15 June but a severe hail storm denuded the bush so that she deserted the empty nest. I found her new nest 6 July, 24.4 m from the first, 149 cm above ground in a small hawthorn (*Crataegus* sp.). The 3 eggs measured 18.3×13.9 , 17.5×14.0 and 17.1×13.8 mm. Her eggs were taken by a predator prior to 12 June. I did not find any new nest. Her mate, banded 5 June, was listed as 1M.

1961: on 20 June I found her nest 188 cm up in a clump of dogwood (*Cornus amomum*), 137 m SSW of her 1960 nest. It contained 1 egg. By 23 June she had 4 eggs which measured, 18.2×13.6 , 18.1×13.7 , 18.5×13.7 and 18.0×13.7 mm and weighed 6.7 grams. The 4th egg hatched on 8 July but on 17 July there was only 1 young in the nest and on 19 July he, too, was gone, taken by some predator. Her mate was 2M, banded also in June 1960 on an adjoining territory. Her 1960 mate, 1M occupied the territory directly north of here.

1962: On 12 June I found 1F's nest (1 egg) about 80 m south of her 1961 nest in a thick clump of *Cornus amomum*. Four eggs were laid 12-16 June, the last hatched 30 June and the last of 4 young sat 30 cm from the nest on a branch, 16 July. Both male and female were captured and proved to be 1M and 1F.

1963: (I was away during June). I found a nest belonging to both 1M and 1F, 11 July only a few meters from their 1962 nest in the same dogwood clump. The 2 eggs measured, 17.7×13.4 and 18.3×13.4 mm. Two young hatched between 15 and 23 July which fledged either 31 July or 1 August, as did 4 young from a Goldfinch nest 1.1 m. away.

1964: On 8 July (I was away during June), I found a nest again in the same dogwood clump and the owners were 1M and 1F. It was 5 m SE of the 1963 nest and the 4 young fledged the next day.

1965: On 2 June I mist-netted a new male on this territory. He was called 21M. On 17 June an empty nest was found 5 m SW of the 1964 nest in the same dogwood clump. Some predator took the eggs and I found a new nest 29 June, 10 m east in the same dogwoods. It contained 1 egg; 3 on 2 July, which measured 18.2×13.6 , 18.5×13.2 , and 18.0×13.6 mm. On 14 July at 0600 hrs there were 3 eggs; at 1600 hrs, 1 young and the second egg nearly hatched. The 3rd egg hatched the next day and the 3 young fledged in late July. The female was 1F.

1966: On 23 June only 6 m north of the 1965 nest, I found a nest belonging to 21M and 1F in the same dogwood clump. It contained 4 eggs. Two measured, 18.0×14.0 and 17.9×13.9 mm. On 6 July there were 4 young which fledged just prior to 19 July. There was only one other pair on the brushy marsh this summer apparently

due to drought. Neither one of these birds was found during 1967 or 1968.

PESTICIDE RESULTS

Insofar as I know, no one used pesticides on the two Traill's Flycatcher localities in Calhoun County, but at Montague, Muskegon County a 10 to 15 m wide ditch used by the birds extended between two celery fields, 12 acres on the south and about 10 on the north, both of which were drenched periodically with parathion spray. The man spraying the field always wore a gas mask.

Seven adult Traill's Flycatchers were banded on this region in 1960 but I did not have time to follow their nestings. Five of these returned in 1961, and from three different nests that year 12 young fledged from 12 eggs. One of these fledglings, a male, returned to nest on the same ditch bank in 1963 and probably had done so in 1962. During 1963 he and his mate reared two young. Traill's Flycatchers still use the ditch banks annually.

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