

GENERAL NOTES

Quebec Banded Wood Duck Recovered In Saba, Netherlands Antilles.—Storms that carry airborne animals great distances off course are common causes of irregular movements. This report concerns a juvenile male Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*) that reached Saba, Netherlands Antilles, in a storm. The bird (band no. 727-60985) was one of 25 hand-reared Wood Ducks (13 males, 12 females) released by Dr. John Hackney and banded in Senneville, Quebec (45°25'N, 73°57'W) on 22 July 1975. The birds were placed in an open-topped enclosure at approximately four weeks of age and later flew from the enclosure but remained in the vicinity until mid-September. The particular male was next recorded in Saba (17°39'N, 63°15'W), a 13 km² Caribbean island consisting largely of rock and devoid of surface water, on 10 December 1975. It had been flying in the area of recovery for the previous several days and probably arrived during a prolonged period of rain, fog, and strong winds from the east and northeast. The emaciated bird was about to be eaten when its band was removed.

Two other Wood Ducks (1 male, 1 female) from the same release group were recovered near Nichols, South Carolina (34°N, 79°W) having been shot on 19 and 27 November 1975. Wood Ducks are resident in western Cuba and have been recorded in Jamaica and New Providence, Bahamas during the fall and winter (Palmer, R. S. 1976. Handbook of North American Birds, Vol. 3, New Haven, Conn., Yale Univ. Press). Wood Ducks regularly migrate to Florida and the Carolinas (Bellrose, F. C. 1976. Ducks, Geese and Swans of North America. Harrisburg, Pa., Stackpole). This extended movement to the southeast to land on a rock lacking freshwater is thus considered exceptional.—R. D. TITMAN, *Macdonald College of McGill University, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec* and G. A. SEAMAN, *Windward Side, Saba, Netherlands Antilles*. Received 2 September 1977, accepted 7 November 1977.

Eastern Bluebird Mortality at Winter Roosts in Tennessee.—Eastern Bluebirds (*Sialia sialis*) often roost communally in cavities, especially during severe winter weather (Forbush, 1929; Frazier and Nolan, 1959). Although Zeleny (1976) discussed winter roosting habits and the possibility of high rates of mortality to roosting bluebirds, few actual cases of such mortality have been reported. This account documents the death of seven bluebirds in a roost in 1961, and 19 bluebirds (seven of which had been banded) in five roosts in 1977. Observations were made in northwest Tennessee on my study area in Obion County, where approximately 50 nest boxes are located, and around my home in adjacent Weakley County, where eight nest boxes are located.

My first record of roosting mortality occurred in 1961. During the first inspection (early March) of nest boxes on the Obion County study area seven dead bluebirds were found in one nest box. Earlier in the winter 16 bluebirds roosted in a nest box approximately 200 m away.

Nest boxes were inspected several times each year, but no additional cases of roosting mortality were discovered until the winter of 1976–1977. On 22 January 1977, I inspected six boxes in Obion County and found four dead bluebirds in one box and 10 in another box. Three weeks earlier bluebirds roosted in both of these boxes. Also on 22 January, I inspected nest boxes at my home and found two dead bluebirds in a nest box where roosting bluebirds had been seen earlier in the winter. On 29 January 1977, all of the Obion County boxes were inspected and three other dead bluebirds were found, two in one box and one in another box. No bluebirds were observed during the remainder of the winter. In all, 12 males and seven females were found dead.

Of the 19 dead bluebirds, seven had been banded earlier on the study areas. Two of the birds were banded at a nest box roost earlier in the winter, and nothing else is known of their past. Two of the birds nested on the study area, where they were captured and banded at their nests on the same day. One of these birds, with its mate of 1976, was captured at a nest box roost on 1 January 1977. The remaining three birds were banded as nestlings (two in 1976, and one in 1975) on the study area, but they had not been recaptured prior to their deaths. Two of these birds died in the nest boxes where they were reared and banded.

Some bluebirds may suffocate in communal roosts (Zeleny, 1977). However, considering the body condition of each of the dead birds from my study area, the cause of death