

that the bird got stuck in an existing pool of resin while it perched in the entrance tube. Commonly Red-cockaded Woodpeckers perch in a roost or cavity entrance in inclement weather, late in the day, or in response to a disturbance (Jackson, *Living Bird*, **15**: 205–221, 1976; Dan Lay, pers. comm.).

Our observation presents possible evidence of mortality to a Red-cockaded Woodpecker attempting to use a less than optimal cavity or cavity tree.

The specimen is deposited in the Ornithological Collection, Department of Biological Sciences, Mississippi State University. We thank M. R. Lennartz, J. A. Jackson, and L. L. Short for excellent comments on the manuscript.—BRIAN A. LOCKE, *School of Forestry, Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, TX 75962*; RICHARD N. CONNER, *Wildlife Habitat and Silviculture Lab, Southern Forest Exp. Sta., USDA, Forest Service, Nacogdoches, TX 75962*; and JAMES C. KROLL, *School of Forestry, Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, TX 75962*. Received 24 May 1979, accepted 28 August 1979.

**Use of Velcro for Handling Birds.**—Banders often need to restrain small birds so that both hands are free to record data, collect blood, and weigh birds. Most restraining devices described in the literature have been designed for waterfowl (Fredrickson, *Bird-Banding*, **41**: 242–243, 1970; Evans and Kear, *J. Wildl. Manage.*, **36**: 1265–1267, 1972; Bolen, Loven, and Cain, *J. Wildl. Manage.*, **41**: 789–790, 1977) or other medium-sized birds (Shallenberger, *Bird-Banding*, **42**: 125–127, 1971; Seel, *Bird-Banding*, **46**: 74–75, 1975).

Banders using mist nets often encounter a variety of birds during a single check of the nets. Most restraining devices have little or no versatility to accommodate different-sized birds. Fuller (*J. Wildl. Manage.*, **39**: 824–825, 1976) used Vetrap® Brand Bandaging Tape (Animal Care Products, 3M Co., St. Paul, MN 55101) to restrain hawks and owls. Although this adhesive is apparently useful in rehabilitation of birds recovering from accidental wounds or surgery, I have found Vetrap® awkward to use in restraining small birds such as Ground Doves (*Columbina passerina*). The material requires two or more wraps around the bird to achieve adequate restraint, and because of the limpness of Vetrap®, it is difficult for a single bander to wrap the bird properly for wing-tagging.

A more satisfactory restraint is a single strip of Velcro with a short overlap. Velcro is a fastening material readily available in most fabric stores. Three widths of Velcro facilitate its use on birds ranging in size from Painted Buntings (*Passerina ciris*, ¾-in Velcro) to Cooper's Hawks (*Accipiter cooperii*, 1½-in Velcro) to American Coots (*Fulica americana*, 2-in Velcro). Because of its adhesive strength, a 150-mm strip of Velcro can be used on a variety of bird species without adjustment. Velcro is available in different colors, although white is easiest to see if accidentally dropped into dense vegetation. Velcro is especially useful to banders using Pesola-type scales because the scales may be attached directly to a loose end of the Velcro. Velcro should be wrapped firmly around the bird for proper restraint, but not so tight as to produce circulatory or respiratory problems.

The advantages of using Velcro are many: it is inexpensive and readily obtainable; no construction is required; a single strip will allow handling birds of several sizes.

The use of Velcro for restraining birds was suggested to me by R. L. Jarvis. I thank D. Chronister for reviewing an earlier draft of the manuscript. This is Welder Wildlife Contribution No. 241.—MICHAEL F. PASSMORE, *Rob and Bessie Welder Wildlife Foundation, P.O. Drawer 1400, Sinton, TX 78387*. Received 20 May 1979, accepted 27 August 1979.