

Point, 9 September in the southern U.S., and mid-September for arrivals in Mexico and Central America (Hussell, J. Field Ornithol. 51:65–71, 1980; 52:97–111, 1981; 53:223–234, 1982). These data indicate a minimum migration time between Ontario and Mexico of about 25 days for both age classes.

A recent recovery in Mexico of a Least Flycatcher banded in Ontario is consistent with this view of the autumn migration of the species. The bird was banded by N. Garber at Long Point Bird Observatory (LPBO), Ontario, 42°30'N, 80°00'W (SE corner of 10' block containing the site), on 17 August 1982. It was aged HY on the basis of its incompletely pneumatized skull and broad buff wing bars; its wing chord was 62 mm, and it weighed 11.9 g. Sex was unknown because the wing chord length was in the overlap range. On this date it would be among the earliest 5% of HY migrants at Long Point (Hussell 1981). The bird was found 32 days later, on 18 September 1982, at Las Rosas, Chiapas, Mexico (approximately 16°20'N, 92°20'W). The recovery date is within the week following the first appearance of HYs in Mexico: the earliest HY specimen in Mexico was taken on 11 September (Hussell 1980).

The recovery locality is 3135 km S 24.9°W of Long Point, which indicates a minimum average daily flight of 98 km. Distance travelled and migration speed increase to at least 3700 km and 116 km/day, however, if a westward route around the Gulf of Mexico was followed, as appears to be indicated by specimen records. Because banding and recovery dates may not represent departure and arrival dates, migration speed may have been even faster than this.

Only two other Least Flycatchers have been recovered south of 35°N and only one of those was either banded or recovered during autumn migration. The latter was an HY bird banded by D. Bordner on 7 September 1966 at Island Beach, New Jersey, 39°50'N, 74°00'W, and shot at Filomeno Mata, Veracruz, Mexico, on an unknown date in December 1966 (Foy, Bird-Banding 47:214–230, 1976).

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Crow Predation on Spotted Sandpipers.—American Crows (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) use a wide array of food resources including the eggs and young of several species of birds (Baker, Wilson Bull. 52:124–125, 1940; Gross, U.S. Natl. Mus. Bull. 191:226–259, 1946). However, the spatial and temporal availability of young birds is likely to vary within habitats and accidental encounters or trial and error learning may result in temporary but profitable patches of food.

On 1 July 1982, I observed 4 recently hatched Spotted Sandpipers (*Actitis macularia*) and their parent foraging on sand dunes at Sandy Bay, Beaver Island, Charlevoix Co., Michigan. As the sandpipers moved among sparse vegetation, an American Crow descended from trees flanking the dunes and carried off a chick in its bill. Immediately, the adult sandpiper responded with sharp alarm calls, and the remaining chicks dispersed among the vegetation where they were effectively camouflaged. After 20 min the adult sandpiper called to the chicks, but as they left their concealment, the crow preyed on another chick.

By the following day, all chicks had disappeared and only the adult sandpiper remained in the area. A crow, however, was present farther down the beach where there was another brood of sandpipers. A crow was seen daily in the area and by 4 July no chicks remained from the second brood, although predation was not observed.

The relative high intelligence of crows probably plays an important role in their foraging behavior (Zach, Behaviour 68:106–117, 1979). In addition, previous experience

and density of prey may influence selection of foraging sites (Tinbergen et al., *Behaviour* 28:307–321, 1967). Once a crow has detected a brood of sandpipers, it may learn that persistent alarm calls given by an adult are cues indicating that food is still available, thereby intensifying the search effort. Consequently, crows may effectively decimate sandpiper production where breeding populations are dense and habitat is limited.

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