

To the Editor

On February 20, 1981, on the west slope of the Andes above the town of Mindo in Ecuador, I made the following observation. Mindo is in northwestern Ecuador, elevation about 5000 feet.

Warbler: black throat, black through face. Underparts plain and light. Yellow on upper wing. Yellow crown. Back somewhat olive . . . Seen in small mixed flock.

This bird was observed in mid-level trees on the edge of a wet sub-tropical forest. Bamboo and tree ferns give the area on this hillside a cloud forest flavor.

The bird was a Golden-winged Warbler, in almost full breeding plumage. It was observed for approximately two minutes before it moved away from the road with the foraging flock. I have observed this species on its breeding grounds in the upper lower peninsula of Michigan. Only my wife, a casual birder, accompanied me. No other data from other observers is available on record.

I submit this record based on literature that I have that suggests that this may be a range extension.

—John Egbert
Nature History Services
Cliff, NM 88028.



A Dichotomous Key
to the
SHOREBIRDS
OF
NORTH AMERICA
By
Richard Mellon

- * Easy to use, convenient in the field.
- * Special key for rare and accidental species.
- * 89 Species covered.
- * Tips for finding and identifying rare species.

MELLON BIOLOGICAL SERVICES Dept. A
P.O. Box 63 Morrisville, P.A. 19067

\$ 2.95 postpaid

To the Editor

A recent article in *American Birds* (35: 9) concerning Blue-listed species raises again the question of why Blue-winged Warblers are displacing the Golden-winged Warbler over much of the latter's range. In this closely related pair there is often an interchange of the song between the species. It is possible that, for example, Blue-winged Warblers more often sing the Golden-winged song than vice-versa. This in turn might lead to more successful breeding of the former if Blue-winged males are able to attract and thereby mate with females of either species.

Perhaps some additional support for the hypothesis that song interchange may lead to the displacement of one closely allied species by the other is the success of the Willow Flycatcher compared to the Alder (*American Birds* 30: 956). That there is song "confusion" between the two "species" has been commented on in *American Birds* 32: 1145.

—Thomas Arny,
RD #3, Amherst, MA 01002.

Announcements

KIRTLAND'S WARBLER SIGHTINGS

The Kirtland's Warbler Recovery Team is trying to assemble information on all observations of Kirtland's Warblers during spring and fall migrations. Details on sightings should include: date, location, habitat, sex of bird(s) observed, behavior, information on whether or not bird was singing, weather data, and comments on any other warbler species present. Send records to: Lawrence A. Ryel, Surveys and Statistics, Wildlife Division, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Box 30028, Lansing MI 48909.

PROJECT VIREO

Project VIREO has as its goal the first, major scientific collection of slides and photographs of birds of the world.

This project is being launched by The Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. This collection will supplement the major specimen collections now curated by museums throughout the country. This central collection of visual resources for ornithology, from which comes the acronym VIREO, will be available for use by professional or amateur ornithologists for research, teaching, illustrating, or otherwise advancing the knowledge of birds. If you wish to participate in building the collection please contact: Frank B. Gill, The Academy of Natural Sciences, Nineteenth and The Parkway, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

RAPTOR SLIDE FILE


The Raptor Information Center of the National Wildlife Federation announces the establishment of The International Raptor Slide File. The purpose of the file is to make available slides of all species of birds of prey to researchers, educators, wildlife managers, and others. The Raptor Information Center wishes to solicit original slides of good quality, of all species of raptors in various plumages, at any age, and either perched or flying, at the nest or away from it. For additional information please contact: The Raptor Information Center, National Wildlife Federation, 1412 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

HAWK WATCHING WEEK

House Joint Resolution 241 was introduced to the United States Congress in April 1981. This resolution calls for the designation of the first week of October of each year as NATIONAL HAWK WATCHING WEEK. The week would begin on the first Sunday of October and its purpose would be to advance public interest in, and appreciation of, birds of prey. Readers are requested to write to their Congressmen on behalf of this resolution.

VACATION EXCHANGE

It has been suggested that *American Birds* initiate a new category of advertisement in its Market Place. The heading would be VACATION EXCHANGE and its function would be the listing of birders' homes/apartments/camps available for swapping with visiting/vacationing birders. Ads should list location, type of accommodation, dates available and perhaps swap area desired. Regular Market Place rates will apply.



The
Chickadee INC.
"Everything for the Wild Bird Enthusiast"

BOOKS FOR BIRD LOVERS

In Print: Write for free list of Books and Records
Out of Print: Books bought and sold. Want lists encouraged.
You will be quoted if or when available.

Bushell Optical Equipment available at 25% discount.

702 Marshall St., Houston, Texas 77006 (713) 528-0139