
Recent Literature

Edited by Richard W. DeHaven

Banding Equipment and Techniques

A device for inspecting nest cavities. L.R. DeWeese, R.E. Pillmore, and M.L. Richmond. 1975. *Bird-Banding*, 46:162-165. (Available from senior author, Box C, Davis, CA 95616.)

Sample size — How do you know when you have enough data? C.S. Robbins. 1971. U.S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife. Unnumbered Rept. 4pp. Mimeo. (Number of returns or recoveries needed for various types of studies.)

Project Guide — Michigan bird banders association. C.S. Robbins. 1970. U.S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife. Unnumbered Rept. 24 pp. Mimeo. (Gives reasons for banding and examples of studies, including age ratios, populations, aging and sexing, and repeat data. Much on summary and analysis of data.)

Suggestions on gathering and summarizing return data. C.S. Robbins. 1969. U.S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife. Unnumbered Rept. 11pp. Mimeo.

Longevity Records — A need for caution. D. Purchase. 1975. *Australian Bird Bander*, 13:77.

***A trap for birds nesting in burrows.** V.V. Larrovsky and S.G. Prikloonsky. 1974. *Zool. Zh.*, 53:1869-1870. (Russian with English summary; From *Wildl. Rev.*, 159:34.)

Aging, Sexing and Identification

Cranial pneumatization patterns and bursa of fabricius in North American shorebirds. R. McNeil and J. Burton. 1972. *Wilson Bull.*, 8:329-339. (The presence of the bursa may be used to age shorebirds collected during fall migrations; involution is achieved by the end of winter. Cranial ossification does not permit distinguishing young birds from adults. Two different patterns of cranial ossification are found in shorebirds.)

Banding Results

The Screech Owl: Its life history and population ecology in northern Ohio. L.F. Van Camp and C.J. Henny. 1975. USDI Fish and Wildl. Ser. N. Amer. Fauna, No. 71. 65 pp. (Includes dispersal data based on banding. Available from junior author, Fed. Ctr., Bldg. 16, Denver, CO 80225.)

Recoveries of Brown-headed Cowbirds banded at Sand Lake, South Dakota. O.E. Bray, J.W. DeGrazio, J.L. Guarino, and R.G. Streeter. 1974. *Inland Bird Banding News*, 46:204-209. (Recoveries of 20 birds banded 1937-69 are dispersed from the Canadian Prairie provinces through the Great Plains and into southern Mexico. Recovery rate of birds with leg streamers higher than normal-banded birds — 1.4% vs. 0.4%. Available from senior author, Fed. Ctr., Bldg. 16, Denver, CO 80225.)

Range expansion and population increase of the Gadwall in eastern North America. C.J. Henny and N.E. Holgersen. 1974. *Wildfowl*, 25:95-101. (Recovery data from birds banded in Manitoba and Minnesota are plotted. Available from senior author, Fed. Ctr., Bldg. 16, Denver, CO 80225.)

Population ecology and environmental pollution: Red-tailed and Cooper's Hawks. C.J. Henny and H.M. Wight. 1972. In: *USDI Fish and Wildl. Ser. Wildl. Res. Rept. 2*. p229-250. (Principal data source was recoveries of banded birds. Available from senior author, Fed. Ctr., Bldg. 16, Denver, CO 80225.)

Blackbirds and the southern rice crop. B. Meanley. 1971. USDI Fish and Wildl. Ser. Resource Publ. 100. 64pp. (Includes movements and mortality data on several species of blackbirds, based on banding. Trapping methods described. Available from author, Patuxent Wildl. Research Ctr., Laurel, MD 20811.)

Foreign Banding

Works of the Bureau of Bird banding. T.P. Shevareva (Editor). 1957. In: *Trudy Byuro Kol'tsevaniya*, No. 9. 106pp. (Four articles on bird-banding in the USSR translated to English from Russian and published for NSF and USDI. Includes banding summaries (1925-54) for all birds and banding results for the Widgeon, Gadwall and Shoveler. Available through Office of Technical Services, U.S. Dept. Commerce, Washington, D.C.)

***Oldest banded Swiss birds.** 3. Supplement. U.N. Glutz von Blotzheim. 1969. *Ornithol. Beob.* 66:223-227. (Includes 39 species. In German. From *Wildl. Rev.*, 157:50.)

Bird Ringing in the Galapagos Island. M.P. Harris. 1974. *The Ring*, 79:131-134. (Banding activities through 1973 are detailed; some results are given.)

Sixteenth ringing report for southern Africa. C.C.H. Elliott. 1974. *Ostrich*, 45:161-166. (From *Wildl. Rev.*, 159:43.)

Seventeenth ringing report for southern Africa. C.J. Vernon. 1975. *Ostrich*, 46:125-128. (From *Wildl. Rev.*, 159:43.)

The effect of a bushfire on the banding of Flame Robins in the Brindabella Ranges. T. Stokes. 1975. *Australian Bird Bander*, 13:75-76.

Banding and observations of Rainbow Bee-eaters. R.K. Carruthers. 1975. *Australian Bird Bander*, 13:71-74. (At Mount Isa, Queensland from 1963-68.)

***Bird Report: 1970 and 1971.** D.R. Wells (Compiler). 1974. *Malayan Nature J.*, 27:30-49. (A total of 6,405 birds of 220 species banded in 1970-71. Includes

recoveries of Black-crowned Night Herons and Barn Swallows — in North Korea and North Vietnam. From *Australian Bird Bander*, 13:86, 1975.)

***Camargue bird-banding station report for 1972 and 1973.** A.R. Johnson. 1975. *Terre Vie*, 29:116-130 (French. From *Wildl. Rev.*, 159:43.)

***Finnish bird stations, their activities and aims.** O. Hilden. 1974. *Ornis Fenn.*, 51:10-35 (English with Finnish summary; From *Wildl. Rev.*, 158:59.)

Compilers: Noel J. Cutright, Richard W. DeHaven, Susan Kaiser, Martin K. McNicholl, and Darwin L. Wood.

Photocopies of most references are available from the recent literature editor, Box C, Davis, CA 95616. Cost is 5¢ per page or a 25¢ minimum. An asterisk before the citation indicates that it is not available from the editor. (Please make checks payable to Richard W. DeHaven.)

Book review

A Field Guide to Birds Nests — by Hal H. Harrison; color photography by the author; bird sketches by Ned Smith; maps and endpapers by Mada Harrison. 250 pages. \$8.95. Peterson Field Guide Series #21.

It seems natural in this day and age to watch carefully the direction our money takes, but where this book is concerned the price of \$8.95 is a steal! If you are a bird watcher or bander anywhere east of the Mississippi, this is a book you should have — not just on your shelves, but at your elbow, no matter what other books you already have. You will learn about the places birds choose for building their nests, the diverse materials they use, the various shapes and sizes of nests they create, and the eggs they lay.

Of the 285 species covered, Mr. Harrison supplies an incredible amount of precise information such as breeding range, habitat, nest and eggs, which is easily located under these headings. In addition, Mr. Harrison will often add some telling comment in a section of "Notes," such as pointing out types of trees used for nest building, birds victimized by cowbirds, even records of strange nesting sites. You will learn, for example, that an American Redstart at a nest in Ottawa County, Ohio, built in 2 1/2 to 3 days, making 650-700 trips to the nest with material. And the Yellow Warbler, which

sometimes builds a nest floor over Brown-headed Cowbird eggs.

Hal H. Harrison is a retired newspaperman and lecturer; Ned Smith has served as staff artist for the Pennsylvania Game Commission for a number of years; Mada Harrison, wife of the author, is an excellent field ornithologist, botanist and conchologist, as well as artist.

The bird species appear in authoritative systematic order and, where important, some subspecies are described. In the beginning of the book, the background information covering subspecies, time of nesting, courtship, bird measurements and nest measurements is offered. This is a wealth of information in itself without going farther into the book.

All 26 states east of the Mississippi River are covered. The excellent color photographs are placed directly above the text descriptions for the 222 species whose nests are illustrated in color. You will go a long way before finding illustrations of this caliber. At the bottom of each of these pages is Ned Smith's perceptive drawing of the bird itself. Thus, illustrations and text appear on the same page. The endpapers (for convenient reference) show egg shapes and marking. An outstanding work with first-rate color photography!

Contributed by: Mrs. Roger W. Foy, Box 164, Ship Bottom, NJ 08008