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# Recent Literature

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## **Aging, Sexing, Identification and Anomalies**

**A technique for identifying yearling female Atlantic Brant.** J.M. Penkala. 1977. *J. Wildl. Manage.* 41:585-587. (The juvenile appearance [wormtrack-like] of the ovaries and the absence of white-edged wing coverts indicate a yearling 12-23 mo. female.) NC

**Aging nestling raptors by 4th-primary measurements.** L.R. Petersen and D.R. Thompson. 1977. *J. Wildl. Manage.* 41:587-590. (Estimation lines for age determination of Great Horned Owl and Red-tailed Hawk nestlings are presented.) NC

**Methods of sexing Eared Pheasants.** L.E. Thompson. 1976. *Avic. Mag.* 82:39-50.

## **Banding Equipment and Techniques**

**An evaluation of traps and baits for capturing waterfowl in coastal Louisiana.** S.D. DuBois and A.W. Palmisano. 1975. *Proc. Annu. Conf. Southeast Assoc. Game Fish Comm.* 28:474-482. (Traps built of 1 X 2 in. or 2 X 2-5/8 in. welded wire mesh were equally efficient. A newly designed 5-entrance star trap was the most efficient trap; box traps were least efficient.) NC

**Methods for locating, trapping and banding Band-tailed Pigeons in Colorado.** C.E. Braun. 1976. *Colorado Div. Wildl. Spec. Rep.* 39:1-20.

**Evaluation of a nasal marker for ducks.** R.J. Greenwood. 1977. *J. Wildl. Manage.* 41:582-585. (A design for a nasal saddle that can be commercially manufactured is described.) NC

## **Major North American Banding Results**

**1976 Western Canada raptor banding.** R. Fyfe. 1977. *Alberta Nat.* 7:158-162. (Banding totals for 29 raptor species plus Common Raven banded by 22 banders or banding groups in 4 provinces and 2 territories—total of 1803 birds.) MM

**Movements of the Great-tailed Grackle in Texas.** K.A. Arnold and L.J. Folse, Jr. 1977. *Wilson Bull.* 89:602-608. (Over 6000 individuals were either banded as nestlings or, as adults, captured in a decoy trap or at roosts between 1967 and 1974 in Brazos Co. More northern populations are migratory with the Brazos River Valley serving as a natural migration route.) NC

**Band-recovery distribution of eastern Maine woodcock.** W.B. Krohn and E.R. Clark. 1977. *Wildl. Soc. Bull.* 5:118-122. (Woodcock from eastern Maine migrate along a broad front between the Appalachians and Atlantic Ocean. Most birds wintered from southern VA to northern FL. A few moved as far west as LA and eastern TX.) NC

**Reproductive parameters and egg contaminant levels of Great Lakes Herring Gulls.** A.P. Gilman et al. 1977. *J. Wildl. Manage.* 41:458-468. (Recovery data on Herring Gulls banded as nestlings in the Great Lakes between 1941-1970 were studied. Movements of gulls within the Great Lakes basin appear to increase the variation of the contaminant load of eggs in a colony.) NC

**The mobility of breeding Pintails.** S.R. Derrickson. 1978. *Auk* 95:104-114. (Pintails were captured at baited shoreline sites using projection nets and floating treadle traps. Birds were marked with adjustable, back-mounted radio packages and/or nasal saddles. The mean home range sizes for unpaired males, paired males, and paired females were 579, 896, and 480 ha.) NC

## **Other North American Banding Results**

**The periodic invasions of Goshawks.** H.C. Mueller, D.D. Berger, and G. Allez. 1977. *Auk* 94:652-663. (This paper is another excellent discussion resulting from the long-term raptor migration studies at Cedar Grove on the western shore of Lake Michigan. Major invasions indicate a massive reproductive failure and a precipitous decline in population. The magnitude of an invasion is determined by the synchrony of the decline of prey populations in time and space and also by the size of the Goshawk population. On 1,566 days spanning 25 years, 591 Goshawks were banded.) NC

**Field Sparrow reproductive success and nesting ecology.** L.B. Best. 1978. *Auk* 95:9-22. (Adults and nestlings were individually marked with leg bands in central Illinois. Egg and nest successes were 11% and 10%. Predation, primarily by snakes, caused a 76% nesting failure.) NC

**Vocal repertoire of the Black-capped Chickadee.** M.S. Ficken, R.W. Ficken, and S.R. Witkin. 1978. *Auk* 95:34-48. (A color-banded pop-

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Edited by Susan Kaiser

ulation was studied. The physical characteristics, usages, and probable functions of 11 vocalizations of adults and 2 of the young are described.) NC

**Latitudinal variation of postnuptial molt in Pacific Coast White-crowned Sparrows.** L.R. Mewaldt and J.R. King. 1978. *Auk* 95:168-179. (Birds were captured with mist nets on their coastal nesting grounds from California to British Columbia. The duration of postnuptial molt decreases northward by 2.6 days per degree of latitude. Males begin molting earlier than females by as much as two weeks. For both sexes, the date on which molt begins is independent of latitude and is correlated with the end of nesting season.) NC

**Evaluation of a Korean Pheasant introduction in Missouri.** L.L. Wollard, R.D. Sparrowe, and G.D. Chambers. 1977. *J. Wildl. Manage.* 41:616-623. (Pheasants were marked with colored backtags to allow observation of mobility and mortality associated with release. The average known dispersal of marked birds was 2.9 km.) NC

**A probable Mourning X MacGillivray's Warbler hybrid.** S.T. Patti and M.L. Myers. 1976. *Wilson Bull.* 88:490-491. (Bird in question was mist-netted in Johnson Co., Kansas in May 1975. This is apparently the second report of possible hybrids of these species.) NC

**A possible New York State Dickcissel breeding colony.** R.S. Slack and C.A. Baumgartner. 1977. *Kingbird* 27:26-27. (As many as 10 males and 5 females were seen in one field in late June, 1976. A few individuals were banded with 2 females showing distinct incubation patches and a male with a distended cloacal protuberance.) NC

**Sixty years' observations of birds and mammals on a Long Island duck farm.** L. Wilcox. 1977. *Kingbird* 27:63-68. (Among the author's recollections are his banding of 13,644 Herring Gulls [640 recoveries] over 46 years. Since 1927, the author has banded 130,154 birds in New York State.) NC

**The breeding biology of two Lake Erie Herring Gull colonies.** R.D. Morris and G.T. Haymes. 1977. *Can. J. Zool.* 55:796-805. (Also erratum, *Can. J. Zool.* 55:1766.) (Fledging success based on banded chicks.) MM

**Prothonotary Warbler in Oregon.** L.R. Mewaldt. *West. Birds* 8:63-64. (This apparent first record for Oregon was mist-netted 19 August 1976 at Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge.) SK

**Breeding adaptations in the Eastern Bluebird.** B.C. Pinkowski. 1977. *Condor* 79:289-302. (A study of color-banded birds revealed that yearlings began nesting later and reared fewer young than adults. Females who had raised an earlier brood in the same season laid smaller clutches than those who had not.) SK

**Winter territoriality of Townsend's Solitaires (*Myadestes townsendi*) in a piñon-juniper-ponderosa pine ecotone.** M.G. Salomonson and R.P. Balda. 1977. *Condor* 79:148-161. (Winter territories were related to food availability, differing from year to year because of changes in juniper berry quality and quantity. Based on a study of color-banded birds.) SK

**Territory quality and mating success in the Field Sparrow (*Spizella pusilla*).** L.B. Best. 1977. *Condor* 79:192-204. (An Illinois study based on color-banded and color-marked birds.) SK

**Character convergence in bird song.** R.N. Brown. 1977. *Can. J. Zool.* 55:1523-1529. (Color-banded wrens, *Thryothorus sinaloa* and *T. felix* in Mexico failed to show character convergence in recorded songs or interspecific territoriality.) MM

**Seasonal changes in aggressive behavior of female Spruce Grouse.** P.W. Herzog and D.S. Boag. 1977. *Can. J. Zool.* 55:1734-1739. (Evidence for aggressive, apparently territorial, behavior between females is shown by playback experiments with banded, radio-tagged birds.) MM

**Brood size manipulations in Herring Gulls.** G.T. Haymes and R.D. Morris. 1977. *Can. J. Zool.* 55:1762-1766. (Growth rates of banded individuals were compared between normal and super-normal broods.) MM

**Predation of nesting Glaucous-winged Gulls by River Otter.** R.G. Footit and R.W. Butler. 1977. *Can. Field-Nat.* 91:189-190. (A great reduction in number of young gulls banded in 1973 compared with previous years at the same colony provided indirect evidence for otter predation, added to direct observations.) MM

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**Fieldfare in Ontario.** D.J.T. Hussell and M.J. Porter. 1977. *Can. Field-Nat.* 91:91-92. (*Turdus pilaris* caught in a mist net and banded at Long Point Bird Observatory.) MM

**Aspects of Woodcock nocturnal activity in southwestern Quebec.** R.A. Wishart and J.R. Bider. 1977. *Can. Field-Nat.* 91:141-147. (Netting provided a seasonal index of nocturnal activity, with age and sex determined for each bird caught, and colored nape tags supplementing bands.) MM

**Reproductive success of Herring Gulls nesting on Brothers Island, Lake Ontario, in 1973.** S.M. Teeple. 1977. *Can. Field-Nat.* 91:148-157. (Chicks were banded, and fates followed.) MM

**Increases in a population of nesting Glaucous-winged Gulls disturbed by humans.** C.J. Amlaner, Jr., J.L. Hayward, Jr., E.R. Schwab, III, and J. F. Stout. 1977. *Murrelet* 58:18-20. (Although various human disturbances, including annual chick banding, combined to slightly increase chick mortality, the population of a Washington colony is increasing.) MM

**Bluebird report for 1976.** J. C. Finlay. 1977. *Edmonton Naturalist*, 5:120-122. (A female Mountain Bluebird banded in 1976 was found 9 miles away in another box the same season. Several band recoveries of Tree Swallows resulted from killings by House Sparrows.) MM

**Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) extends its breeding range into upper Tennessee.** F.J. Alsop, III. 1977. *Amer. Birds* 31:1101-1102. (Three nestlings banded in first known state nesting.) MM

### Foreign Banding Results

**Feeding territories and breeding success of South Polar Skuas.** F. Trillmich. 1978. *Auk* 95:23-33. (A creek trap was baited with a plastic egg and birds were caught 2-20 min. after setting the trap. One wing of captured birds was color-dyed. The size of skuas' territories varied between 0.5 and 1.8 ha.) NC

**Island colonization by Lesser Antillean birds.** J. Terborgh, J. Faaborg, and H.J. Brockmann. 1978. *Auk* 95:59-72. (Intensive netting and census studies

were conducted at four montane and five coastal scrub sites on eight Lesser Antillean islands. At each site, a long, nearly continuous line of mist nets was operated from dawn to dark for a succession of 3 of 4 days. Daily net catches declined over the netting period to half or less of the initial levels. Estimates of the total nettable population were obtained.) NC

**On the relative abundance of migrants from the north temperate zone in tropical habitats.** J.R. Karr. 1976. *Wilson Bull.* 88:433-458. (Mist nets were used in shrub and forest habitats to clarify the ambiguities about species composition and abundance from July 1968 through July 1969 in Panama. Mist netting was also conducted in Asia and Africa.) NC

**Weights and fat condition of some migrant warblers in Jamaica.** A.W. Diamond, P. Lack, and R.W. Smith. 1977. *Wilson Bull.* 89:456-465. (Seven species of migrant parulids [Black-and-White, Prairie, Black-throated Blue, and Prairie Warblers, Ovenbird, Common Yellowthroat, and American Redstart] were mist-netted in 1970-72 and weights and fat scores were recorded.) NC

**Ringling studies of Goosanders in Northumberland.** E.R. Meek and B. Little. 1977. *British Birds* 70:273-283. (Techniques for catching broods of young Goosanders (*Mergus merganser*) are described. Over 17% of the 247 birds banded during 1967-75 have been recovered.) NC

**The use of amateur workers in British studies of bird populations.** G.V.T. Mathews. 1970. VIII Intern. Congr. of Game Biologists, Helsinki. Pp. 196-201. (Primarily a discussion of the importance of bird ringing.) SK

**Seabird islands.** S.G. Lane (ed.). 1976. *Aust. Bird Bander* 14:85-116. (An entire issue devoted to the islands supporting seabird colonies off the coast of New South Wales. Banding summaries are included for each of the 12 areas.) SK

**Preliminary report on bird banding in New Zealand 1972-73.** C.J.R. Robertson. 1974. *Notornis* 21:70-78. (29,680 birds were banded in the year ending 31 March 1973. There were 9,923 recoveries and 9,582 repeats. Totals included 97 species banded and 81 recovered.) SK

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NC = Noel J. Cutwright  
LD = Lawrence R. DeWeese  
SK = Susan Kaiser  
MM = Martin K. McNicholl

**Preliminary report on bird banding in New Zealand 1973-74.** C.J.R. Robertson. 1975. *Notornis* 22:58-65. (29,466 birds were banded in the year ending 31 March 1974. Only 4,814 recoveries and 3,465 repeats were recorded, less than half as many as in the previous year. 107 species were banded and 76 recovered, including a Northern Royal Albatross at least 46 years old.) SK

**Reproductive interactions of the Shiny Cowbird and the Yellow-shouldered Blackbird.** W. Post and J.W. Wiley. 1977. *Condor* 79:176-184. (Survival data from banded birds indicate that the Yellow-shouldered Blackbird population of SW Puerto Rico may not maintain itself in the face of an expanding Shiny Cowbird population.) SK

**New information on Costa Rican waterbirds.** F.G. Stiles and S.M. Smith. 1977. *Condor*, 79:91-97. (Annotated list based in part on a shorebird banding program.) SK

**The migration of the Pied Flycatcher from and through Britain.** P.H. Jones, C.J. Mead and R.F. Durman. 1977. *Bird Study*, 24:2-14. (Analysis of banded birds at eight British bird observatories. Northern Portugal serves as a fattening area.) SK

**A study of an expanding Sand Martin colony.** J. Harwood and J. Harrison. 1977. *Bird Study*, 24:47-54. (Ringing data were used to determine mortality and population dynamics.) SK

**Weight changes of Dunlins on the Dee Estuary in May.** R.A. Eades and J.D. Okill. 1977. *Bird Study*, 24:62-63. (Documents pre-migratory weight changes in ringed birds.) SK

**Moult and mensural data of Ruff on the Witwatersrand.** M.B. Schmitt and P.J. Whitehouse. 1976. *Ibis*, 47:179-190. (Includes mensural data, the molt cycle, recaptures and leg color of 1600 Ruffs ringed in South Africa.) SK

**A new genus and species of owl (Aves: Strigidae) from Peru.** J.P. O'Neill and G.R. Graves. 1977. *Auk*, 94:409-416. (This new genus and species of owl would still remain unknown in a cloud forest in Peru had it not been captured in mist nets. There are three known specimens, all mist-netted birds.) NC

### Bits-N-Pieces (from Amer. Birds)

**The winter season Dec. 1, 1976—Feb. 28, 1977.** K. Smith and 32 regional editors. 1977. *Amer. Birds* 31:292-377. (In CO a banding index was used to estimate numbers of Pine Siskins in one part of Ft. Collins. 96 House Finches banded before late Jan. in VA were part of the range extension of this species in the East. A Scarlet Tanager banded in CA in Nov. stayed there until 13 Dec. Most of the 16 Eastern Bluebirds that tried to jam into a PA nest box during a severe weather period had been locally banded. The winter finch flight was low, as reflected by only one report of a significant total:—800+ Purple Finches in the Niagara area. A Hairy Woodpecker banded in 1965 was present in SD, and a banded Painted Redstart spent its 3rd or 4th winter at an Arizona feeder. Recoveries or sightings of color-marked birds included an immature Brandt's Cormorant from the Farallon Is. in mainland CA, Trumpeter Swans from Alta. in ID, and Bald Eagles from MN and Sask. in OK. 38 Steller's Jays were banded in UT during an influx.) MM

### Received for Review

**Long Point Bird Observatory.** 1975 Annual Report. J.M. Speirs (ed.). 1977. (Documents banding totals for 8230 birds of 128 species. Also includes corrected totals for 1970 and 1971, 1975 migration highlights, recoveries, and a special report on shorebird occurrence and habitat use. Available from L.P.B.O., P.O. Box 160, Port Rowen Ont. N0E 1M0, Canada. Price \$1.25.) SK

**Colorado bird distribution latilong study.** Colorado Field Ornithologists. 1978. H.E. Kingery and W.D. Graul (publ.). 62 + vii pp. (405 species are listed by blocks formed by latitudes and longitudes. Included are status, habitat, and abundance codes; these can be seen at a glance for the entire state. Habitat and abundance are coded separately for the breeding, migrating, and wintering periods. An extremely effective way to present a large amount of information in a small amount of space. Copies available from: Judd Sundine, CFO Treasurer, 5325 Garland, Arvada, CO 80002. Price \$2.00. Make check payable to Colorado Field Ornithologists.) SK