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# Recent Literature

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Edited by Susan Kaiser

**The annual cycle of the American Goldfinch.** A.L.A. Middleton. 1978. *Condor*, 80:401-406. (Gonadal and molt cycles were studied at Guelph, Ont. between 1968 and 1975. Banded birds provided molt data; the nesting season was the only time of year when no molt was found.) SK

**Hawk Cliff raptor banding station sixth annual report.** M. Field and W. Rayner. 1978. *Ontario Bird Banding*, 12:1-27. (Details of banding activity in 1976 with comparisons to previous years, and recoveries — at seven stations in Elgin Co., Ont. Includes an American Kestrel nest box program.) MM

**White-winged Crossbills breed in northern Utah.** K.G. Smith. 1978. *West. Birds*, 9:79-81. (This first confirmation of nesting in the U.S. Rocky Mtn. area was aided by netting and banding.) SK

**The breeding biology of an isolated Bobolink population in Oregon.** J.F. Wittenberger. 1978. *Condor*, 80:355-371. (Aspects of breeding biology and population dynamics are described from a study of color-banded birds. The most important factors regulating population density are apparently survival of newly fledged young and mortality during migration.) SK

**Survival and homing of female Mallards.** R.A. Bishop, D.D. Humburg, and R.D. Andrews. 1978. *J. Wildl. Manage.*, 42:192-196. (Incubating females were captured on nest baskets with a bail trap, banded, and marked with polyvinyl nasal saddles. Data suggest a strong tendency for Mallard hens to return to their previous nesting marsh and to the same segment of habitat where they were successful.) NC

**Age specificity in Mallards banded postseason in eastern Colorado.** R.M. Hopper, H.D. Funk, and D.R. Anderson. 1978. *J. Wildl. Manage.*, 42:263-270. (Results from almost 4400 recoveries from over 51,000 bandings indicated differences in recovery distributions of adults and immatures.) NC

**Mortality, emigration, and separation of mated Snow Geese.** F. Cooke and D.S. Sulzbach. 1978. *J. Wildl. Manage.* 42:271-280. (A method of estimating survival based on sighting color-marked birds at the breeding colony is described. Nonreturn of both sexes in future years can be accounted for primarily by mortality.) NC

**Dispersion and mobility in a local population of Spruce Grouse.** P.W. Herzog and D.A. Boag. 1978. *J. Wildl. Manage.*, 42:853-865. (Birds were captured with a telescopic snare pole and individually marked with colored leg bands. Spacing behavior is dependent upon sex, age, time of year, and possibly level of dominance.) NC

**Reappraising factors affecting Mourning Dove perch cooing.** M.W. Sayre, R.D. Atkinson, T.S. Baskett, and G.H. Haas. 1978. *J. Wildl. Manage.*, 42:884-889. (Adult birds, totaling 1065, were individually color-marked with back tags, wing tags, or were painted on the wing and tail. Marked unmated males cooed at significantly higher rates than mated males, had greater probability of cooing during 3-min. periods, and continued cooing longer each morning than mated males.) NC

**Hen Wood Duck calls brood from neighboring nest box.** R.W. Strader, R.E. Murry, Sr., H.R. Perry, Sr., and R.B. Hamilton. 1978. *J. Wildl. Manage.*, 42:919-920. (Incubating hens nesting in duplex nest boxes in LA were banded and fitted with a uniquely marked nasal saddle. Marked hens could be distinguished at 80 m with a 40 X spotting scope.) NC

**Migrational homing of male Gadwalls to breeding grounds.** R.J. Blohm. 1978. *Auk*, 95:763-766. (A decoy trap was used to capture 284 male Gadwalls, which were banded, color-marked with airplane dope, and given colored nasal saddles. Some males — especially older, unpaired birds — may home to the breeding areas used in previous seasons.) NC

**Genetic variation and differentiation in the Parulidae.** G.F. Barrowclough and K.W. Corbin. 1978. *Auk*, 95:691-702. (Fifteen species of warblers were mist netted in MN, WI, and Br. Columbia and used to investigate genetic heterozygosity and degree of differentiation.) NC

**First United States record of Paint-billed Crake (*Neocrex erythrops*).** K.A. Arnold. 1978. *Auk*, 95:745-746. (The rail was captured in 1972 in Brazos Co. in east-central TX. Arnold calls for a method of marking/banding imported birds at the point of importation. This would eliminate doubt in future cases of unusual, extralimital occurrences in the U.S.) NC

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## Recent Literature

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CTC—Charles T. Collins  
NC—Noel Cutright  
SK—Susan Kaiser  
MM—Martin McNicholl

**Still another parulid intergeneric hybrid (*Mniotilta X Dendroica*) and its taxonomic and evolutionary implications.** K.C. Parkes. 1978. *Auk*, 95:682-690. (A hybrid Black-and-white and Cerulean Warbler collected in 1954 near Cameron, LA is described.) NC

**Overnight weight loss in Dark-eyed Juncos (*Junco hyemalis*).** E.D. Ketterson and V. Nolan, Jr. 1978. *Auk*, 95:755-758. (Results do not indicate important sex- or size-related differences in short-term fasting ability but such differences may be important over longer time periods.) NC

**A helper at a Tufted Titmouse nest.** M.F. Davis. 1978. *Auk*, 95:767. (Color-banded birds were used.) NC

**Double-broodedness in Purple Martins in Texas.** C.R. Brown. 1978. *Wilson Bull.*, 90:239-247. (638 martins were banded in 1974-75.) NC

**Bird-banding at Powdermill, 1977.** R.C. Leberman and M.H. Clench. 1978. *Powdermill Nature Reserve Res. Rep. No. 38*. 21 pp. (Mist nets and/or Potter-type traps were operated on 247 days. A total of 8549 birds of 115 species were banded. All birds were weighed and measured. Over 150,000 birds of 160 species have been banded at Powdermill.) NC

**Competition for hummingbird pollination and sequential flowering in two Colorado wildflowers.** N.M. Waser. 1978. *Ecology*, 59:934-944. (Hummingbirds were mist netted so pollen could be strained from their facial plumage and mandibles and to measure their upper mandible.) NC

### Foreign banding results

**The Rufous-collared Sparrow as a host of the Shiny Cowbird.** R.M. Fraga. 1978. *Wilson Bull.*, 90:271-284. (Older nestlings were banded with colored celluloid bands.) NC

**The migration of Dunlin *Calidris alpina* through northern Scandinavia.** R. Leslie and C.M. Lessells. 1978. *Ornis Scandinavica*, 9:84-86. (Approximately 2650 Dunlin were mist-netted and captured in Ottenby and Revtangens-type traps in Norway in summer 1974. 32 were recovered through May 1975.) NC

**Annual bird ringing totals and population fluctuations.** C. Hjort and C. Lindholm. 1978. *Oikos*, 30:387-392. (Bird observatory banding figures can, if they have been gathered under reasonably constant circumstances, be used both to study long-term trends and short-term fluctuations, even if there has not been any total standardization of the trapping.) NC

**NOTICE: Ringing and Migration is published biannually by the British Trust for Ornithology.** The July issue contains the annual banding report for Britain, and the December issue contains papers on banding and migration. For subscription information write the BTO, Beech Grove, Tring, Herts. HP23 5NR.

**The migration of Redstarts through and from Britain.** P.H. Jones. 1975. *Ringing and Migration*, 1:12-17. (To the end of 1972, 32,358 full-grown Redstarts have been banded, producing 184 recoveries, a 0.57% rate.) NC

**Feeding behavior of autumn passage migrants in north east Portugal.** P.N. Ferns. 1975. *Ringing and Migration*, 1:3-11. (Mist-netting capture rates were used to show differences in feeding activity patterns.) NC

**The post-nuptial moult of a migratory population of Pied Wagtails.** H. Galbraith. 1977. *Ringing and Migration*, 1:184-186. (Results showed little differences in the molt pattern between a migratory and non-migratory population.) NC

**The wing-formulae of some live warblers from Portugal.** G.J. Mead. 1977. *Ringing and Migration*, 1:178-183. (Findings cast doubt on the comparison of wing measurement data on the shorter primaries between museum skins and live birds.) NC

**Wintering Snipe in Middlesex.** M. Davies. 1977. *Ringing and Migration*, 1:173-177. (Data on wing and bill measurements in winter showed no signs of multimodality from age or sex differences. There is also evidence that Snipe are faithful to their winter quarters.) NC

**Infidelity to the natal colony by breeding Herring Gulls.** W.N.M. Duncan and P. Monaghan. 1977. *Ringing and Migration*, 1:166-172. (Significant numbers of Herring Gulls recruit to colonies other than the colony of birth.) NC

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**Observations on the moult of the Tree Sparrow.** C.J. Bibby. 1977. *Ringing and Migration*, 1:148-157. (The rate and timing of the fall molt are discussed.) NC

**Dunlin in Portsmouth, Longstone, and Chichester Harbours.** D.J. Steventon. 1977. *Ringing and Migration*, 1:141-147. (Birds wintering in these harbors originate from northern Scandinavia/arctic Russia and then molt in the southern North Sea area in fall.) NC

**Morphometric studies of a population of Blue and Great Tits.** J.J.M. Flegg and C.J. Cox. 1977. *Ringing and Migration*, 1:135-140. (Wing lengths were taken using the maximum chord technique and weights with a "Pesola" spring balance; for weighing, birds were held in thin polyethylene cones.) NC

**Different capture times of rare and common migrants at Skokholm Bird Observatory.** M. de L. Brooke. 1977. *Ringing and Migration*, 1:131-134. (Common migrants were trapped earlier in the day than rare migrants. It is suggested that common migrants mostly landed about dawn, while rare migrants landed at all times of day.) NC

**Analysis of ringing and subsequent recoveries from a Yorkshire blackbird roost.** R. and J. Jackson. 1976. *Ringing and Migration*, 1:117-119. (A mortality rate of 32.4% was calculated.) NC

**A winter roosting population of Reed Buntings in central England.** J.F.M. Fennell and D.A. Stone. 1976. *Ringing and Migration*, 1:108-114. (The national recovery rate is 0.64%. Roost size and composition, movements, sex ratio, and weights are discussed.) NC

**Some biases in cannon- and mist-netted samples of wader populations.** M.W. Pienkowski and W.J.A. Dick. 1976. *Ringing and Migration*, 1:105-107. (Mist nets sampled the total population in a more consistent way than did cannon nets but juveniles and non-molting adults may have been over-represented. Cannon-netted catches tended to be more variable due to age and molt segregation in roosting flocks.) NC

**The movements of Storm Petrels as shown by ringing.** A.R. Manwood. *Ringing and Migration*, 1:98-104. (Recoveries indicate wintering off Africa. Colony interchanges also are discussed.) NC

**Weight variations of Ringed Plovers on the Dee Estuary.** R.A. Eades and J.D. Okill. 1976. *Ringing and Migration*, 1:92-97. (Banding recoveries and biometric data indicated that observed May and August peak abundances were caused by the presence of birds migrating between northern Greenland and West Africa.) NC

**Weights of blackcaps on migration.** D.R. Langslow. 1976. *Ringing and Migration*, 11:78-91. (The rate of weight loss on migration, length of previous flight, mode of migration, and possible origin of migrants are discussed in relation to the weights.) NC

**Differential mortality and dispersal of male Blackbirds.** P.J. Greenwood and P.H. Harvey. 1976. *Ringing and Migration*, 1:75-77. (It is suggested that birds that disperse suffer a higher rate of mortality than those which do not.) NC

**Mortality in British gulls.** J.J.M. Flegg and R.A. Morgan. 1976. *Ringing and Migration*, 1:65-74. (Recoveries were used to assess mortality for Black-headed, Herring, and Lesser Black-backed Gulls.) NC

**Catching and ageing Dippers.** T. Parsons and D. Reid. *Ringing and Migration*, 1:56. (Three birds were captured using a mist net set across a small stone dam on a stream.) NC

**Weights and moult of Green Sandpipers in Britain.** T. Kittle. 1975. *Ringing and Migration*, 1:52-55.

**Kingfishers at Rye Meads.** A. Reynolds. 1975. *Ringing and Migration*, 1:48-51. (Using data from 271 banded birds, pattern of occurrence and annual and diurnal weight variations are discussed.) NC

**Seasonal variations in suburban blackbird roosts in Aberdeen.** R.L Swann. 1975. *Ringing and Migration*, 1:37-42. (Birds were mist-netted, banded, and color-marked. Seasonal variations in age and sex ratios, mortality, and movements are discussed.) NC

**A study of breeding Lapwings in the New Forest, Hampshire 1971-74.** R. and J. Jackson. 1975. *Ringing and Migration*, 1:18-27. (Using banding data from recently-hatched young birds, mortality percentages were calculated; these indicated that 77% of all young failed to survive beyond 30 days from hatching.) NC

## Recent Literature

**Mortality of Reed Warblers in Jersey.** R. Long. 1975. *Ringling and Migration*, 1:28-32. (Using banding data from 3663 birds, adults were estimated to suffer a 44% annual mortality and juveniles 76% between banding and their second summer.) NC

**Occurrence of Jaman Little Tern *Sterna albifrons sinensis* in West Africa.** L.G. Grimes. 1978. *Bull. Brit. Ornithol. Club*, 98:114. (Nestling banded in Java in 1949, recovered in Ghana in 1952; a rather unusual distance for a small tern.) CTC

***Charadrius semipalmatus* in the Azores.** R. Hudson. 1977. *Bull. Brit. Ornithol. Club*, 97:135. (A bird banded in Magdalen Islands, Gulf of St. Lawrence, Quebec, Canada 24 July 1972 recovered 25 September 1972 on Santa Maria Islands in the Azores after trans-Atlantic flight.) CTC

### Bits-N-Pieces (From American Birds)

**The winter season. Dec. 1, 1977 — Feb. 28, 1978.** C.P. Wilds and 31 regional editors. 1978. *American Birds*, 32:321-403. (Irruptive finches highlighted banding totals, with 3200 birds captured in a PA backyard including 560 redpolls and 7 American Kestrels killing trapped siskins. The kestrels were deported but 2 returned. Over 1000 Purple Finches were banded at 2 stations in TN, over 4000 Pine Grosbeaks in one MN yard, and 4625+ siskins at 7 KS localities, with 600 more in TX. A heavy flight of Snow Buntings in New England brought 140 to a banding station in NJ, and 32 Great Gray Owls banded in Man. were part of a major flight there. Redpoll identification was the subject of a discussion on pg. 330: Hoaries have short, more conical bills leading to a "pushed-in" look — illustrated on pg. 404; pure white or pinkish rump with no vestige of streaking; pure white under tail coverts.) MM


**The spring migration. Mar. 1 — May 31, 1978.** M.A. Howe and 32 regional editors. 1978. *American Birds*, 32:968-1058. (As usual, banding was involved in several unusual locality and seasonal records, including "several" Costa's Hummingbirds in NM, where the first state record was verified the previous year. The excitement of finding a singing male Kirtland's Warbler in Quebec province was heightened further by the discovery that the bird had been banded as a nestling in MI in 1974.

Another exciting recovery was a 1972, Sask.-banded drake Blue-winged Teal on Kure Atoll. 229

of 2229 flightless Great Horned Owls banded in Sask. have been recovered primarily to the s.e. An Aleutian Canada Goose banded at Buldir Is., AK in 1976 as a gosling was seen at St. George Is., Pribilofs. A Black-headed Grosbeak captured in a garbage truck and transported 50 miles for banding in TX returned to the capture site in 6 days. Of 1000 Pine Siskins banded at Hays, KS, 25 pairs remained to breed.

23 Boreal Owls were banded at Whitefish Pt., MI during a major flight in the region. 979 hawks trapped for banding at Sandy Hook, NJ included 7 retraps and 33 Cooper's. 14 Hoary Redpolls were banded in Ont., but problems with racial and species identification continue to emerge — see comments on pp. 987 and 1004. 130 Black-and-white and 51 Magnolia Warblers were banded in a single day at Island Beach, NJ. Other noteworthy banding totals included 22 young Double-crested Cormorants at an ID colony, 23 Long-eared and 18 Saw-whet Owls at Whitefish Pt., and 84 and 304 Lazuli Buntings at 2 UT sites. At one KS locality only 8 Tennessee Warblers were banded where 66 were caught last year. Several species of passerines were down markedly at Morgantown, WV and Powdermill Nature Reserve, PA, although other species were average or up at one or the other of these stations, with details provided in Hall's usual thorough but concise manner.) MM

# Venezuela



## BIRD TOURS

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## Books

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**Long Point Bird Observatory 1976 Annual Report.** E.H. Dunn, ed. 1978. 24 pp. Published by LPBO, P.O. Box 160, Port Rowan, Ont. N0E 1M0, Canada. Price: \$1.50. (Includes migration highlights, banding totals [10,913 birds of 145 species], recoveries, nest records, publications, and research in progress.) SK

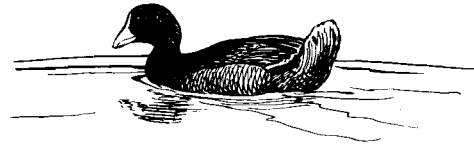
**Key to North American waterfowl.** S.R. Wylie and S.S. Furlong. 1978. 32 pp. Published by Schroeder Prints, Inc., P.O. Drawer 580, Chestertown, MD 21620. Price: \$4.95. (A unique feature of this booklet is that it is waterproof. Colored illustrations, two to a page, show male and female plumages, with flight silhouettes and line drawings added to emphasize field characters. A series of code letters denotes a species' abundance within each flyway. There are short notes on flight, food, and habitat for each species, and a two-page wing identification guide.) SK

**Working bibliography of owls of the world.** R.J. Clark, D.G. Smith and L.H. Kelso. 1978. 336 pp. Published by National Wildlife Federation, 1412 Sixteenth St., NW, Washington, DC 20036. Price: \$9.00 + .85 handling. (An astounding compendium of worldwide owl literature accessible by geographic location and genus, and by the following categories: anatomy, behavior, ecology, physiology, taxonomy, conservation, general, and distribution. A brief examination reveals a considerable number of citations mentioning banding or recoveries in the title.) SK

**The complete outfitting and source book for bird watching.** M. Scofield. 1978. 192 pp. Published by The Great Outdoor Trading Co., 24759 Shoreline Highway, Marshall, CA 94940. Price: \$6.95 soft cover, \$12.95 hard cover. Add \$0.75 postage and handling. (Includes history, basic equipment buyers' guide, relevant publications, clubs and organizations, best U.S. birding sites, tours, and several appendices. W.B.B.A. (but not E.B.B.A.) is mentioned in the clubs and organizations section. Numerous typos and errors detract from this publication's quality, but it is still full of useful information.) SK

**Birds of the southwest Pacific.** E. Mayr. 1978. 316 pp. + map. Published by Charles E. Tuttle Co., Rutland, VT 05701. Price: \$5.75. (A reprint of the 1945 edition by Ernst Mayr, this field guide covers the area formed by a rough triangle with the corners at Samoa, New Caledonia, and Palau. 388

species [and 415 subspecies] are described; keys are often used to facilitate identification. Although some of the material is out-of-date, this remains an excellent guide to the region's birdlife.) SK



**Birds of the Gainsborough-Lyleton region (Saskatchewan and Manitoba).** Richard W. Knapton. 1979. Special Publication No. 10, Saskatchewan Natural History Society, Regina. 72 pp. \$3.00 Canadian.

This is an avifaunal survey of the birds of extreme southeastern Saskatchewan and southwestern Manitoba, until now among the least known areas of the prairie provinces ornithologically. Although the report is based primarily on Knapton's observations from 1974 to 1978, notes of local residents and other visitors have been used extensively. In addition to notes on occurrence and abundance, tidbits of behavior and ecology are scattered throughout the species accounts. This book is a valuable addition to North American avifaunal reports and should be in the library of all serious ornithologists in the Canadian prairie provinces and adjacent American states.

As in many other areas, several species or races were first found when the observer discovered the bird in a mist net, presumably during banding operations. Of interest to banders are the following recoveries: neck-collared Whistling Swans banded in Maryland or North Carolina, a neck-banded "Blue" Goose (probably) and a leg-banded Snow Goose (definitely) from the La Perouse Bay colony in northern Manitoba, and a Blue-winged Teal banded near Erickson, Manitoba. A color-banded Black-capped Chickadee apparently remained for the winter, then was not seen again until the following winter.

This is the seventh bird report in this series. All may be ordered from the Saskatchewan Natural History Society, Box 1121, Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 3B4, Canada.

Martin K. McNicholl

**Guide to the Identification and Ageing of Holarctic Waders.** A.J. Prater, J.H. Marchant, and J. Vulorien. 1977. British Trust for Ornithology Field Guide No. 17. 168 pp. Paper cover. £2.50; Available B.T.O., Beech Grove, Tring, Herts., HP23-5NR, U.K. (also available from Los Angeles Audubon Society Book Shop, Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90046. \$9.95 ppd.; CA residents add 6% tax [54]).

This superb guide, written mainly for banders, presents data on 117 species of Holarctic wading birds in the families Rostratulidae, Haematopodidae, Ibisornithidae, Recurvirostridae, Dromadidae, Burhinidae, Glareolidae, Charadriidae, and Scolopacidae (including phalaropes).

In addition to many strictly Eurasian species and families, all North American species are included and account for more than 40% of the total treated. Information is presented under the headings of: identification, age and sex classes, and biometrics (measurements). Geographical variation is indicated, when appropriate, and some general information is presented on distribution and migratory status.

An introduction which is extensive explains the terminology used and the types of ageing clues (mostly patterns of feathers and feather wear) referred to in the species accounts. A handy table reconciles differences in terminology for plumages and banding age codes between the European and North American banding programs. One color plate (2 photographs) and 16 black and white plates (32 photographs) enhance the technical information presented.

This book has to be considered a "must" for all banders handling shorebirds and attempting to age and sex these birds in the hand. It may also have some usefulness for field birders wishing to learn more about the plumages and appearance of shorebirds. Prior to this compilation, the information has been greatly scattered in various reference sources or in the personal notes of many banders around the world. By bringing this volume of data together under one cover, the authors have done a great service to ornithology; it is sure to facilitate further advances in our understanding of the biology and movements of shorebirds.

As also pointed out in earlier reviews (Jehl, 1979,

*Bird-Banding* 50:94-95; Morrison, 1979, *Wilson Bull.*, 91:159-160) this guide should be of use to museum workers as well as those dealing with living birds under field conditions. Intended to be only a first edition by its authors, this guide may undergo revisions as further information becomes available. However, at present it faithfully represents the "state of the art", and future changes are for the most part apt to be only minor. Banders should get a copy and use it!

Charles T. Collins

**How Birds Fly.** John K. Terres. Hawthorne Books, Inc., NY 1968. \$3.95.

As implied by the title, this is a book about the mechanics of bird flight. But it is also well-sprinkled with flashbacks, recollections, and extensive reference to many well-known incidents regarding observations and theories of birds' behavior in flight. Most are of a non-technical nature. Several chapters recount the personal experiences of the flight, hacking, and eventual release of the author's pet captive Peregrine Falcon.

There is a separate treatment of each aspect of bird flight, including speed; maneuvers; hazards; static, hovering, and dynamic flight; heights achieved; even a brief section on the underwater "flight" of certain sea-birds. The author's description of the similarity between water and the "ocean of air" in which birds fly is a model of clarity. The origins of birds' evolution are mentioned briefly and there are several short appendices recapping the physical characteristics, names, and technicalities of birds and flight. There is also an extensive bibliography. The most engaging stories involve the actions of the raptors, Turkey Vultures, and an albatross. Although the book was published in 1968, the events are timeless.

This book is available in an inexpensive, well-constructed paperback. This is a personal book, especially useful to beginning birders because of its scope and simplicity, but it is also pleasant for veteran birders to re-live in memory the experiences which are described in the text and depicted in the line drawings.

B.F. Kita