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# Recent Literature

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Edited by Susan Kaiser

## **Banding Equipment and Techniques**

**Tarsal color of American Coots in relation to age.** R.D. Crawford. 1978. *Wilson Bull.* 90:536-543. (Data from 22 color-marked coots recaptured in years subsequent to their banding indicate that during the breeding season yearlings have green tarsi, 2-year-olds have yellow-green tarsi, 3-year-olds have yellow tarsi, and all older birds have tarsi ranging from yellow-orange to red-orange.) NC

**Growth and calculation of age in Mourning Dove nestlings.** L.C. Holcomb and M. Jaeger. 1978. *J. Wildl. Manage.*, 42:843-852. (The age of a nestling can be determined accurately only through the use of several measurements because of the range in individual variation. The age formula derived was:  $-1.13 + (0.15) (\text{tarsus length}) + (0.19) (\text{tomial length}) + (0.12) (\text{second primary length, if present}) + (-0.9) (\text{spinal tract feather length, if present}) - 1 + \text{age in days.}$ ) NC

**Effects of radio packages on reproductive success of Willow Grouse.** K.E. Erikstad. 1979. *J. Wildl. Manage.*, 43:170-175. (A trained pointing dog was used to locate nests where incubating hens were captured with a hand net. Radio packages did not influence behavior. Conspicuous colors of packages may have made broods more vulnerable to predators.) NC

**Experiences with a new back-tag for open nesting passerines.** R.K. Furrer. 1979. *J. Wildl. Manage.*, 43:245-249. (The tab protrudes from the back and is suitable for birds that forage in open habitats. The back-tag consists of a backplate and fin cut from PVC-coated synthetic fabric, a wing strap that goes around the upper arm made from soft PVC tubing, a short connecting strap of the same material as the fin, a PVC glue, and brass crimping eyelets of about 4 mm internal diameter.) NC

**Effects of radio-marking on behavior, movements, and survival of Spruce Grouse.** P.W. Herzog. 1979. *J. Wildl. Manage.*, 43:316-323. (All birds were captured with extendable snare poles and banded with an individually color-coded sequence of 4 bands. Behavior and movements were not affected. The relationships, if any, among renal gout, radio-marking, and death remain uncertain.) NC

**The composite dynamic method as evidence for age-specific waterfowl mortality.** K.P. Burnham and D.R. Anderson. 1979. *J. Wildl. Manage.*, 43:356-366. (Banding data were utilized to estimate mortality rates.) NC

**Age determination of Mallards.** G.L. Krapu, D.H. Johnson, and C.W. Dane. 1979. *J. Wildl. Manage.*, 43:384-393. (Several combinations of feather measurements reliably separate yearlings from adults before and during the nesting season. The black-white surface area of greater secondary covert 2 is the single most useful character identified.) NC

**A technique for age determination of juvenile White-tailed Ptarmigan.** K.M. Giesen and C.E. Braun. 1979. *J. Wildl. Manage.*, 43:508-511. (By utilizing measurements of a single postjuvenile primary (the most recently replaced) it was possible to assign accurately those ages of juveniles between 17 and 90 days old.) NC

**External determination of age of Common Snipe.** T.J. Dwyer and J.V. Dobell. 1979. *J. Wildl. Manage.*, 43:754-756. (Upper wing coverts provide a reliable characteristic for age-class separation.) NC

**Analysis of roosting counts as an index to Wood Duck population size.** D.E. Parr and M.D. Scott. 1978. *Wilson Bull.*, 90:423-437. (Ducks were captured at a permanent site waterfowl trap baited with corn and then were banded, sexed, and aged by plumage, eye color, or cloacal examination. Ten birds were fitted with radiotransmitter packages.) NC

## **North American Banding Results**

**White Pelican production and survival of young at Chase Lake National Wildlife Refuge, North Dakota.** R.F. Johnson, Jr. and N.F. Sloan. 1978. *Wilson Bull.*, 90:346-352. (Young less than 3 days old were marked with self-piercing, size 1 web tags.) NC

**Post-fledging behavior of Purple Martins.** C.R. Brown. 1978. *Wilson Bull.*, 90:376-385. (Each of 41 broods were banded with standard aluminum bands painted a distinctive color.) NC

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**Killdeer breeding densities.** T.R. Mace. 1978. *Wilson Bull.*, 90:442-443. (A bow-net trap and mist nets were used to capture adults at their nests. Chicks were caught by hand before they could fly. Densities were (prs/40 ha) 13.3 — open field, 12.5 — asphalt areas, 12.0 — bare cultivated fields, and 5.7 — planted fields.) NC

**Experiments on population regulation in two North American parids.** F.B. Samson and S.J. Lewis. 1979. *Wilson Bull.*, 91:222-233. (Black-capped Chickadees and Tufted Titmice were captured in 1-cell Potter traps baited with sunflower seed and then marked with plastic leg bands.) NC

**Evidence of westward changes in the range of the American Woodcock.** R.W. Smith and J.S. Barclay. 1978. *Amer. Birds*, 32:1122-1127. (Banding indicates Wisc.-breeding birds migrate almost straight south, wintering primarily in La. and Miss. with recoveries in Tex. and Okla. Minn.-banded birds have been recovered in Iowa and Mo., and a bird banded in Okla. was recovered in Minn.) MM

**First record of a King Eider nesting in Manitoba.** K.F. Abraham and F. Cooke. 1979. *Blue Jay*, 37:45-46. (Near Churchill, female banded.) MM

**Red-tailed Hawks fledge young from artificial nest box.** L. Scott. 1978. *Blue Jay*, 36:210-211. (One young banded in Sask.) MM

**Blue Grouse brood hen—Black Bear confrontation.** M.G. Sullivan. 1979. *Can. Field-Nat.*, 93:200. (Although no chicks were seen at the time of the encounter, later observations of the banded hen showed that she had a brood at the time. The leg band of an adult male Blue Grouse was found in bear scat in the same area.) MM

**Migratory movements and plumage of subadult Saskatchewan Bald Eagles.** J.M. Gerrard, D.W.S. Whitfield, P. Gerrard, P.N. Gerrard, and W.J. Maher. 1978. *Can. Field-Nat.*, 92:375-382. (Based on 307 banded birds, 56 with wing-marks. Migratory movements, return to natal area, and plumage data compared with Southern's [1967] classification are provided. One death was attributed to a wing-marker and some difficulties with these were reported, but they were advantageous in supplying data on local movements, and increased reportings substantially.) MM

**Black-necked Stilts nesting near Edmonton, Alberta.** D. Decker, R. Lister, T.W. Thormin, D.V. Weseloh, and L.M. Weseloh. 1979. *Can. Field-Nat.*, 93:68-69. (Two young banded — see NABB, 3:102.) MM

**Common Garter Snake predation on Robin nestlings.** K. Martin. 1979. *Can. Field-Nat.*, 93:70-71. (The snake removed the smallest nestling first, then the second; these had been weighed and measured when banded.) MM

**Wild Mallard stocking in a large marsh habitat.** R.O. Bailey. 1979. *Can. Field-Nat.*, 93:55-62. (Banded wild-strain ducklings released in Delta Marsh, Man. had poor reproductive success compared to wild birds. 26-28% of yearling hens released and 53% of 2-year-olds homed to the release site.) MM

**Neighbor-stranger discrimination by song in male Blue Grouse.** J.B. Falls and M.K. McNicholl. 1979. *Can. J. Zool.*, 57:457-462. (Based primarily on color-banded birds.) MM

**River Otter predation on Glaucous-winged Gulls on Mandarte Island, British Columbia.** N.A.M. Verbeek and J.L. Morgan. 1978. *Murrelet*, 59:92-95. (A reduction in chicks reaching banding age from 550 in 1972 to 62 in 1973 is attributed to otter predation.) MM

**Hawk Cliff raptor banding station seventh annual report: 1977.** M. Field and D. Field. 1979. *Ontario Bird Banding*, 12:2-28. (Numbers of raptors and shrikes banded, returned, and recovered, with some comparisons with previous years.) MM

**Reproductive success of larids nesting on the eastern headland of the Toronto Outer Harbour in 1977.** G.T. Haymes and H. Blokpoel. 1978. *Ont. Field Biol.*, 32:1-17. (Fledging success was studied on fenced plots in which all chicks were banded shortly after hatching — Ring-billed and Herring Gulls and Common and Caspian Terns.) MM

**Great Gray Owl studies continue.** R.W. Nero. 1979. *Manitoba Nat. Soc. Bull.*, 2(6):12-13. (Nero and co-workers have banded almost twice as many as all others. Recoveries have provided data on movements.) MM

### **Foreign Banding Results**

**A new species of hummingbird from Peru.** J.W. Fitzpatrick, D.E. Willard, and J.W. Terborgh. 1979. *Wilson Bull.*, 91:177-186. (Mist netting was used to catch this hummingbird species and other birds in northern Peru.) NC

**Ecology and behavior of the Galapagos Rail.** A.B. Franklin, D.A. Clark, and D.B. Clark. 1979. *Wilson Bull.*, 91:202-221. (Chicks were captured by hand or with a net; larger birds were caught in a chicken-wire box-trap propped up on one side. All captured birds were color-banded.) NC

**Origins and movements of Oystercatchers on the Wash.** K.R. Anderson and C.D.T. Minton. 1978. *Brit. Birds*, 71:439-447. (Analysis of 249 recoveries resulting from the capture of about 12,000 birds showed a marked difference in breeding areas for birds occurring in the west and east of Britain.) NC

**Little Gulls in Britain and Ireland.** C.D. Hutchinson and B. Neath. 1978. *Brit. Birds*, 71:563-582. (This is an excellent review paper and includes a discussion of the source of the American colonists in the context of its migrations in western Europe.) NC

**Plumage variation of known-age Herring Gulls.** 1979. D. Monaghan and N. Duncan. *Brit. Birds*, 72:100-103. (Three Herring Gulls known to be 4 years old showed plumage characteristics typical of individuals 3, 4, and at least 5 years old.) NC

**[Bird-ringing in Norway 1972.]** H. Holgersen. 1975. *Sterna*, 14:92-100. (In Norwegian with English summary. A total of 69,469 birds were banded; five species were banded for the first time.) NC

**Changes in numbers of migrants ringed at Danish bird observatories during the years 1966-75.** F.D. Petersen. 1976. *Dan. Ornithol. Foren. Tidsskr.*, 70:17-20. (In English.) NC

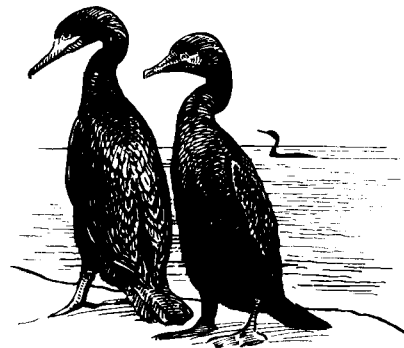
### **Bits-N-Pieces (from: *Amer. Birds*)**

**The nesting season. June 1—July 31, 1978.** W.B. Robertson, Jr. and 33 regional editors. 1978. *Amer. Birds*, 32:1137-1211. (A netted presumed Amer. Redstart x Bay-breasted Warbler is shown on pp.

1139-1140 with no accompanying text. A singing male Kirtland's Warbler in WI had been banded in MI as a nestling in 1972. A Warbling Vireo returned to Pt. Reyes Bird Observatory for its 13th summer. A CO-banded Osprey was recovered in Honduras and CA-collared Aleutian Canada Goose observed in the Pribolof Islands. Large numbers of birds banded for their respective areas included 4 young Cattle Egrets in Ont., 200+ young White-faced Ibis in Idaho, 54 Ferruginous Hawks and 114 nestling Prairie Falcons in Sask., 2700+ Royal Terns at 3 VA colonies, 43 young Sandwich Terns on Cobb Is., VA, and 164 young Barn Owls in Utah.) MM

NC = Noel Cutright

MM = Martin McNicholl



### **Recent Literature Editor changeover**

Susan Kaiser will resign as recent Literature Editor for *N.A.B.B.*, effective at the end of 1979, in order to devote full time to graduate study.

We wish to thank Susan for the excellent job she has done and wish her every success in her studies. Dr. Martin McNicholl has kindly agreed to serve as Susan's successor.