
News, Notes, Comments

CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW SETS TWO RECORDS

The recovery of a banded Chuck-will's-widow (*Caprimulgus carolinensis*) #973-11808 in the community of Las Yayas De Buena-Vista, San Juan, Dominican Republic, in April 1992 was reported to the Bird Banding Laboratory by Carolyn Bain, a Peace Corps volunteer in the Dominican Republic, to whom the band had been given. The bird had been killed with a slingshot which was loaded with a rock. The BBL was hesitant, at first, to accept the record for their files due to the complete absence of any previous encounter reports of a Chuck-will's-widow. After verifying the report and receiving the band which had been removed from the bird, the report was accepted and became the first encounter of a Chuck-will's-widow ever recorded.

The bird had been banded some fourteen years before (8 April 1978) at a banding station operated by A. B. Flanigan and Stanley Stedman on Casey Key, a barrier island in the Gulf of Mexico, a few miles south of Sarasota, Florida. It was the first Chuck-will's-widow banded at the station, of a total of 32 bandings there to date. According to the BBL records, only 378 have ever been banded.

A longevity record was established also, as the Chuck-will's-widow was more than 15 years of age, being aged as AHY at the time of banding, and is recorded in the longevity file at the BBL.

We are indebted to the Bird Banding Laboratory, especially to Danny Bystrak, for their comments and cooperation in obtaining the details of this encounter.

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A COMMENT

In a recent issue of *North American Bird Bander* (17:167), Karl Bartel notes a "Warning: Lawn Chemicals." I am puzzled as to how one determines if the symptoms described are as a result of exposure to herbicides or insecticides or whether they are those associated with avian pox.

I have regularly seen avian pox here, especially in House Finches, and the most obvious symptoms are nodules or sores or lesions in the beak area and on the feet. I live in the desert where there are no lawns to be sprayed. If I had made the same observations as Karl Bartel did, I would have concluded "avian pox."

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