

# Recent Literature

## BANDING EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUES

**Estimating fledging success and productivity in Roseate Terns (*Sterna dougallii*).** I.C.T. Nisbet, J. Burger, C. Safina and M. Gochfeld. 1990. *Colonial Waterbirds* 13:85-91. 72 Codman Rd., Lincoln, MA 01773. (Encounters of banded chicks were used in five different methods of estimating productivity in different colonies, with advantages and disadvantages pointed out in relation to colony circumstances and their inherent biases.) MKM

## IDENTIFICATION, MOLTS, PLUMAGES, WEIGHTS AND MEASUREMENTS

**Recognizable forms: Morphs of the White-throated Sparrow.** R. Pittawa. 1991. *Ont. Birds* 9:82-83. Box 619, Minden, Ont. K0M 2K0. (Differences between tan-striped and white-striped morphs in different seasons.) MKM

**Recognizable forms: Subspecies of the Iceland Gull.** R. Pittawa. 1992. *Ont. Birds* 10:24-26. Box 619, Minden, Ont. K0M 2K0. (Review of distinguishing features at different ages among Kumlien's, Thayer's and "Greenland" Iceland Gulls and species and hybrids that might be confused with them.) MKM

**Field identification aspects of some Red-tailed Hawk subspecies.** J.W. Lish and W.G. Voelker. 1986. *Amer. Birds* 40:197-202. Oklahoma Coop. Field & Wildl. Res. Unit, 404 LSW, Oklahoma State Univ., Stillwater, OK 74078. (Well illustrated review of features that distinguish five of the seven North American races, with complications posed by age and color phases noted.) MKM

**Female Golden-fronted Woodpecker or mutant female Red-bellied Woodpecker?** D.T. Gerber. 1986. *Amer. Birds* 40:203. Dept. of Biol. Sciences, Clemson Univ., Clemson, SC 29631. (Central barred tail feathers on Red-bellied distinguish xanthic and other aberrant females from Golden-fronted.) MKM

**Slaty-backed Gull winters on the Mississippi River.** R.E. Goetz, W.M. Rudden and P.B. Snetsinger. 1986. *Amer. Birds* 40:207-216. Washington Univ., Dept. of Mathematics, Box 1146, St. Louis, MO 63130. (Including extensive discussion of identification features of black-mantled gull species and hybrids.) MKM

**External characters in the offspring resulting from cross-breeding between cormorant species.** V.E. Malacalza. 1991. *Colonial Waterbirds* 14:180-183. 9 de Julio 444, Puerto Madryn 9120, Chubut, Argentina. (Plumage characteristics of banded hybrid cormorants in Patagonia were followed as the birds matured.) MKM

**Regional, age and seasonal differentiation in the Regent Honeyeater *Xanthomyza phrysia*.** R. Scodde, I.J. Mason and L. Christidis. 1992. *Corella* 16:23-28. Australian Natl. Wildl. Collective, CSIRO Div. of Wildl. & Ecol., Box 84, Lynehan, ACT 2602, Australia. (Morphometric analyses showed this species to be geographically monomorphic, previously reported geographic differences reflecting seasons when data were collected. Features useful in sex and age determination are discussed.) MKM

**The European cline in wing-length of Guillemots *Uria aalge*.** P.H. Jones. 1988. *Seabird* 11:19-21. The Hide, 49 High St., Menai Bridge, Gwynedd LL59 5 EF, U.K. (Distance between carpal joint and the tip of the longest primary with the wing straightened and flattened of birds at 13 colonies in Denmark, Faroe, Iceland, Ireland, Norway, Scotland and Wales increases through northwestern Europe; data from colonies south of Great Britain are sparse.) MKM

## NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS

**Banding in Ontario: 1990.** W.D. McIveen. 1991. *Ont. Bird Banding* 23:2-9; Commentary on the 1990 banding report. W.D. McIveen. 1991. *Ont. Bird Banding* 23:10-13. R.R. 1, Acton, Ont. L7J 2L7. (42,385 birds of 189 taxa were banded by 13 individuals and six organized groups in Ontario in

1990, the lowest total reported since the annual summaries began in 1984. The explosive increase in the House Finch, a species not even reported in the province until 1972, is reflected in its ascendancy to the most-banded bird at 2891 individuals. A table summarizes 1984-1990 totals of the 15 most-banded 1990 species, and graphs chart banding trends for seven species.) MKM

**Long Point Bird Observatory--1990 report.** J. McCracken. 1991. *Ont. Bird Banding* 23:14-16. Long Point Observatory--1990 recoveries. B. Collier. 1991. *Ont. Bird Banding* 23:17-19. Long Point Bird Observatory--1990 hawk-banding station report. R. Ridout. 1991. *Ont. Bird Banding* 23:20-22. McCracken and Ridout: Long Point Bird Observatory, Box 160, Port Rowan, Ont. N0E 1M0; Collier deceased. (In its 31st year, LPBO banded 16,794 birds of 150 taxa for a cumulative total of 370,794 birds of 150 taxa. Cassin's Finch was added to the banding list and totals exceeded previous records for nine other species. 29 recoveries of 21 species are reported, most significantly a Black-and-White Warbler in Belize. In its third year, LPBO's banding station processed 358 raptors of ten species.) MKM

**Black-capped Vireo: new to Canada.** J.R. Hough. 1991. *Ont. Birds* 9:64-66. 49 Grosvenor St. Little Lever, Bolton, Lancashire BL3 1QK, U.K. (Netted at Long Point, Ontario and photographed in the hand before release.) MKM

**Hawk Cliff Raptor Banding Station nineteenth annual report, 1989.** B. Duncan, D. Fowler and S. Fowler. 1991. *Ont. Bird Banding* 23:23-31; Hawk Cliff Raptor Banding Station twentieth annual report: 1990. B. Duncan, D. Fowler and S. Fowler. 1991. *Ont. Bird Banding* 23:32-37. Hawk Cliff Raptor Banding Station recoveries, foreign retraps, and repeats: 1988-1990. S. Fowler. *Ont. Bird Banding* 23:38-43. 1049 Kirkwall Rd., R.R. 1, Dundas, Ont. L9H 5E1. (2673 birds of 11 raptor species were banded in 1989 and 2992 birds of 13 species in 1990, bringing the cumulative total to 49,369 raptors banded from 1969 to 1990. From 1988 to 1990, 237 encounters were reported, bringing the total to 712 (1.44% of the birds banded). Sightings and bandings are summarized by month and by species for both years, and all

recoveries and foreign retraps 1988-1990 are itemized. Marshall Field's capture of two Peregrine Falcons in his lunch hour on 3 October 1990 will be envied by all raptor banders.) MKM

**A Least Flycatcher with one eye.** D. Agro. 1991. *Ont. Bird Banding* 23:44. 3 Oak Knoll Dr., Hamilton, Ont. L8S 4C3. (A mist-netted Least Flycatcher with only one eye was otherwise in good health and similar condition to other flycatchers caught the same day. The injury was well healed. After release, the bird gleaned insects by flycatching among branches in the style of kinglets and some warblers.) MKM

**Raptor banding at Holiday Beach Conservation Area, 1989-90.** T.W. Carpenter. 1991. *Ont. Bird Banding* 23:45-46. Dept. Biol. Sciences, Bowling Green State Univ., Bowling Green, OH. (415 raptors of seven species were captured in the first year of banding at a long-time hawk migration observation site on the north shore of Lake Erie.) MKM

**Ontario Eastern Bluebird Society nestbox survey-1990.** W. Read. 1991. *Ont. Bird Banding* 23:47-48. 2-165 Green Valley Dr., Kitchener, Ont. N2P 1K3. (638 Eastern Bluebirds and 1376 Tree Swallows were banded by respondents to this survey.) MKM

**Finding (and watching) Gray Jays in Algonquin Park.** D. Strickland. 1992. *Ont. Birds* 10:1-10. Oxtongue Lake, R.R. 1, Dwight, Ont. P0A 1H0. (A 30-year color-banding study in an Ontario population has shown social relationships, time of greatest population loss, and longevity.) MKM

**Bird news.** G. Grief. 1992. *Man. Nat. Soc. Bull.* 17(4):10. c/o Man. Nat. Soc., 302-128 James Ave., Winnipeg, Man. R3B 0N8. (An injured female Great Horned Owl brought to Assiniboine Park Zoo in Winnipeg in January 1992 had been banded in the same area as an adult in December 1964, a longevity record of 28(+) years.) MKM

**Winter sightings of Canada Geese, *Branta canadensis*, banded in northern Quebec and James Bay.** G.E. Menkins, Jr. and R.A. Malecki. 1991. *Can. Field-Nat.* 105:350-353. Menkins de-

ceased; Malecki: New York Coop. Fish & Wildl. Res. Unit, U.S. Fish & Wildl. Serv., Fernow Hall, Cornell Univ., Ithaca, NY 14853. (Adult Canada Geese were neck banded at Ft. Chimo and Inukjuak, Quebec and near the Ontario coast of James Bay 1986-1988. Sightings suggest that different populations tend to winter in different areas, but there is some overlap. Birds banded in 1986 in the Inukjuak population on the east coast of Hudson Bay shifted wintering areas between 1987 and 1988.) MKM

**Growth rates of Great Egret, Snowy Egret and Black-crowned Night-Heron chicks.** T.W. Custer and D.W. Peterson, Jr. 1991. *Colonial Waterbirds* 14:46-50. U.S. Fish & Wildl. Serv., Patuxent Wildl. Res. Center, Gulf Coast Res. Stn., Box 2506, Victoria, TX 77902. (Based on measurements of individually marked, repeatedly sampled chicks in Texas as well as known-aged chicks collected in Rhode Is. and Texas.) MKM

**Competition between European Starlings and native woodpeckers for nest cavities in Ohio.** D.J. Ingold and R.J. Densmore. 1992. *Sialia* 14:43-48, 54. Dept. Biol. Sci., Muskingum College, New Concord, OH 43762. (Color banding Red-bellied and Red-headed Woodpeckers and Northern Flickers enabled the authors to determine which pairs nested twice and where woodpeckers re-nested if displaced by starlings.) MKM

**Postfledging survival and recruitment of known-origin Roseate Terns (*Sterna dougallii*) at Flakner Island, Connecticut.** J.A. Spindel. 1991. *Colonial Waterbirds* 14:108-115. U.S. Fish & Wildl. Serv., Patuxent Wildl. Res. Cent., Branch of Migratory Bird Res., Laurel, MD 20708. (1636 Roseate Tern chicks were banded on Falkner Is. from 1978-1985, with bands being replaced at about five-year intervals. Since 1987, bands of less corrodible substances than aluminum have been used. During the period from 1981 to 1990, 166 (10.1%) of these Falkner Island-banded birds and 68 (1.0%) of 6904 chicks banded elsewhere in the region have been recaptured at Falkner Island as nesting adults. Recapture data provided information on survival, recruitment and dispersal at this colony, which appears to be self-sustaining.) MKM

**Double-brooding by a Wood Duck in Washington.** P.C. Fielder. 1992. *Northwest. Nat.* 73:26-27. Fish & Wildl. Operations, P.U.D. No. 1 of Chelon Country, Box 1231, Wenatchee, WA 98807. (A banded female was found incubating a clutch of eight eggs after earlier incubating a clutch of 11 eggs that was known to have hatched, providing the northernmost case of double-brooding known for this species to date.) MKM

**Eggshell thinning and organochlorine contaminants in western Washington waterbirds.** S.M. Speich, J. Calambokidas, D.W. Shea, J. Peard, M. Witter and D.M. Fry. 1992. *Colonial Waterbirds* 15:103-112. Dames & Moore, 1790 E. River Rd., Suite E-300, Tucson, AZ 85718. (Observations of banded birds suggest that colonies in Seattle and Tacoma were started by birds hatched on Protection Is. and other northern Puget Sound colonies in Washington.) MKM

**Notes on the occurrence of the Little Egret (*Egretta garzetta*) in the Americas, with reference to other Palearctic vagrants.** W.L. Murphy. 1992. *Colonial Waterbirds* 15:113-123. 7202 Matthew St., Greenbelt, MD 20770. (Includes detailed discussion of identification features, treating Little Egret and Western Reef Heron as conspecific. Little Egrets banded in Spain have been recovered in Trinidad, Surinam and Martinique. A table summarizes recoveries in the Caribbean of Snowy Egrets banded in North America.) MKM

**Highlights from two decades of banding at Hawk Cliff.** S. Fowler. 1992. *Cardinal* 148:23-25. 17 Fifth Ave., St. Thomas, Ont. N5P 4C2. (A brief summary of banding operations at Hawk Cliff, Ontario, including a description of the area, history of the banding group, techniques and projects, banding and observational highlights, and some recoveries.) MKM

**Timing of breeding of Kittiwakes *Rissa tridactyla* and growth and diet of the chicks at Hantzsch Island, N.W.T., Canada.** A.J. Gaston. 1988. *Seabird* 11:3-11. Can. Wildl. Serv., Ottawa, Ont. K1A 0H3. (In two-egg clutches, the elder chick grew faster than the younger. Mean weights of surviving chicks at 25-26 days old were higher relative to adult weight than at all sites studied previously except one in Norway.) MKM

**Calgary, Alberta area bluebird trains 1991.** D.J. Stiles. 1992. *Sialia* 14:94. 20 Lake Wapta Rise SE, Calgary, Alta. T2J 2M9. (2008 Mountain Bluebirds and 973 Tree Swallows were banded at boxes in the Calgary area.) MKM

## FOREIGN BANDING RESULTS

**Chick growth, fledging periods and adult mass loss of Atlantic Puffins *Fratercula arctica* during years of prolonged food stress.** R.T. Barrett and F. Rikardsen. 1991. *Colonia Waterbirds* 15:24-32. Zool. Dept., Tromso Mus., N-9000 Tromso, Norway. (Growth rate at a colony in Norway was very slow in a year of food shortage, but 75% of the chicks fledged. During a year of more severe shortages, all chicks died.) MKM

**First record of Yellow-collared Chlorophonia for Middle America.** A.P. Capparella. 1986. *Amer. Birds* 40:194-195. Mus. of Zool., Dept. of Zool. & Physiol., Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA. (Three mist-netted in Panama, 400 km. north of previously known northern limit of range in Colombia.) MKM

**Foraging flights of the White-tailed Tropicbird (*Phaethon lepturus*): radio tracking and double-labelled water.** C.J. Pennyquick, F.C. Schaffner, M.R. Fuller, H.H.O. Brecht III and L. Sternberg. 1990. *Colonial Waterbirds* 13:96-102. Dept. Biol., Univ. Miami, Box 249118, Coral Gables, FL 33124. (Foraging flights in Puerto Rico were tracked with radio transmitters. Effects of transmitters on flight were negligible, but transmitters somehow increased energy expenditure, as measured by double-labelled water.) MKM

**Origins of Black-headed Gulls (*Larus ridibundus*) wintering in central London.** A.P. Gosling, T.J. Christmas, A.J. Parr and S.E. Christmas. 1990. *Colonial Waterbirds* 13:129-132. 8, The Walk, Fox Lane, Palmers Green, London N12 4AA, U.K. (Of 504 Black-headed Gulls banded in London parks 1977-1989, 28 to date have been encountered in other European countries. 123 gulls banded as nestlings outside of Great Britain, mostly in Finland and the Baltic states, have been hand-caught or sighted in London, as have 46

adults banded outside Great Britain, mostly from Denmark and Germany.) MKM

**Rainfall correlates of bird population fluctuations in a Puerto Rico dry forest: a 15-year study.** J. Faaborg and W. Arendt. 1992. *Ornitologia Caribena* 3:10-18. Div. of Biol. Sci., Univ. Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211. (Based on standard mist-netting data at one site in the winter.) MKM

**Three new records of Neotropical migrant birds at Guanahacabibes Peninsula, Cuba.** H. Gonzalez, E. Gonidez [sic: Godinez], P. Blanco and A. Perez. 1992. *Ornitologia Caribena* 3:56-57. Cuban Laboratory of Migrant Birds, Institute of Ecology and Systematics, Carretera Verona km. 3.5, Capdevila, Boyeros, Habana 8, Cuba. (Wilson's and Tennessee warblers and Blue Grosbeak netted and banded.) MKM

**Food addition and winning experiments in the Cape Gannet: effects on breeding success and chick growth and behavior.** P.A. Navarro. 1991. *Colonial Waterbirds* 14:92-102. Dept. Statistical Sci., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa. (Supplemented food did not accelerate growth rates.) MKM

**Nearctic migrants in southwest Peru.** R.A. Hughes. 1988. *Bull. Brit. Ornithol. Club* 108:29-43. Casilla 62, Mollendo, Peru. (A number of wing-tagged Common Terns, marked by the Canadian Wildlife Service on Lake Ontario, were observed and individually identified on the Mollendo-Mejia beaches (17°S, 72°W) in the northern winters of 1982-83, 1983-84, and 1984-85.) KCP

**Why do Flame Robins *Petrica phoenicea* migrate? A comparison between the social and feeding ecologies of the Flame Robin and Scarlet Robin *P. multicolor*.** D. Robinson. 1992. *Corella* 16:1-14. 28 Bath St., Mornington, Vic. 3931, Australia. (Color-banding helped document patterns of movements, site-fidelity, territoriality and arrival times. Scarlet Robins establishing their first winter territories in grassy areas showed little site-fidelity, whereas those first settling in wooded areas tended to return the next year and often retained the same territory during the breeding season.) MKM

**The occurrence of second clutches after successful breeding by Cape Gannets (*Morus capensis*).** N.J. Adams and C.B. Walter. 1991. *Colonial Waterbirds* 14:173-175. 9 Thornwick Rd., Plumstead 7800, South Africa. (Seven of 30 pairs of Cape Gannets marked with picric acid known to have raised chicks laid second clutches.) MKM

**The diet of Giant Petrels *Macronectes* spp. at Marlon Island, Southern Indian Ocean.** S. Hunter and M. de L. Brooke. 1992. *Colonial Waterbirds* 15:56-65. 20, London Rd., Saffron Walden, Essex CB11 4ED, U.K. (Observations of color-banded birds suggest sexual differences in food selection of adult Northern Giant Petrels.) MKM

**Known-aged birds of a subtropical breeding colony of the Bridled Tern (*Sterna anaethetus*): a comparison with the Sooty Tern.** J.N. Dunlop and J. Jenkins. 1992. *Colonial Waterbirds* 15:75-82. Box 518, Karratha, Western Australia 6714. (Terns were caught at roosting sites at night or at nests and banded with alloy bands and sometimes color bands. Proportions of adults caught with brood patches helped determine nesting periods each year. State of molt was found to vary with timing of colony exodus each year. Known-aged birds were recaptured at the colony as early as one year after hatching, but peaked at three years. Confirmed breeding started at four years after which nest site tenacity was high. Nest shifts were associated with mate changes and disappearances.) MKM

**Map of Curlew Sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*) recoveries.** J. Pook. 1992. *Corella* 16:30. Australian Bird and Bat Banding Schemes, c/o Australian Bird Study Assoc., Box A313, Sydney South, NSW 2000, Australia. (Recoveries beyond 500 km. of birds banded in Australia, as far away as India and the Taimyr Peninsula of northern Russia.) MKM

**Silver Gulls and emerging problems from increasing abundance.** G.C. Smith. 1992. *Corella* 16:39-46. Environ. Survey and Res., New South Wales Natl. Parks and Wildl. Serv., Box 1967, Huntsville, N.S.W. 2220, Australia. (This review

includes considerable information on movements, longevity, mortality, colony tenacity and related aspects of natural history, based on both previously published and unpublished data.) MKM

**Recovery rate of juvenile Cape Gannets: a potential indicator of marine conditions.** T.B. Oatley, L.G. Underhill and G.J.B. Ross. 1992. *Colonial Waterbirds* 15:140-143. Avian Demography Unit, Dept. Statistical Sciences, Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa (21,104 fledgling gannets were banded at Bird Island, Algoa, South Africa between 1981 and 1990. After recovery rates of 0.9 and 0.8 in 1981 and 1982, the rate rose sharply to 2.7, coinciding with increasing banding effort, a change in the reporting address on the band and a "warm water event." Recovery rates of 0.3 to 1.0 in subsequent years of 1984 through 1990 suggest that the unusual marine conditions were primarily responsible for the increased recovery rates, rather than changes in banding effort or band design.) MKM

**Breeding by one-year-old Indian River Terns.** T. Mundkur. 1992. *Colonial Waterbirds* 15:145-147. Asian Wetland Bur., Univ. of Malaya Lembah Pantai, 59100 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. (After 418 chicks were banded in 1989, 13 were sighted in 1990 at nests or with young. Two of these recaptured confirmed that they were banded as chicks the previous year.) MKM

**Northeastern Roseate Terns seen at Puerto Rican colony during breeding season.** D.A. Shealer and J.E. Saliva. 1992. *Colonial Waterbirds* 15:152-154. Dept. Biol. Sci., Rutgers Univ., Piscataway, NJ 08855. (Two color-banded apparently non-breeding terns seen at the edges of Puerto Rican breeding colonies apparently originated from Great Gull Island, NY, providing the first record of mixing of the Caribbean and northeastern U.S. populations during the breeding season.) MKM

**Seabird Islands No. 215. Pelsaert Island, Houtman Abrolhos, Western Australia.** P.J. Fuller and A.A. Burbridge. 1992. *Corella* 16:47-58. West. Australian Wildl. Res. Cent., Box 51, Wanneroo, West. Australia 6065, Australia. (3152

birds of ten species were banded on this island between 1963 and 1982, but no recoveries have been reported to date.) MKM

**Post-chick leaving behaviour of the Razorbill *Alca torda* as shown by radio-telemetry.** S. Wanless, J.A. Morris and M.P. Harris. 1988. *Seabird* 11:22-27. Inst. of Terr. Ecol., Hill of Brathens, Banchory, Kincardineshire, Scotland AB3 4BY. (Behavior patterns of two females and one male at a colony in Scotland were recorded before and after their chicks fledged.) MKM

**Bird Island, New South Wales revisited.** S.G. Lane and A.K. Morris. 1992. *Corella* 16:59. Lot 6, Fairview Rd., Moonee via Goffs Harbour, NSW 2450, Australia. (38 Wedge-tailed Shearwaters and seven Short-tailed Shearwaters were banded during the first ornithological visit to the island since 1971.) MKM

**Age, sex and origins of auks (Alcidae) killed in the Skagerrak oiling incident of January 1981.**

T. Anker-Nilssen, P.H. Jones and O.W. Røstad. 1988. *Seabird* 11:28-46. Norwegian Inst. of Nature Res., Tungasletta 2, N-7004 Trondheim, Norway. (Two of the Razorbills involved had been banded in Scotland in 1973 and 1974, confirming a previous suspicion that some British birds winter in the Baltic. Bands on Common Murres included one each from Faroe and Helgoland and 19 from Scotland.) MKM

**The distribution of Shetland Black Gullmots *Cephus grylle* outside the breeding season.**

P.J. Ewins and D.A. Kirk. 1988. *Seabird* 11:50-61. 169 Indian Rd. Crescent, Toronto, Ont. M6P 2G5. (Including banding recoveries.) MKM

MKM = Martin K. McNicholl

KCP = Kenneth C. Parkes

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## ***News, Notes, Comments***

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### **A CHANCE FOR ALL BANDERS TO CONTRIBUTE**

I WILL BE REVISING "IDENTIFICATION GUIDE TO NORTH AMERICAN PASSERINES", hoped for publication date 1995. The 2nd edition will be expanded to include Doves-Woodpeckers, plus a few more peripheral passerine species, and short descriptions of all North American subspecies. These will be based on original descriptions by Ridgway and others (plus additional museum specimen data), and following the taxonomy of the AOU (1957) and subsequent revisions.

I seek comments, criticisms and updated information especially from banders who have used the 1st edition. Have any of your wing lengths been outside the given ranges? Any birds molting feathers at unusual time of year? How late in spring can different species be aged by skulling? Which age/sex criteria are reliable and which are only suggestive or difficult to use? Any additional information? Any more mistakes in the first edition (see *NABB* 13:112-113 and 15:147)?

This is your chance to share the knowledge you have gained over the years. Feedback has been and will be appreciated and all contributors will be acknowledged.

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