



# Eastern Regional News

*Eastern Bird Banding Association*

**Founded 1923**

## NEEDED! . . . .

### DATA FOR EASTERN BIRD BANDING ASSOCIATION'S OPERATION WING CHORD

A COOPERATIVE BANDING PROJECT TO  
TEST THE HYPOTHESIS  
THAT THE SEX OF BIRDS OF SPECIES  
CONSIDERED SEXUALLY MONOMORPHIC IS  
CORRELATED WITH WING CHORD.

**SPECIES:** Blue Jay, Chipping Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Northern Waterthrush, Northern Mockingbird, Wood Thrush, Veery

**CURRENT STATUS OF PROJECT:** Although we have received a good amount of data so far, we are appealing to all North American banders to send us their data, no matter how little. We would like to increase the data pool as some species are currently better represented than others, and data for some species are insufficient within geographical areas.

We are now in the initial stages of developing a protocol and are looking at one or two of the species for which we have a good amount of data. The project has the potential for yielding useful information about sexing species by wing chord. The more data we have to work with, the stronger our findings will be.

(form on next page)

### PROCEDURE:

1. **Review records of past banding activity.** Data collected on birds of known sex are acceptable as long as measurements and assessments conform to this procedure.
2. **Sex birds only by presence of fully developed brood patch or cloacal protuberance.** Follow procedures described on pages 6/13-14, *North American Bird Banding Techniques*, Vol. II, 1977, Canadian Wildlife Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ottawa (parts revised, 1981).
3. **Age:** BLJA, SOSP, NOWA, WOTH, VEER, NOMO: *N.A. Bird Banding Techniques*, Vol. II, 1977.  
SWSP: Skulling only: Pneumatization complete: Jan-Sept: AHY; Nov-Dec: U  
CHSP: Skulling: Pneumatization complete: Jan-Sept: AHY; Oct-Dec: U  
Plumage: Streaks on breast/sides: HY; No Streaks: Jan-Aug: AHY; Sept-Dec: U
4. **Wing chord and NOMO tail measurements:** Follow procedures described in *North American Bird Banding Techniques*, Vol. II, 1977, 6/11-12. Wing chord measurement only--not flattened wing.
5. **Codes:** Only codes on report form are acceptable.
6. **Use a separate form for each species.** Please make copy of blank form before entering data.
7. **Send data to:** *Susannah K. Graedel,*  
*3 Talmage Road, Mendham, NJ 07945.*

OPERATION WING CHORD  
EASTERN BIRD BANDING ASS., 1992-93

Codes:  
Capture: 1=new bird, 2=repeat, 7=return  
Age: U ABY SY ASY TY ATY  
How Aged:

Skull ossification S Retained Feathers R  
tips t  
Mouth/bill M/B I shaft streaks st  
Iris color I P shape sh  
Adult plumage wear w  
color(dull,faded) c

Species: Common Name/Alpha Code/AOU#

Bander: \_\_\_\_\_ Permit No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Address/Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Code	Location Lat-Long	Band No.	Age	How Aged	Sex MF	BP/ CP	Wing		Date mo-da-yr	Date Sexed If Different	NOMO Tail (mm)
							Chord (mm)	R/L			

Please submit forms (complete or incomplete) periodically (quarterly suggested) to:  
Susannah K. Graedel, 3 Talmage Rd., Mendham, NJ 07945