



Eastern Regional News

Eastern Bird Banding Association

Founded 1923

NABC BANDER CERTIFICATION SESSION 6-8 April 2003

Immediately following EBBA's annual meeting, Powdermill Nature Reserve hosted an NABC Landbird Bander Certification Session on 6-8 Apr 2003 for six Bander Candidates who had earlier passed their written examinations. With European molt expert, Dr. Lukas Jenni, British ringer, Dr. David Norman, and Powdermill's own Bob Leberman and Bob Mulvihill on hand, the learning opportunities for a better understanding of molt were extraordinary. In addition to Bob Leberman and Bob Mulvihill, other participating NABC Trainers included Betsy Brooks, Mary Doscher, Mary Gustafson, Sara Morris, and Hannah Suthers.

The session began with a wonderful Sunday dinner hosted by Bob Leberman and followed by an informal "break the ice" evening. Although an icy rain hampered activities on Monday, a steady supply of juncos and Fox Sparrows in well-baited and well-protected Potter traps kept the testing going. Special thanks to Dr. Norman, who tended the traps closely while the NABC Trainers and Bander Candidates attended to the many other components of the evaluation field practical. Fortunately, the weather cooperated sufficiently on Tuesday morning to allow for the necessary testing at the nets.

Congratulations to the successful candidates Brian Jones from Deny, PA, and Adrienne Leppold from Pittsburgh, PA. While not everyone passed, the sincere efforts of all six Bander Candidates to assess and improve upon their skills by subjecting themselves to this demanding process, and their uniformly excellent attitude throughout the process (despite the less-than-ideal weather conditions), should earn them the praise and respect of all their fellow banders and ringers.

Betsy Brooks

NEXT NABC CERTIFICATION SESSION 1-3 October 2004

The Eastern Bird Banding Association has scheduled its next NABC certification session for **1-3 Oct 2004** at Braddock Bay Bird Observatory (BBBO) near Rochester, NY. The session will include the **Landbird Bander** level for up to six candidates seeking or already possessing U.S. or Canadian banding permits or subpermits; and, for the first time, the **Trainer** level for up to four candidates who have already achieved NABC Bander certification. Applications may be obtained from and submitted, no later than **25 Aug**, to Elizabeth W. Brooks, 1435 Waterwells Rd., Alfred Station, NY 14803; 607-587-9571; e-mail: brookser@infoblv.net or ebrooks@bbbo.org.

NABC manuals and further details are available from the NABC website at <http://www.nabanding.net/nabanding/>. Accepted candidates will be notified by no later than **31 Aug**. Those seeking Bander certification are encouraged to contact an NABC Trainer (see NABC website) to proctor the written examination portion of the certification prior to coming to BBBO; however, for those not able to do so, the written examination may be taken at BBBO by prior arrangement. Trainer candidates need not retake this written examination if previously their grade was 90 or better. See also the EBBA website at <http://www.pronetisp.net/~bpbird>.

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Errata: NABB 28:180, Table 1 (bottom)
Spring 2003 AFR Banding Summary.
Island Beach, NJ
Total Species '03 should read "69"