

	MPH	Date 1945	Distance (yards)	Remarks
Bob-white <i>Colinus virginianus</i>	28	June 2	200	Into slight wind
Ground Dove <i>Columbigallina passerina</i>	26	June 2	100	Into slight wind
	28	June 2		No wind
	32	June 20	100	No wind (Bentonville <sup>1</sup> )
Inca Dove <i>Scardafella inca</i>	28	June 2		No wind
Texas Nighthawk <i>Chordeiles acutipennis</i>	20	June 2		No wind
	35	July 5	100	Against slight wind
Hairy Woodpecker <i>Dryobates villosus</i>	20	July 16	200	No wind
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher <i>Muscivora forficata</i>	22	June 2		No wind
	25	June 20	250	No wind (Bentonville)
Mockingbird <i>Mimus polyglottos</i>	22	June 2	100	Across and into wind
Sennett's Thrasher <i>Toxostoma longirostre</i>	23	June 2		No wind
	29	July 16	400	No wind
Shrike <i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	39	Sept. 18	100	No wind
English Sparrow <i>Passer domesticus</i>	20	June 2		No wind
Meadowlark <i>Sturnella</i> sp.	25	June 2		No wind
Great-tailed Grackle <i>Cassidix mexicanus</i>	32	May 23	100	No wind
	27	June 2	300	No wind
	34	June 20	300	No wind (Bishop)
	39	Aug. 21	440	No wind; flock of 40 (Bishop)
Cardinal <i>Richmondia cardinalis</i>	26	June 21	50	No wind
Pyrrhuloxia <i>Pyrrhuloxia sinuata</i>	20	June 2	300	No wind
	22	June 21		No wind
Varied Bunting <i>Passerina versicolor</i>	28	June 18		No wind
Dickcissel <i>Spiza americana</i>	25	June 2	100	Into slight wind
Lark Sparrow <i>Chondestes grammacus</i>	27	June 2		No wind
	21-28	June 2		No wind

<sup>1</sup> All records were made at Alice, Texas, except as otherwise indicated in this column.

—CLARENCE A. SOOTER, 1336 North 40, Lincoln, Nebraska.

**Brewer's Blackbird breeding in Ontario.**—During the summer of 1943, one of us (A. E. Allin) observed a small male blackbird with straw-coloured eyes in an unsettled portion of the city of Port Arthur, Ontario. Since Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) was not known to occur in the Province, this bird was thought to be a Rusty Blackbird (*E. carolinus*), which is a regular spring and fall migrant locally although there does not appear to be any recent record of its occurrence during the summer months. Circumstances did

not permit further investigation at the time. The area was kept under observation for the remainder of the summer of 1943 and in 1944, but no unusual blackbirds were observed. It should be noted that the area had also received some study during the summer of 1942, when a Clay-colored Sparrow (*Spizella pal-lida*) was heard singing there.

On June 13, 1945, a male blackbird similar to the above was noticed in the same area. Subsequently, at least eight birds were seen there, including females with brown eyes, and we realized that we had located a colony of Brewer's Blackbirds. The birds were carrying insect larvae—suggesting that young birds were near by. The following day we collected a male, and that evening a typical nest of the species was found (by L. S. Dear). It contained four young, about a week old. On our return the next morning the nest was empty; presumably it had been visited by a predator during the night. The nest was collected and forwarded to the Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology with the male obtained the day before. The colony was not further disturbed. The birds were not seen during the summer of 1946.

The region occupied by this colony lies between the two main roads connecting the cities of Port Arthur and Fort William and covers a more or less cleared area, eight acres in extent. A few small, dead American aspens (*Populus tremuloides* Michx.) stood in the portion where the nest was found, and these were used as perching sites. The ground was covered by a six-inch growth of grasses, chiefly reedtop (*Agrostis alba* L.). Early flowering sedges (*Carex* spp.) and the sweet white violet (*Viola pallens* (Banks) Brainerd) were generally distributed, as were the early leaves of flowering plants later identified as grass of Parnassus (*Parnassia palustris* L.), asters (*Aster novae-angliae* L. and *A. umbellatus* Mill.) and golden-rods (*Solidago canadensis* L. and *S. uliginosa* Nutt.). To the rear of this area, the ground was heavily covered with Labrador tea (*Ledum groenlandicum* Oeder) and scattered pale laurel (*Kalmia polifolia* Wang.). Above this undergrowth rose a few black spruce (*Picea mariana* (Mill.) BSP) and tamarack (*Larix laricina* (DuRoi) Koch) which were also used by the blackbirds as perching sites.

Brewer's Blackbird has been considered a prairie bird which, like the Clay-colored Sparrow, is spreading eastward, utilizing small open areas in the coniferous forests. It has not yet been seen in Lake or Cook counties in the northeast corner of the neighboring State of Minnesota, but Dr. W. J. Breckenridge, Director, Minnesota Museum of Natural History, has kindly permitted us to include the following evidence of its recent eastward movements in that State as taken from his notes:

"Several Brewer's blackbirds seen along the highway near Virginia, St. Louis County, between June 5th and 11th, 1938." Swedenborg and Prosser.

"Several seen in meadow near Lake Vermillion, St. Louis County, June 9th to 21st, 1938." Swedenborg.

Brewer's Blackbird has not previously been found nesting in Ontario, nor is there a published record of its occurrence in the Province.—A. E. ALLIN, *Regional Laboratory, Ontario Department of Health, Fort William*, and L. S. DEAR, *Box 127, Port Arthur, Ontario*.