

My specimen, on the basis of both plumage and skull ossification characters (see Tordoff, 1952. *Condor*, 54:200-201) is an adult. The testes were considerably enlarged (approximately 5 mm. in length). The color is predominantly red, though there are many orangish feathers scattered throughout the plumage. The *brightest* red feathers on the bird are pinkish or rose colored, it being, then, a pale example of the species. It is also a rather large crossbill. Using Griscom's (*op. cit.*:138) system, it measures: wing, 92; tail, 55; culmen, 20; and bill depth, 10 mm.

With an understanding of the possible fallacy of placing a single vagrant crossbill subspecifically, I still feel that it is worthwhile to assign it a trinomial, since the specimen is so decidedly like *benti* in color and size characters. Though the culmen length is slightly over the size range given by Griscom for *benti*, the specimen is easily separable from a good series of Mexican specimens (*stricklandi*), from the Sutton Collection, on the basis of its paler color and smaller bill-depth, characters which should also separate it from *grinnelli*.

The specimen is in the Museum of Zoology, University of Oklahoma. My thanks are due Dr. George M. Sutton for the use of comparative material from his collection and the Oklahoma Collection.—RICHARD R. GRABER, *Museum of Zoology, University of Oklahoma, Norman, February 20, 1953.*

Sharp-tailed Sparrow in Oklahoma.—Although there are several records for the Sharp-tailed Sparrow (*Ammospiza caudacuta*) for the adjoining states of Arkansas (see W. J. Baerg, 1951. *Univ. Arkansas, Agric. Exp. Sta. Bull.* 258, revised) and Kansas (W. S. Long, 1940. *Trans. Kansas Acad. Sci.*, 43:455), this rather secretive species has not been reported from Oklahoma. In the fall of 1952, while collecting for the Oklahoma Biological Survey, I made a concentrated effort to find Sharp-tailed Sparrows.

Due to drouth conditions in Oklahoma in the summer and fall of 1952, marshy places were especially scarce. There were however, a few places along the South Canadian River in Cleveland County which looked as though they would be attractive to marsh-loving birds. These were rather dense stands of three-foot high grasses, actually standing in an inch or two of water. Two grasses, barnyard grass (*Echinochloa crus-galli*) and gray leptochoa (*Leptochloa fascicularis*), were conspicuous in these stands, and in them I frequently encountered Swamp Sparrows (*Melospiza georgiana*) and Long-billed Marsh Wrens (*Telmatodytes palustris*). Though I visited such habitat frequently from mid-September, I failed to find either Sharp-tailed Sparrows or the similarly inconspicuous Leconte's (*Passerherbulus caudacutus*) until October 14. On this date I saw four Sharp-tails (two collected) and three Leconte's (one collected), about a mile west of Noble.

Both of my specimens of *Ammospiza* were fat males with incompletely ossified skulls. Neither resembles at all closely any of the several specimens representing the races *caudacuta*, *subvirgata*, and *diversa* in the Sutton Collection. One (RRG 1881) in a typical dark-backed, generally richly colored example of *nelsoni*; the other (RRG 1880) may also fall within the limits of this form, though it approaches specimens of *altera* collected in the fall at Ithaca, New York, in grayness of back and cheek-patch and in the paleness of ventral streaking. I prefer not to assign a trinomial to this second specimen until I know more about the range of color variation of immature *nelsoni*.

The specimens are now in the Museum of Zoology, University of Oklahoma. I wish to thank Dr. George J. Goodman for his identification of the grasses, and Dr. George M. Sutton for the use of the comparative material in his collection.—RICHARD R. GRABER, *Museum of Zoology, University of Oklahoma, Norman, January 16, 1953.*