



FIG. 1. Leucistic Pine Grosbeak (top) with normal immature male (Peabody Museum No. 8428).

was kept alive under observation for two weeks before being taken for a specimen, and the worn rectrices are the result of its being caged.

In Ridgway's terminology (1912. *Color Standards and Color Nomenclature*), the bird may be described as follows:

Forehead, auriculars, tinge on hindneck: pale Raw Sienna.

Mantle: pale Wood Brown (near warm Smoke Gray of Villalobos) shading to Yellow Ocher of rump and upper tail coverts.

Wings: in folded wing, general color of primaries and secondaries Pale Olive-Buff (the palest color on the bird). Open wing shows outer edges of vanes this color, inner vanes more nearly pale and grayish Avellaneous.

Tail: folded, the upper side is the general tone of remiges with slight tinge of yellowish. The two central rectrices are nearest a warm Olive-Buff, the others are pale Buffy Brown on the inner and *pale* Olive-Buff (tinged pale Raw Sienna) on the outer vanes. The under sides are pale Fawn, tips palest.

Underparts: throat and breast nearest very pale Avellaneous, sides Avellaneous to pale Cinnamon-Drab, abdomen pale Tilleul Buff.

Bill: culmen Buffy Brown, as are edges of mandible, which is otherwise Pale Pinkish Buff. Legs: Dull Rose color in life.

This appears to be an example of leucism as defined by J. M. Harrison (1964. *In* Thompson, Ed. *A new dictionary of birds*). Leucism is described as a paleness or varying degrees of dilution of normal pigmentations, and is considered "closely allied" to albinism.

Mr. C. Chandler Ross (in litt.) says that in his research on albinism in birds he did not find a single case of abnormal plumage in the Pine Grosbeak.—DOROTHY E. SNYDER, *Peabody Museum of Salem, Salem, Massachusetts, 10 July 1967.*

The double-scratch in the genus *Passerculus*.—Harrison (1967. *Wilson Bull.*, 79:22-27) recently reviewed the double-scratch in the Holarctic buntings of the subfamily Emberizinae. He recorded the double-scratch in the following nine genera: *Spizella*,

Melospiza, *Passerella*, *Zonotrichia*, *Amphispiza*, *Arremonops*, *Junco*, *Pipilo*, and *Chlorura*; and suspected it in another seven: *Passerculus*, *Ammodramus*, *Passerherbulus*, *Ammospiza*, *Pooecetes*, *Chondestes*, and *Aimophila*. During the summer of 1964, I made observations of the Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) on Kent Island, New Brunswick, Canada. Savannah Sparrows were noted double-scratching on several occasions. This behavior consisted primarily of a rapid backward kicking of both feet exposing the superficial layer of the substrate. These observations show that the double-scratch positively, though rarely, occurs in the genus *Passerculus*. Harrison has also indicated that the double-scratch is mainly associated with hopping locomotion and is sometimes lost in birds that walk. The Savannah Sparrow is not entirely restricted to a single mode of locomotion since it was often seen both walking and hopping. This probably accounts for the rareness of the double-scratch in this species.

These observations were obtained while working under a National Science Foundation Undergraduate Research Participation grant (G-22902).—ROBERT E. GOBELL, *Department of Biology, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, Michigan, 20 June 1967.*

CORRECTION: ON THE INCUBATION PERIOD OF THE SPOTTED SANDPIPER

In calculating the incubation period of the Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*) the standard definition (i.e., the time from the laying to the hatching of the last egg) was not used (*Wilson Bull.*, 80:104-5, 1968). In recalculating the incubation period using the standard definition, I find the incubation period to be between 19 and 21 days. This is within the range of 19 to 23 days reported for this species and for its Eurasian relative *Actitis hypoleucos* by other authors (Nelson, *Bird-Banding*, 1:1-13, 1930; Mousley, *Auk*, 54:445-451, 1937; Miller and Miller, *Auk*, 65:558-567, 1948; Preston, *Wilson Bull.*, 63: 43-44, 1951; Witherby et al., *Handbook of British Birds*, Vol. 4, 1940).—JOANNA BURGER, *Department of Biology, State University College, Buffalo, New York.*