

that the contents of the latter nests had been depredated. The absence of an egg membrane sac therefore does not help in distinguishing successful nests from depredated ones. However, sac presence can be used to verify hatching with reasonable certainty.

Acknowledgments.—Funding for this work was awarded to Long Point Bird Observatory by World Wildlife Fund (Canada), the Canadian Wildlife Federation, the Canadian Wildlife Service, the North American Loon Fund, and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. Laboratory space was provided by Laurentian University.—ROBERT ALVO, *Biology Dept., Trent Univ., Peterborough, Ontario, K9J 7B8, Canada. Accepted 9 Nov. 1984.*

Wilson Bull., 97(2), 1985, pp. 243–244

Eastward range expansion of the Marbled Godwit in South America.—On 20 February 1984, we saw 7 Marbled Godwits (*Limosa fedoa*) on a mud flat of the Bocaripo Lagoon that forms part of the Chacopata Lagoon complex on the north side of the Araya Peninsula (10°41'N, 63°46'W), state of Sucre, in northeastern Venezuela. The birds were feeding intensely and were not disturbed by our approach; we observed them for about half an hour through 8× binoculars and a 15–60× zoom telescope from a distance of less than 40 m, and checked the distinctive field marks of their winter plumage. Between 2 and 7 individuals were regularly sighted at the same location by the third author from 21 July to mid-Oct. 1984, and photographic records were taken by her and Luis Gerardo Gonzalez. The species was also identified in the same area by Gedio Marin and the second author on 28 Jan. 1983, and had previously been observed on 3 occasions (Jan., 26 Mar. and 5 Apr. 1982) by Gedio Marin and Roberto Egañez or the second author in El Peñón Lagoon, approximately 3 km east of Cumaná, state of Sucre.

According to the A.O.U. Check-list (Check-list of North American Birds, sixth ed., American Ornithologists' Union, Lawrence, Kansas, 1983) and Meyer de Schauensee (Guide to the Birds of South America, Pan American Section of the International Council for Bird Preservation, Intercollegiate Press, 1982), *L. fedoa* is known to winter irregularly or locally south of Mexico on both coasts of Middle America, and in South America south to Chile on the Pacific coast. Blake (Manual of Neotropical Birds, Vol. 1, Univ. Chicago Press, Chicago, Illinois, 1977) and Meyer de Schauensee and Mack (pp. 429–463 in Meyer de Schauensee 1982) report sight records from northeastern Colombia on the Atlantic coast. Bond (Birds of the West Indies, Collins, London, England, 1979) and Blake (1977) consider *L. fedoa* as rare or casual in the West Indies. According to Bond (1979), the Marbled Godwit has been “recorded from Cuba, Jamaica, Hispaniola, Puerto Rico, St. Croix, Anegada, Grenada and Carriacou,” and “questionably from Guadeloupe and Martinique.” The species is listed by Meyer de Schauensee (1982) as occurring in Trinidad and Tobago. French (A Guide to the Birds of Trinidad and Tobago, Livingston Publ. Co., Wynnewood, Pennsylvania, 1973) mentions it as “formerly recorded as a passage migrant, occurring on the coasts of Trinidad from August to October,” but questions the reports for Tobago by James Kirk in 1883. The A.O.U. Check-list (1983) considers as questionable the reports from the Lesser Antilles, Tobago, and Trinidad. Meyer de Schauensee and Phelps (A Guide to the Birds of Venezuela, Princeton Univ. Press, Princeton, New Jersey, 1978) do not mention the Marbled Godwit as occurring in Venezuela.

As far as we know, the present photographic evidence and sightings represent an expansion of the known winter range (casual) of the Marbled Godwit from the Pacific coast of South America eastward to the Caribbean coast of northeastern Venezuela. One copy of the color photograph has been deposited in the Colección Ornitológica Phelps in Caracas, and one is in the Ornithological collection, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Montreal.

Acknowledgments.—We thank Roberto Egañez, Luis Gerardo Gonzalez, and Gedio Marin for providing information from their field books. This note is a byproduct of ecological research supported by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, the Quebec Dept. International Affairs, the Univ. Montreal, and the Univ. Oriente.—RAYMOND McNEIL, *Centre de recherches écologiques de Montréal and Dépt. Sciences biologiques, Univ. Montréal, C. P. 6128, Succ. A, Montréal, Québec H3C 3J7, Canada*; JOSÉ RAMÓN RODRIGUEZ S., *Dept. Biología, Univ. Oriente, Cumaná, Sucre, Venezuela*; AND FRANCINE MERCIER, *Dépt. Sciences biologiques, Univ. Montréal, C. P. 6128, Succ. A, Montréal, Québec H3C 3J7, Canada. Accepted 16 Nov. 1984.*

Wilson Bull., 97(2), 1985, p. 244

A record of extreme leucism in the Carolina Wren.—In Westport Point, Bristol County, Massachusetts, I observed an all white Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) on 21 Aug. 1984. The bird was in the company of other Carolina Wrens (possibly a family group) in an area of undergrowth in a mixed-hardwood forested hillside. The bird apparently had fledged recently as it was still being fed by an adult (of normal plumage) that foraged with it in the understory. The bird was totally white (except for brown eyes), with no noticeable trace of brown or any other color in its plumage. It was seen by two other observers at the same time (N. and C. McGrath) and by another local observer (K. Preston) later the same week.

This sighting is of interest in view of the fact that a literature review indicates that albinism is extremely rare in wrens. (Technically, because of the brown eye color this appears to be a case of extreme leucism, rather than albinism.) Ross (*Cassinia* 47:2–21, 1963) reports only one record for the Carolina Wren, and that bird had only a trace of white on the outer edge of each wing and on both sides of the lower neck. Terres (p. 1029, *The Audubon Society Encyclopaedia of North American Birds*, Alfred Knopf., New York, New York, 1980) lists a second record of a partial albino Carolina Wren for a bird banded in December 1959, in Maryland.—JOSEPH J. SENECA, *Dept. Economics, Rutgers Univ., New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903. Accepted 15 Dec. 1984.*