

egg in her oviduct, that was originally a HY in 2002. We have followed her progress each year as she nests in the same spot. She feels like an old friend! Our largest daily catch was 47 birds on 19 May, and 8 May was the day with most species diversity (14).

| <u>No.</u> | <u>Species</u> | <u>% SY</u> | <u>% ASY</u> | <u>% AHY</u> |
|------------|------------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| 81 | Gray Catbird | 86 | 14 | 0 |
| 67 | American Goldfinch | 70 | 30 | 0 |
| 25 | Common Yellowthroat | 68 | 32 | 0 |
| 20 | Black-capped Chickadee | 80 | 10 | 10 |
| 19 | Pine Siskin | 79 | 16 | 5 |
| 17 | Song Sparrow | 47 | 12 | 41 |
| 11 | Myrtle Warbler | 73 | 27 | 0 |
| 11 | Northern Cardinal | 54 | 0 | 45 |
| 10 | Prairie Warbler | 80 | 20 | 0 |
| 10 | Slate-colored Junco | 70 | 30 | 0 |

An exciting new species captured for the first time this year was a Worm-eating Warbler on 25 Apr. Surprisingly, we captured both Tree and Barn swallows this year for the first time even though they have been observed around our nets since banding began in 2000. We also captured a Scarlet Tanager this spring, previously banding them only in the fall. An irruptive year for Pine Siskins enabled us to band quite a few of them this season.

An interesting capture was that of a chickadee with a dried grapevine wrapped around its leg. I can only speculate that the vine had grown around the bird's leg as it slept. It was very difficult to remove! A Gray Catbird and Common Yellowthroat presented with avian pox and a Yellow Warbler had scaly leg.

We continue to cooperate with the Landbird Migration Monitoring Network and the Center for Tropical Research in California pulling feathers and swabbing birds for avian flu. A paper was submitted to *NABB* on our findings from larval ticks pulled from birds and this year we began relieving birds of their tick burden for Yale University. Thanks very much to banders Gretchen

Putonen and Carolyn Kennedy and assistants Antonia Stephens, Peter Brown, and Tom Burgess, along with many others for helping this spring.

Bedford Valley

395-0783

Bedford, Bedford County, PA

Janet Shaffer, Bander

jgshaffer@yellowbananas.com

Banding results for spring 2009 were pretty typical of this station. Almost half the birds encountered were repeats, from previous years, or earlier bandings. Weather was definitely a factor. I noted that on at least 15 occasions, rain prevented opening or caused early closing. Several times high winds or low temperatures were cited as problems. Thanks to Al Geis's son Dean, I was given some nets in good condition after Al passed away.

| <u>No.</u> | <u>Species</u> | <u>% SY</u> | <u>% ASY</u> | <u>% AHY</u> |
|------------|----------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| 19 | Chipping Sparrow | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| 14 | American Goldfinch | 35 | 28 | 35 |
| 13 | Gray Catbird | 7 | 0 | 92 |
| 8 | House Wren | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| 8 | Ruby-crowned Kinglet | 0 | 0 | 100 |

Warblers banded included Myrtle, American Redstart, Common Yellowthroat, Northern Parula, Northern Waterthrush, Yellow, and Mourning. A Veery banded on 12 May was the first ever for this station. A Great Crested Flycatcher was the first in many years. A pair of Wood Thrush were netted twice and Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Purple Finch, and Northern Parula were banded and obviously nesting in the area. Efforts to control invasive plant species has meant the 3-ac field has not been suitable to species such as Field Sparrow, Indigo Bunting, and Common Yellowthroat.

In many cases, only one or two individuals of a particular species were banded. Chipping Sparrows usually are the most common each year. If feeders are maintained, goldfinch and House Finch may be caught frequently. Unfortunately feeders had to be brought in nightly, due to bear visits.