

- ² Bagg, A.C., and Eliot, S.A., Jr. 1937. Birds of the Connecticut Valley in Massachusetts. The Hampshire Bookshop, Northampton. p. 543.
- ³ Bailey, W. 1955. Birds in Massachusetts, When and Where to Find Them. The College Press, South Lancaster. p. 176.
- ⁴ Peterson, R.T. 1947. A Field Guide to the Birds, 2nd ed. Houghton Mifflin, Boston. p. 138.
- ⁵ Ibid., p. 139.
- ⁶ Brewster, W. 1881. On the relationship of Helminthophaga leucobronchialis, Brewster, and Helminthophaga lawrencei, Herrick; with some conjectures respecting certain other North American birds. Bull. Nuttall Ornithol. Club 6:218-225.
- ⁷ To be precise, only 10.8% of the specimens had a score of 0 or 20, and 41.9% had a hybrid index ranging from 3 to 17.
- ⁸ Robbins, C.S., Bruun, B., and Zim, H.S. 1966. Birds of North America. Golden Press, New York. p. 254.
- ⁹ Berger, A.J. 1958. The Golden-winged--Blue-winged Warbler complex in Michigan and the Great Lakes area. Jack-Pine Warbler 36:37-73.

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MONK PARAKEET UPDATE, No. 2

The United States Department of the Interior has officially classified the Monk Parakeet (Myiopsittus monachus) as a potential agricultural pest in this country (Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife Leaflet, 496, 1971). In its native Argentina, it is particularly common in the vicinity of human habitation, destroying up to 45 percent of certain crops, notably cultivated fruits and grains (esp. maize and sorghum) and sunflower crops. The official status of the species as a potential pest was predicated on its destructiveness to these agricultural crops, but now it appears that there is more to the story.

William T. Shields, et al., report in the June 1974 issue of THE WILSON BULLETIN (Vol. 86, No. 2) on the feeding habits of a pair nesting in a park in Middlesex County, New Jersey. During March and April of 1973, 33 percent of their food consisted of buds, flowers and fruits of the American elm (Ulmus americanus), supplemented by seeds, acorns and buds of other native trees. All of the elms within the feeding range of this pair had the top three feet of their crowns completely stripped of foliage. Damage to willows in the area was also severe. The authors comment that, had a normal-sized flock of 15-50 individuals been present, the depredations on these trees would have been indeed serious.

Please report any sightings of this species to the Massachusetts Audubon Society or to the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Game. The species breeds in the metropolitan New York area. Let's try to keep it out of New England.

(For a brief description of the species, cf. BIRD OBSERVER, Vol. 1, No. 6, p. 131.)

J.T.L.

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