

MOURNING DOVES

Dr. Harold S. Peters has supplied information regarding the Mourning Dove Project which may be of interest to EBBA members. This project, which is planned to last from three to five years, is active in the ten southeastern states, each of which now has a trained biologist directing the work in his state. Although only hunted in 26 states, it nests in all 48, and since many birds raised in the northern states are killed in the South, it appears that the study should be extended throughout its range. EBBA members can participate in this work by increasing their banding programs on Doves, both as nestlings and as flying birds, and by making population counts or periodic roadside census counts of Doves in their vicinity. Dr. Peters did not say so, but we presume that census results should be sent directly to him c/o Fish and Wildlife Service, Glenn Building, Atlanta 3, Georgia.

Since July 1, 1948, when the project was started, about 9000 Doves have been banded, which compares with slightly more than 33,000 Eastern Mourning Doves banded from 1920 until June 30, 1948 in all states combined. Some members may have to obtain new permits in order to band Doves. If you plan to band Doves, check your permit to see if it authorizes the banding of game birds.

LIGHT

Dr. Fluck also mentions the death of a bird in a trap which he had left open. If darkness falls when a bird is feeding inside of the trap and if the entrance faces a wood lot or the shadows of shrubbery, the bird will miss it by searching for an exit toward the light. Night falls and the bird becomes easy prey for a cat or a rat. To prevent these occurrences Dr. Fluck suggests that the exit doors should be on the top of the trap or should face the light, the setting sun, a field, or an open lawn--which leads him to remark that light can be an effective bait for birds and that ingenious traps could be built utilizing the attraction that light has for a bird.

NEW MEMBERS

Mr. W. R. Middleton, 106 North Lincoln Avenue,
Wenonah, N. J.

Mr. John L. Bull, 49 Merrall Road, Far Rockaway,
Long Island, N. Y.

Mrs. Edward W. Blowney, 750 St. Davids Lane,
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