



- A. Brace wires
S. Spout
P. Plug of wood

Actually shaped thus
Don't ask me why, but only basswood is satisfactory for these plugs.

I formerly used a "screw on" cap and soldered the drip wire into it. Mostly I now use the one sketched here and shown in the photo so I don't have to remove the can to fill it. I cut a rectangular hole in the top about 1-1/2 x 3" and place a cover slightly larger over this to keep out mice, bugs and trash. This cover is pivoted on a brass bolt at one end.

This one-gallon drip is dirt and dust proof as I found was not true of a bucket. It will last a half day, or two or three days, depending on how tightly the plug is pushed in. The whole outfit is very easily moved to a new site."

JUNCOS

Mr. G. Hapgood Parks, Hartford 5, Conn. continues the Junco discussion:

"Referring to Mr. Smiley's 'tentative conclusion' #1 (see page 2 of EBBA NEWS for August, 1951) may I report that, during the past summer, I was successful in trapping 3 adult, breeding Slate-colored Juncos, and 10 locally-hatched juveniles of the

same species.

Tailfeathers were collected, but time has not yet been found to study them in detail.

Regarding bill pigmentation, however, adults trapped during July showed bills completely pink, with no semblance of gray or brown. Repeats of these same adults after mid-August revealed the appearance of tiny areas of gray at the tip of the bill and a change of the remaining pink areas to purplish.

Meanwhile, the bill of every one of the juveniles was heavily pigmented with dark brownish gray.

To just what age this distinct difference in pigmentation persists our records fail to show, for we are unable to continue our study in the breeding area after Labor Day, and all of our repeats from this group show the young birds still in their streaked-breasted juvenal plumage.

Here is a common species which rates a whole lot more study. There must be an answer to the enigma of the apparent inconsistencies of their age-sex-plumage-pigmentation interrelations."

Banding of summer Juncos on the breeding grounds appears to be a must if we are to work out some of the problems discussed in these pages during the last few months. Nearly every bander can contribute something to our knowledge of this common species.

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