

The data that I am presently keeping on the birds as they repeat includes the following: Date, time, weight in grams (to the nearest tenth, using a laboratory balance), temperature, and the amount of light as measured with a photographic light meter.

A cursory observation of this data reveals a gain in weight from morning until evening. No other correlation is apparent thus far.

(The author of the above would be very pleased if EBBA members will advise him in any way as to methods by which this work could be made more valuable. Are there any publications on the subject -- either this species or others? Are there people to whom he might write for information, or visit? The author will welcome any and all comments.)

731 Marshall Drive, West Chester, Pa.

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11-YEAR-OLD GRACKLE  
By Bruce Adams

On April 12, 1962 I trapped a Grackle wearing band #48-363332, which was very worn, thin, and overlapped. I removed it and replaced it with band #663-75654.

Since the old band was not one of mine, I called Hope Geis who lives only a block from me, to see if it was hers. I learned that she had banded the bird on May 1, 1952. As the bird was an adult male when banded it is at least 11 years old.

Living so close to eachother has produced some interesting surprises for Mrs. Geis and me. Although we both band fairly large numbers, we rarely get eachother's birds. In the case of this Grackle, however, the strangest thing is that the bird never repeated or returned once to Mrs. Geis' station. It would be interesting to know if the bird has returned regularly to Riverside during these intervening years.

Normand St. Jacques and I noticed a somewhat similar situation with Evening Grosbeaks in Vermont. About six different residents of the Burlington area who maintained feeding stations invited us to their yards to show them how birds were banded. Although we would rarely capture Grosbeaks banded in one yard in another spot the same winter, we would get returns the following year in a place different from the original banding location but well within the same 10 minute grid area.

40 Summit Road, Riverside, Conn.

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How are you planning to get to next year's EBBA annual meeting?