

numbers are far lower due to the vigilance of the Barn Swallow. Fly larvae parasites and Swallows are doing a far better job than sprays ever did.

While a lot is known about the ill effects of insect sprays, not much is known about herbicides which could be to blame for the crippled young Sparrow Hawk. There is a very bad thistle, known as the Canadian Thistle (*Cirsium arvense*. Ed.) that has been slowly spreading on our farm. I try to keep the tops mowed off so they will not go to seed. This controls most thistles but not the Canada Thistle since it can spread by the root system. After over 20 years of trying to check its spread, I decided to call in a spray outfit and had about five acres sprayed with 2, 4-D ethyl ester weedkiller. The area sprayed was under some electric wires where the adult Sparrow Hawks like to perch and watch for mice.

At one time herbicides were supposed to be safe where warm blooded animals were concerned (but so was DDT) and just this summer, Senator Gaylord Nelson, D. Wis., told the Senate that one defoliant 2, 4, 5T has been blamed for birth defects in laboratory rats, mice and chickens and may have similar effects on humans. If this is the case, it would appear that I am to blame for our Sparrow Hawk nesting failure this summer.

Ralph K. Bell, R.D. #1, Box 229, Clarksville, Pa. 15322

* * *

Eastern Bird Banding Association
Officers and Council 1970 - 1971

President:	Mr. Emil Berger, Jr.
1st Vice President:	Dr. Jeff Swinebroad
2nd Vice President:	Mr. Christopher N. Rose
3rd Vice President:	Mr. Ronald J. French
Secretary:	Mrs. Roger W. Foy
Treasurer:	Miss Mary-Rebecca Cregar



Councillors

<u>1971</u>	Mr. Albert Schnitzer	<u>1972</u>	Mrs. Edward Mendinhal
	Mr. Charles Neel		Mr. Frederic R. Scott
	Mrs. Herbert M. Church, Jr.		Mr. John L. Trott, Jr.
	Dr. Charles Blake		Mr. Frank Frazier, Sr.
<u>1973</u>	Dr. Mary H. Clench	<u>1973</u>	Mr. George Ballentine
	Mrs. George Ballentine		Mrs. Katherine G. Price

Through 1971 as retiring President: Dr. Robert P. Yunick

Editor: Frederick S. Schaeffer

Bird-Banding Editorial Advisory Board: Dr. Jeff Swinebroad

NACOBBA Representative: Dr. Charles Blake

Alternate NACOBBA Representative: Miss Dorothy Bordner