November 1973

There were six cowbirds that I caught which had been banded by others. Three had been banded by Jack Linehan in Newark, Delaware. One of these was captured in Glenolden 13 days after he banded it, another arrived ten days after being banded, and the third came 11 months after it got its band.

One cowbird, banded in Ardmore, Pennsylvania, eight miles to the north, visited me four days after it got its band. One banded in Cheesequake, near South Amboy, New Jersey, was in Glenolden two days later, having travelled 90 miles westward. One banded in Fairfield, Connecicut, in October, was in Glenolden the following April.

Of the more than a thousand cowbirds banded in Glenolden, only three returned after a possible migration interval; two returning after a year, and the third returning after 16 months. Compare this record with that of White-throated Sparrows. 365 were banded in Glenolden during the same 12-year interval. 34 were taken as returns after migration intervals, and some of them returned during a few more successive seasons. That is well over nine per cent. The percentage of returning cowbirds was less than a quarter of one per cent.

The accumulated data support the already suggested theory that cowbirds are restless creatures during the non-breeding season, constantly moving hither and yon. I would surely have caught many more cowbirds had I banded week by week, or day by day. In the case of White-throated Sparrows, such a flock was used to settling down for a considerable period, if not for the entire winter season. A month or more might pass with no banding, but the number of the species might not change meanwhile appreciably.

Have other banders noticed similar itineraries of cowbirds?

--P.O. Box 575, Oak Bluffs, Mass. 02557

COMMON GRACKLE RECOVERIES: BIRDS BANDED AT WOODHAVEN BIRD BANDING STATION, MORRISVILLE, PENNA.

By Mabel Warburton

- 563-05822 Banded: 06-22-1956; Age: Imm. RECOVERED: 05-15-1966 at Yardley, Pa. STATUS: Dead (9 yrs., 11 mos. old)
- 563-05856 Banded: 10-19-1956; Age: Adult RECOVERED: 01-08-1958 at King George Court House, Virginia STATUS: Dead
- 563-05899 Banded: 04-22-1957; Age: Adult RECOVERED: 03-15-1959 at Lumberton Twp., Mount Holly, N.J. STATUS: Dead
- 563-06237 Banded: 06-10-1955; Age: Adult RECOVERED: 05-03-1959 at Yardley, Penna. STATUS: Dead
- 563-06280 Banded: 10-02-1955; Age: Adult RECOVERED: 05-12-1958 at Langhorne, Penna. STATUS: Dead
- 583-20532 Banded: 05-21-1956; Age: Imm. RECOVERED: 07-19-1956 at Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge, Leipsic, Delaware STATUS: Trapped and released by Yuill
- 583-20545 Banded: 05-24-1956; Age: Adult RECOVERED: 04-23-1961 at Yardley, Penna. STATUS: Found dead
- 583-96759 Banded: 05-03-1957; Age: Adult RECOVERED: 12-13-1958 at Hobbsville, North Carolina STATUS: Killed
- 623-59739 Banded: 08-09-1960; Age: Adult RECOVERED: 06-21-1971 at Yardley, Penna. STATUS: Dead (over 10 yrs. 10 mos. old)

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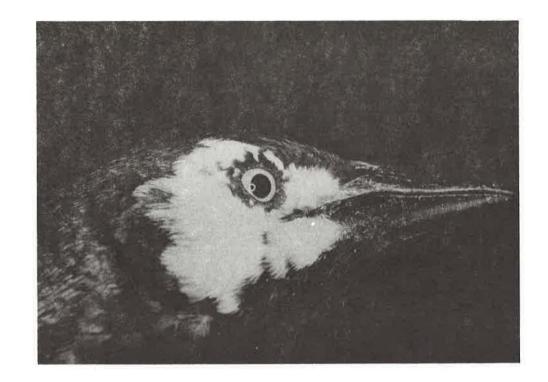
- 623-59868 Banded: 04-23-1960; Age: Adult RECOVERED: 05-13-1967 at Washington Crossing Park, Penna. STATUS: Trapped and released by Bander Fluck
- 653-31080 Banded: 06-30-1962; Age: Adult RECOVERED: 01-19-1969 at Mardela Spring, Md. STATUS: Dead
- 663-71048 Banded: 04-25-1963; Age: Adult RECOVERED: 04-28-1963 at Yardville, New Jersey STATUS: Unknown
- 663-71498 Banded: 06-01-1965; Age: Adult RECOVERED: 10-19-1968 at Levittown, Penna. STATUS: Dead
- 663-71638 Banded: 07-05-1965; Age: Imm. RECOVERED: 11-07-1966 at Pemberton, New Jersey STATUS: Dead
- 663-71701 Banded: 02-21-1964; Age; Adult RECOVERED: 05-07-1966 at Washington Crossing Park, Penna. STATUS: Trapped and released by Bander Fluck

The above report does not include birds recovered in the same 10-minute block where banded.

--15 South Bell Ave., Yardley, Pa. 19067

LEGEND TO PHOTO ON PAGE 233: Common Grackle, Captured and Banded on October 2, 1955. Banders usually run accross partial albino birds, especially in the Starlings and Icterids. However, most of the partial albinos I have seen were more like the one shown (Katholi, 1966. EBBA NEWS, 29(6):279) with white feathers in tail and/or wing.

The large patch around the right eye is shown in the photo. Asimilar patch on the left side, was considerably smaller. This was all the white this bird showed. The bird, an Adult-Female, was released on Oct.3, 1955; it was never retrapped nor sighted again. Contributed by Mabel Warburton. Photo by: Norman Fisher.



PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDER: The 1974 EBBA-NEBBA JOINT ANNUAL MEETING will take place on May 31 thru June 2, 1974.

The newly enacted by-laws of the Association, will appear in the next issue of EBBA NEWS.

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Mrs. Roger W. Foy, who stores and retails all back-issues belonging to EBBA, advises that complete sets from Vol.27 through 35 are available. Many single issues are also available. If you're in the market for back-issues, please write her of your needs, and she'll let you know if the issues are available and the cost. Her address: Box 164, Ship Bottom, New Jersey 08008.