

Banding always produces surprises. Species that commonly migrate through northern Florida may be unusual in the subtropical southern area. In 1972 my rarities were a normal four - Acadian Flycatcher, Nashville, Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, and Dickcissel. But in the doldrums of 1973 I was astonished to list 1 Blue-winged Warbler, 1 Black-throated Green, 1 Black-poll (common in spring but rare in fall), 2 Canadas, 2 Yellow-bellied Flycatchers, 2 White-crowned Sparrows, 3 Chestnut-sided and 3 Bay-breasted Warblers. This latter appeared in numbers in north Florida this fall, but is decidedly rare in the south. A grace note was the Ruby-crowned Kinglet first taken 11-14-71 which returned in 1972 on 11-3 and in 1973 on 11-4.

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ATLANTIC FLYWAY REVIEW - REGION I

Edited by Richard L. Ferren

This year the region's reporting banders numbered five rather than seven. Circumstances prevented Barbara Patterson from doing any banding at all on Mt. Desert Island, Maine, although we are promised a full report for 1975. Unhappily, the recent death of Mabel Gillespie of Martha's Vineyard ended a long life devoted to banding work, her contributions to these reports (including last year) being only a small part of her contributions. We would like to dedicate this year's report to her memory and hope that other banders can enjoy as long and fruitful a career in banding.

Feelings were mixed about the merits of this year's fall migration of land birds, but for those who banded regularly there was fairly general agreement that most transient species were encountered in slightly better than last year's numbers, thus perhaps bringing this year's coastal banding up to the status of average, considering the poor showing of last year.

There were, however, few notable incursions or particular scarcities. All stations noted increases and decreases, some marked, but these were often balanced by opposite conditions at other stations, and few general trends seemed evident. There was no flight of Black-capped Chickadees, always a phenomenon difficult to ascertain without banding, and no mass movement of Red-breasted Nuthatches developed, although the flight may have been somewhat better than last year. The latter nearly hit an all time low at Block Island with a season's total of two, while ten were banded in the pine grove at Nantucket. Extraordinary numbers noted by this editor in the Maine woods in November clearly showed that the majority of northeastern birds remained on the breeding grounds.

In all, station leaders seemed to think that the fall migration was decidedly ordinary on average, although substandard in some cases and slightly better in others, both in numbers of birds caught and in the sprinkling of unusual birds. Station reports follow.

Manomet Bird Observatory, Mass. - Kathleen S. Anderson, Exec. Dir.

After the rather active spring migration at M.B.O. when we benefited from unusually persistent westerly winds and banded 3,078 birds from 1 Apr. - 31 May, early indications might have led us to expect a poor fall migration.