

Crane research around the world: proceedings of the International Crane Symposium at Sapporo, Japan in 1980 and papers from the World Working Group on Cranes, International Council for Bird Preservation. James C. Lewis and Hiroyuki Masatomi (Eds.). 1981. Available from International Crane Foundation, City View Rd., Baraboo, WI 53913. 250 pp. \$15.00.—This volume is a conglomeration of material from several sources, 20 of the papers were presented at the 1980 International Crane Symposium held in Sapporo, Japan. The other 28 papers from various authors were written between 1974 and 1981.

After several introductory papers dealing with the status and or general biology of cranes there follows a group of papers dealing with each of the 13 species of cranes. In some cases (perhaps because of the need to say something about each species), these papers are rather insignificant, especially to North American crane enthusiasts, but many are more than worthwhile. The majority of species papers (9) are devoted to the Red-crowned Crane or Japanese Crane (*Grus japonensis*). This is understandable since the meeting from which about half the volume derived was held in Japan. The papers on Whooping Cranes and Sandhill Cranes (*G. americana* and *G. canadensis*) are from recognized authorities in the United States and Canada. Probably it is these papers that are of the most interest to readers of this journal. Not that there is nothing of value in the other papers, for there is much to be gleaned throughout the volume. For example, an innocuously titled paper, "The Hooded Crane at Yashiro, Yamaguchi Prefecture, Japan," by Nobuki Kawamura contains some very interesting information on roosting behavior that has pertinence to other crane species.

The section dealing with Sandhill Cranes begins with a paper, presented by L. H. Walkinshaw at Sapporo, that is a general overview of status, range, species characteristics, and includes some personal observations for each of the six subspecies. Dr. Walkinshaw is the elder statesman of crane biology in North America, and anything he publishes will contain usable data. There is much reiterated from previous work in this present paper, but its purpose seems to have been to serve as an overview on the species, and that it does well. A paper dealing with the Greater Sandhill Crans (*G. c. tabida*) by C. D. Littlefield addresses status and future of the several populations within that subspecies' range. Also included is a "state-of-the-arts" paper on the subspecies (*G. c. pulla*) resident in Jackson County, Mississippi, by J. M. Valentine who has worked with these birds for several years and has a first-class working knowledge of this interesting and certainly endangered population. The final Sandhill paper, "Capturing and marking Sandhill Cranes," by L. E. Williams Jr., is based on his years of experience handling cranes. It is a valuable primer on the techniques that he has found to be most successful in working with Sandhills but has application to all species of cranes. Although some of this information has been published before, it is good to have it published altogether in a concise and usable format.

The volume contains some superfluity and fluff and there is noticeable variation in quality, which is understandable as many of the papers are translations from authors of limited English literary prowess. These reservations aside, I would recommend this volume to anyone with a serious interest in cranes. The data per dollar ratio is quite good.—STEPHEN A. NESBITT.