

sweep low overhead, and not one female could be detected. Thus, it appears, in the light of these observations and those of others, that one sex can commonly occur in a restricted locality during the winter months and the other be entirely absent. Might not this have been the experience of Major Brooks with the Boat-tailed Grackle?

It would be hard to imagine a more noisy bird than the male Boat-tail, and one with a greater variety of notes, but one must see it in the breeding season to appreciate this; in winter the bird is much more quiet. Besides the great number of sounds that issue from its throat, one frequently hears a curious rolling noise, made by the wings when the bird is perching, but occasionally during flight.—E. VON S. DINGLE, *Huger, S. C.*

**Distribution of Yellow and Brown-eyed Males of Boat-tailed Grackle in Florida.**—While on a motor trip through the greater part of Florida during late February and early March, 1932, the writer was interested in making as many observations as possible on the adult males of *C. m. major*, with regard to ascertaining further information on the color of the iris. Ample opportunities were afforded, as the birds were abundant in many sections and careful records were kept as to localities and variations of the eye color. A most peculiar state of affairs resulted.

Broadly speaking, the supporters of each color (yellow and brown) are vindicated in peninsula Florida, the yellow-eyed males seeming to frequent the coastal sections, and the brown-eyed males, the interior. No mixture of the two was noticed except that, at Punta Gorda in Charlotte County, two or three brown-eyed males were noted in the great majority of yellow-eyed birds. From Jacksonville down to Titusville, as had been the experience of the writer on former trips, the males all had the yellow eye, as did those further down the coastal strip, at West Palm Beach, Pompano and Hollywood. No birds were seen south of Miami, or on the Keys, although the route did not extend below the first ferry at the southern tip of Lower Matecumbe Key. At Naples, on the west coast, the yellow-eyed birds were plainly in evidence, and also at Punta Gorda.

In the region about Orlando, south to Kissimmee, and from thence over to the east coast near Melbourne, the adult males had the brown iris. There were hundreds in evidence, feeding in the canals and ditches which bordered the road and careful study was made of many flocks at exceedingly close range. About the marshes of the upper St. John's River in Brevard Co., the same condition prevailed. About the northern and eastern shoreline of Lake Okeechobee and extending eastward to within a few miles of West Palm Beach, the brown iris was universal. Across the entire length of the Tamiami Trail until the west coast was reached, the brown iris held good. Invariably, however, the coastal strips east and west, exhibited yellow-eyed birds.

It is a most interesting and perplexing condition for which no one seems to have an explanation.—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., *92 South Battery, Charleston, S. C.*