

Fifty young Night Herons were banded, B661226 to B661275 on June 7 and 10, 1932. While banding the birds we counted 74 live young birds in 33 nests, but since some birds were then able to escape from the nests we believe a very few may have walked away while we were climbing up, although we watched for this. On a later trip the number of dead birds found suggested that the infant mortality rate was about one per cent. None of the dead birds had any band. In one nest were an enormous dead frog and two downy dead birds.

An American Egret was seen in the tree tops with the Night Herons but no Egret nest could be found. This date was several weeks ahead of the regular appearance of migrating Egrets.—H. B. WOOD, M.D. AND MERRILL WOOD, *Harrisburg, Pa.*

American Egret in Eastern Ontario.—Mr. R. J. Rutter, secretary of the Brodie Club of Toronto, and I visited Weller's Bay on the north shore of Lake Ontario, on June 5, 1932, and were fortunate enough to see an American Egret (*Casmerodius albus egretta*). Mr. W. E. Saunders informs me that there have been two or three records for the north side of Lake Erie, but this is the first so far as I can ascertain for the eastern part of Ontario. It was wading about with five Great Blue Herons in shallow water near the edge of the sand bar, it seemed slightly smaller and its wings moved somewhat faster in flight.

This individual lingered in Prince Edward County until the first week of September.

During August I received information of another seen in the vicinity of Owen Sound, near Georgian Bay, which would seem to be the northern limit for this wanderer from the South.—JOHN TOWNSON, *The Toronto Globe, Toronto, Ont.*

American Egret in Lewis County, West Virginia.—In view of the scarcity of published records of American Egrets from this state, it seems well to record two specimens seen during August, 1932, along the West Fork of the Monongahela River, on the grounds of the State Four-H Camp at Jackson's Mills, Lewis County, W. Va.

A single bird was seen first on August 12, another on August 14, and two together on August 15. Both were watched closely through high-power binoculars, and their large size made them unmistakable. One evening a group of boys had assembled on a knoll above the river, and were treated to the spectacle of an American Egret and a Great Blue Heron in company.

Doubtless Egrets occur more or less regularly each summer along the larger streams of the state, but they seem to have escaped observation up to the present. Worth noting was the abundance of other members of this family at Jackson's Mills this season, Great Blue Herons, Green Herons, American Bitterns and Least Bitterns having been noted in some numbers.—MAURICE BROOKS, *French Creek, W. Va.*

Oil Gland Usually Tufted in *Hydranassa tricolor ruficollis*.—In discussing "The Oil Gland and Its Tuft," (Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist.,

Oct. 31, 1924, p. 322) the late W. De W. Miller makes the statement that ". . . the tuft is wholly absent . . . in *Hydranassa t. ruficollis*." A chance examination of three specimens of the Louisiana Heron collected August 25, 1932, disclosed two minute tufts of feathers on the oil gland of each. The series of skins in the collections of the United States Biological Survey and the United States National Museum were examined to supplement these observations.

One hundred and eleven skins were inspected, of which twelve were in such poor condition that they were not included in the results tabulated below. Two or more of these specimens were secured in every month of the year except November, when none were collected. The ninety-nine skins considered were taken in various of the states, Mexico, the Bahamas, the West Indies and Central and South America. The ratios of occurrence of feather tufts on the oil gland with respect to sex and to age are presented in the following table:

Adult males (37), tufted	29 (78.38%)	bare	8 (21.62%)
Immature males (11), tufted	9 (81.82%)	"	2 (18.18%)
Adult females (16), tufted	10 (62.5%)	"	6 (37.5%)
Immature females (9), tufted	6 (66.67%)	"	3 (33.33%)
Unsexed adults (14), tufted	13 (92.86%)	"	1 (7.14%)
Unsexed immatures (12), tufted	10 (83.33%)	"	2 (16.67%)
Total (99), tufted	77 (77.78%)	"	22 (22.22%)
Males (48), tufted	38 (79.17%)	"	10 (20.83%)
Females (25), tufted	16 (64%)	"	9 (36%)
Unsexed (26), tufted	23 (88.46%)	"	3 (11.54%)
Adults (67), tufted	52 (77.61%)	"	15 (22.39%)
Immatures (32), tufted	25 (78.13%)	"	7 (21.87%)

No correlation was found to exist between season, age, or sex and the presence or absence of tufts. However, the gland was found to be nude in a greater number of the poor skins than in those well prepared, suggesting that some of the former may originally have been tufted.—CLARENCE COTTAM AND PHOEBE KNAPPEN, *U. S. Biological Survey*.

Eastern and Western Ducks.—Dr. Phillips gives some interesting data in his article in the October 'Auk' on Eastern and Western bred waterfowl at Wenham, Mass., and very neatly shows which have suffered the greatest relative reduction and which the least, by comparing the relative abundance of the one with the other.

Examining Dr. Phillips' two lists, there is however, an additional feature to be noted. In the Atlantic States north of the Virginia Capes, the greatest amount of duck shooting is done on the marshes, ponds, and bays along the seacoast, and on Chesapeake Bay, the Susquehanna Flats, and the Potomac River. At these places the experienced gunners congregate, mostly in batteries and baited blinds, and it is the experienced gunners who make the large bags.