

E. H. Forbush ('Birds of Massachusetts and Other New England States,' Massachusetts Dept. Agric., 1927, pt. 2: 281) describes the adult female as similar to male, but "whole forehead and forepart of crown olive-brown or grayish brown." And "Young female similar to young male, but forehead and forepart of crown and jaw more like those of adult female; forecrown with paler edging at end of each feather."

Just in these few examples we have found the forehead of the adult female described as black, blackish, brown, olive-brown, and grayish-brown. The forehead of the juvenile female has been similarly described, and by some writers the young are said to be identical with the adult female, by others slightly different.

My husband and I took particular notice of this point in our observations of female woodpeckers, and I believe that the following is the true situation. Some of our observations were on a bird raised in captivity.

The juvenile female Pileated Woodpecker, in the nest and for several months after leaving the nest, has a very dark gray or blackish forehead. The individual blackish feathers are uniform throughout and the paler edging described by some is hardly perceptible. These feathers do invade the anterior portion of the red crown, and most of the red feathers are red only at the tips.

With the post-juvenal molt of the head, which occurs in September, these blackish feathers are replaced by grayish-brown feathers which do have a noticeably paler edging, and with succeeding post-nuptial molts the forehead becomes more olive-brown and eventually yellowish-brown. In our captive bird, the yellowish color was pronounced when she was six years old, and changed little after that.

It is suggested that careful observations be made on specimens taken in the future and notes made of forehead color, so that if this color distinction is valid, it may be incorporated in future descriptions.—SARAH F. HOYT (MRS. SOUTHGATE Y. HOYT), "Aviana," Box 54, Etna, New York.

**Notes on Two Rare Tyrannids of Mexico.**—*Aechmolophus mexicanus* Zimmer heretofore has been known from only three specimens: the type, an adult male in the American Museum of Natural History, taken at "Cuernavaca, Mexico" at an altitude of 5000 ft. April 9, 1908, by Austin Paul Smith; a second specimen in the United States National Museum, taken at the same locality on the same day; and the third, a specimen in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, secured at Chilpancingo, Guerrero, October 26, 1940. I acquired a special interest in this extraordinary genus, because I had the second specimen in my hands, noting its conspicuous crest, when Dr. Zimmer came into the room at the United States National Museum and identified it as the second known individual. It seemed likely that the continuous collecting by Chester C. Lamb, always alert for new forms, would eventually discover other individuals. He did and noted the crest in his field journals, designating his birds as the "Crested Long-tailed *Empidonax*." Then several months ago, my assistant, Dr. John Davis, while engaged in the long process of transferring to the main collection the specimens which had come from Mr. Lamb during the war years, brought to me eight individuals, which he suspected to be and I identified as *Aechmolophus*. This was confirmed by Dr. Zimmer, to whom I mailed an adult February specimen from Tequisistlán, Oaxaca. He wrote: "Aside from the fact that your bird is in fresher condition with the light colors clearer (yellow on the under parts and more tinged with buff on the wings) and with the olive margins of the crest feathers less worn and hence slightly reducing the acuteness of these plumes, there are no appreciable differences in plumage."

These eight hitherto unreported specimens were all secured at two localities in Oaxaca on five different dates between July 4, 1943, and February 18, 1947. The

six July birds represent a breeding colony and include a fledgling just out of the nest. Subsequently, other specimens were taken at Rancho Papayo, Puebla. Finally, between July 21 and 26, 1951, when encamped near Titzio, Michoacán, about 18 mi. E. by S. E. of Morelia, Dr. John Davis and Chester Lamb secured two adult males, two immatures, and one fledgling, undoubtedly representing another breeding colony. Therefore this species is now known to occur in five different states: Michoacán, Morelos, Puebla, Oaxaca, and Guerrero, which gives us a better conception of its range. It should be noted that the original description refers to the type locality as "Cuernavaca, Mexico." This is undoubtedly Cuernavaca in the state of Morelos and not the state of México.

The Moore Collection series of fifteen specimens gives us our initial knowledge of the breeding range, which extends at least from eastern Michoacán southwest through Morelos and southwestern Puebla to northwestern Oaxaca. In winter, at least, it ranges south to central Guerrero (Chilpancingo) and may breed there. No specimens from the center of this range, the State of México, have been discovered so far, but it seems reasonable to expect they will be found in old collections, probably in series of *Empidonax*. Our specimens have been collected between about 4000 and 6000 ft. altitude. It is probably a much more common species than the eighteen known specimens indicate. Dr. Davis reports that it is a very quiet bird (neither he nor Chester Lamb heard it call) and that it is impossible to distinguish it in the field from several forms of the genus *Empidonax*.

*Xenotriccus callizonus* Dwight and Griscom is known from five specimens, three from the type locality, Panajachel, Lake Atitlan, Guatemala, and two collected by Pierce Brodorb at Chichimá, Chiapas, México in 1941. During the previous year, on June 23 and July 14, 1940, Mario del Toro Avilés secured for me a male and a female at Ocozocuaula, Chiapas, but this is the first time they have been reported. This makes a total of four individuals taken in México, all from the State of Chiapas.—ROBERT T. MOORE, *Laboratory of Zoology, Occidental College, Los Angeles.*

**Food Habits of the Bobolink in Arkansas Rice Fields.**—Prior to recent observations by the writers in the Arkansas rice fields, the Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) was unreported as a fall migrant in the state of Arkansas. Several small flocks averaging about a dozen birds were first noted feeding in rice fields near Stuttgart on September 1, 1950, and during that autumn and the following, Bobolinks were seen almost daily, with the latest observation on October 24, 1951. In 1951 the earliest record was August 16. While the date of the seasonal population peak is controlled largely by weather conditions to the northward, the peak for the two seasons, 1950–1951, was approximately September 15. On that date in 1951, 435 Bobolinks were counted in one rice field, and a portion of this number, sometimes numbering as many as 100, remained in the same field for 25 days.

During the spring flight Bobolinks in this area are found primarily in oat fields, occasionally in newly sown rice fields, and often in grass fields. Although Bobolinks may be seen in rice fields any day throughout September, the few individuals involved inflict little damage to the crop. From field observations it is obvious that during their stay in Arkansas rice districts, they feed largely upon oats in the spring and rice in the autumn. However, since the writers were engaged in a study of depredations to farm crops in the area by other species, it seemed desirable to obtain specific information on the food of the Bobolink. During September and early October, 1951, in the vicinity of Stuttgart, 30 Bobolinks were collected and the stomach contents analyzed. The following table lists the data obtained.