

## GENERAL NOTES

**A Hybrid between the White-throated Sparrow and the Slate-colored Junco at Dalton, Georgia.**—A hybrid *Zonotrichia albicollis* × *Junco hyemalis* was collected in our yard in Dalton, Georgia, on January 16, 1955, by William W. Griffin. It was sent to Dr. John W. Aldrich, United States National Museum, Washington, D. C. It was also studied by Dr. David W. Johnston, Department of Biology, Mercer University, Macon, Ga., and by Dr. Alden H. Miller, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, Calif. The specimen has been deposited in the latter museum.

Both species are common winter residents and regular visitors to our feeding station. The hybrid was first observed feeding with other birds in early November, and from then until mid-January we saw it almost daily at the feeding station, where it was aggressive toward both sparrows and juncos. Plainly evident was the White-throated Sparrow's striped back and white throat combined with the gray breast and white tail feathers of the Junco. The bill was shorter than that of either species and gave the appearance of being crossed. Later examination of the skin showed plain gray-brown crown with a slight streak of rusty-brown extending from each eye to nape; shoulders, back, and wings like the White-throat; breast and abdomen like the Junco; throat white with faint black streak on each side similar to the immature White-throat; and tail like the Junco with two outer feathers white the last third of their length and edged with gray.

Dr. Aldrich concurred in our identification of the bird as a hybrid and pointed out other records in the literature of such a hybrid (Townsend, Bull. Nuttall Ornith. Club, 8: 78–80, 1883; Stone, Auk, 10: 213–214, 1893; and Snyder, Auk, 71: 471, 1954).

Dr. Miller provided the following measurements of the hybrid: Wing, 77.1; tail, 68.7; tarsus, 23.1; middle toe, 16.9; and hind toe, 8.7 mm. He writes, "The intermediacy of color and pattern features is pretty evident . . . I feel no doubt in regarding the bird as a cross between these two species. . . . The wing and tail measurements of the two species overlap so much that there is not a great deal to be discerned from these dimensions of the hybrid. Note, however, that the tarsus is much larger than in the Slate-colored Junco and quite clearly shows the influence of the White-throated Sparrow. The toe measurements reflect this also, but in less clear-cut fashion."

Dr. Johnston pointed out that "in all probability this hybrid came from *Zonotrichia albicollis* × *Junco hyemalis hyemalis*, and not *J. h. carolinensis*, because the ranges of the White-throat and Carolina Junco do not overlap. Furthermore, the genetic combinations perhaps produced a less viable organism. Witness, for example, the parrot-like bill, abnormally small for both species." Also, William W. Griffin noticed that the bird had only one testis, the left. He stated by letter, "I found nothing that resembled a right testis. The left testis measured 1 mm. in length."—MR. AND MRS. R. E. HAMILTON, 704 Greenwood Drive, Dalton, Georgia.

**Occurrence of Bachman's Warbler (*Vermivora bachmani*) in northern Mississippi in June.**—In view of the present rarity of Bachman's Warbler throughout its known breeding range and of the very few records for its occurrence in recent years, it seems advisable to put on record at this time an almost overlooked note relative to its presence in northern Mississippi during the late spring of 1940. On June 11, while engaged in field work concerned with the breeding birds of the state, I spent the morning in the Trimcane Swamp, several miles northeast of Starkville. Possibly an hour after entering the Swamp I saw an adult male Bachman's Warbler. It attracted my attention by its characteristic song, and a short search soon revealed