

TABLE 1. Total length ($\bar{x} \pm SD$) of the fresh prey in murre stomachs.

Prey species	Thick-billed Murre			Common Murre	
	<i>n</i>	$\bar{x} \pm SD$	Range	<i>n</i>	$\bar{x} \pm SD$
Japanese sandlance	20	157 \pm 43.4	70-240	1	205
Japanese anchovy	2	104 \pm 16.3	92-115	—	—

with the spawning adults (K. Miyaguchi pers. comm.). The age mix explains the large variation in total length (70-240 mm) of sandlance found in murre stomachs (Table 1).

According to fishermen, most murre are restricted to shelf waters during winter, a pattern also described by Shuntov (1972). This means that diving seabirds in the Sea of Japan have a high probability of encountering coastal bottom gill nets, set nets, purse seines, and long lines. Of these, bottom gill nets would likely have the greatest impact on seabirds during winter (Olden et al. 1985) as well as during summer (Piatt and Nettleship 1985, 1987).

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The Type Locality of *Fringilla savanna* Wilson

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The name *Fringilla savanna* Wilson was used as a subspecific name for the Savannah Sparrows (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) of most of eastern North America until Aldrich (1940) indicated his belief that the breeding populations of Nova Scotia and the Magdalen Islands were separable from those of "the Gaspé Peninsula south (excluding Nova Scotia) to New England and New Jersey west to Minnesota and Iowa." It was necessary for Aldrich to decide which of these two presumptive subspecies should bear the name *savanna*. He compared the figure in Wilson's plate (1811, vol. 3, pl. 22, fig. 3) with specimens of both and decided that it was "in all ways definitely more like the Nova Scotia bird than any other the writer has examined." He therefore applied the name *savanna* to the Nova Scotia population and described *Passerculus sandwichensis mediogriseus* with a holotype from Andover, Ashtabula County, Ohio.

Comparison of the plate with specimens was necessary because, according to Aldrich (1940: 3), Wilson described *savanna* "from a migrant female specimen, apparently now not extant, taken at Savannah, Georgia," and "any one of several subspecies might be expected to occur at Savannah, Georgia, during migration." As his authority for his statement about Wilson's type specimen, Aldrich cited Hellmayr (1938: 486). Hellmayr's full text on the type locality reads "Atlantic coast from Savannah, Georgia, to Great Egg Harbor, New Jersey (the first place accepted as type locality; type in Peale's Museum, evidently lost)." Both the American Ornithologists' Union (1957: 586) and Paynter (1970: 70) accepted the type locality as Savannah, although only Paynter specifically credited Hellmayr with this restriction.

Wilson's use of the scientific name *savanna* and the English names Savannah Sparrow and Savannah Finch

(he used both) would seem to make logical the designation of Savannah, Georgia, as the type locality of this taxon. However, a careful reading of Wilson's text clearly indicates that this is not acceptable. He mentions that he first *discovered* this apparently new species at Savannah, but *collected* it for the first time at Great Egg Harbor, New Jersey. Here he obtained what he believed to be a pair of these sparrows, which he presented to Peale's Museum. His description and figure of *savanna* were clearly stated to have been based on the female of this pair, Peale's Museum no. 6584. This specimen, and in its absence Wilson's figure thereof, must be considered the holotype of *Fringilla savanna* (Int. Comm. Zool. Nomencl. 1985, Art. 73a), and the type locality thus Great Egg Harbor, New Jersey. In the belief that his new species was rather strongly sexually dimorphic, Wilson later (1811, vol. 4) described and figured (p. 72, pl. 34, fig. 4) the male of the supposed pair (Peale's Museum no. 6583); this specimen, however, was an example of the distinctive *P. s. princeps* (see below).

Great Egg Harbor, New Jersey, is within the breeding range of *Passerculus sandwichensis mediogriseus* Aldrich (records given in Stone 1937), if that subspecies is truly recognizable (it was not admitted by the AOU, 1957). With specimens of pertinent subspecies before us (including the same Nova Scotia series, formerly in the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, used by Aldrich), we are less confident than was Aldrich in the feasibility of matching Wilson's plate of *savanna* with a particular population of Savannah Sparrow. It thus becomes vital to determine the *season* at which Wilson collected the type specimen of *savanna*. If it had been a breeding season bird, then *mediogriseus* Aldrich would become a synonym of *savanna* Wilson.

Although we were unable to find any specific dates for Wilson's visit or visits to Great Egg Harbor, there is excellent indirect evidence that the type specimen of *savanna* was indeed a migrant or wintering bird. Witmer Stone (1898) pointed out that the bird that Wilson took to be the male of his new species *savanna* was in fact an Ipswich Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis princeps*), and in this instance Wilson's description and plate do indeed refer unmistakably to that pale gray subspecies. The Ipswich Sparrow, long considered a full species, is a well-known migrant and wintering bird on the New Jersey coast, as are several other races of Savannah Sparrow. Stone (1898) observed that the distinctly yellow superciliary line described and figured by Wilson is not present in winter specimens, but is attained through molt shortly before the Ipswich Sparrows leave New Jersey in March. This is confirmed by specimens in the Carnegie Mu-

seum of Natural History. As Wilson believed the specimens he presented to Peale's Museum to have been a pair, the logical deduction is that they were collected at or nearly at the same time, in March, and thus both could have been wintering birds or passage migrants.

This deduction does not, of course, eliminate the possibility that Wilson's type was a member of one of the populations assigned by Aldrich to *mediogriseus*, but it removes the *certainty* of this identification that would have applied had the type been a breeding bird. In view of our difficulty in matching Wilson's plate with any particular eastern subspecies of Savannah Sparrow, it seems desirable to accept Aldrich's identification of *savanna* as an example of the Nova Scotia population. This avoids any nomenclatorial complications whether or not future revisers reverse the decision of the AOU (1957) and follow Paynter (1970) in recognizing *mediogriseus* Aldrich. The only change that is necessary, therefore, is the substitution of Great Egg Harbor, New Jersey, for Savannah, Georgia, as the type locality of *Fringilla savanna* Wilson.

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