

a loss of 60 gulls in a flock of about 200. We were unable to obtain any other records of sick or dead gulls attributable to this infection in the San Francisco Bay area.—CARLTON M. HERMAN AND GORDON BOLANDER, *Bureau of Game Conservation, California Division of Fish and Game, San Francisco, May 18, 1943.*

Harris Sparrow in Washington.—Recently when Mr. Stanley Jewett stopped in to examine the bird skins in the collection at Walla Walla College, he discovered the skin of a Harris Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*) which was taken in Walla Walla County, Washington, on February 20, 1938. Mr. Jewett regards it as the first authentic record for the state.—ERNEST S. BOOTH, *Department of Biology, Walla Walla College, College Place, Washington, May 10, 1943.*

European Starling Problem in Eastern New Mexico and Adjacent Western Texas.—Previous reports of the European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) in New Mexico have recorded its spreading to new localities and indicated an increasing number in the eastern part of the state (Condor, 42, 1940:86; 43, 1941:197; 44, 1942:182).

It now appears that there is a definite trend toward the building up of a large number of these birds in this area which produces sorghum for grain. During the past winter, counts were made of flocks of Starlings at intervals when they happened to be noted during investigations of cranes. The counts were as follows:

Nov. 27, 1942	—9 miles southeast of Roswell, N. M., in alfalfa field where cattle were pastured	75
30	—3 miles east of N. M. Military Institute, Roswell, N. M.....	25
Dec. 8	—3 miles northeast of Roswell, N. M., where road crosses Berrendo River.....	50
10	—1 mile north of Dexter, N. M., mingling with Cowbirds, Red-winged Blackbirds, Brewer Blackbirds, pipits, and gulls.....	25
	1 mile south of Hagerman, N. M.....	125
	3 miles south of Hagerman, N. M.....	600
	4 miles south of Hagerman, N. M.....	200
13	—just south of Lubbock, Texas.....	15
13	—just south of Ackerly, Texas.....	150
17	—5 miles east of Roswell, N. M., at Bogel farm.....	25
31	—2 miles north of Carlsbad, N. M.....	25
Jan. 5, 1943	—1 mile north of Portales, N. M.....	250
23	—3 miles south of Hagerman, N. M.....	800
	Total.....	2,365

These counts evidently represented only a small portion of the total number of Starlings present, since no special effort was made to record the birds except while the writers were driving along the highway from Dexter to Artesia, New Mexico, on December 10. Continued increase will probably aggravate the damage wrought by blackbirds and cranes which is already being felt by the farmers.—CLARENCE A. SOOTER and LUTHER C. GOLDMAN, *United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Frenchglen, Oregon, April 20, 1943.*