

NEW WORLD SECTION



EDITORS

Dr. J.P. Myers, Vertebrate Biology, Academy of Natural Sciences, 19th and the Parkway, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103, U.S.A.

Dr. R.I.G. Morrison, Canadian Wildlife Service, 1725 Woodward Drive, Ontario, Canada K1A 0E7.

ABSTRACTS OF TALKS ON SHOREBIRDS GIVEN AT THE AOU ANNUAL MEETING, LAWRENCE, KANSAS, 6-9 AUGUST 1984

Timing and geographic progression of Semipalmated Sandpiper migration in the Eastern United States

Elizabeth P. Mallory and Brian A. Harrington, Manomet Bird Observatory, PO Box 936, Manomet, MA 02345, U.S.A.

First, year to year variation in the timing and the numbers of Semi-palmated Sandpipers is examined at several sites in the eastern United States. Data were gathered by International Shorebird Survey (ISS) co-operators. Sites analyzed in this part of the analysis were censused consistently for several years and were heavily used by Semi-palmated Sandpipers. When the sites were covered in the same years, site to site comparisons in migration timing were made. Second, a broad, qualitative, analysis of Semi-palmated migration was presented. It was based on censuses by many ISS co-operators scattered throughout the eastern U.S. The timing and geographic progression of the Semi-palmated Sandpiper migration was presented for the fall and spring, however the latter was based on far less information. The pattern of migration is complicated, particularly in the fall varying in timing from region to region. Independent passage of different breeding populations of adults and juveniles are probably responsible for much of the complexity.

Numbers and timing of adult and juvenile shorebirds in Plymouth, Massachusetts, during south migration

Brian A. Harrington and Elizabeth P. Mallory, Manomet Bird Observatory, PO Box 936, Manomet, MA 02345, U.S.A.

From 1972 to 1977 maximum counts of adult and juvenile shorebirds roosting at high tide on a barrier beach in Plymouth, Mass. were obtained

for 10 day periods during the complete southern passage of most species. Data are presented for Black-bellied Plovers, Semi-palmated Plovers, Semi-palmated Sandpipers, and Sanderlings. Limited data are presented for species for whom aging is difficult: Ruddy Turnstones and Short-billed Dowitchers. In each species the first juveniles arrived later than the first adults. Almost invariably, peak numbers of juveniles occurred after peak numbers of adults in all species. Far fewer juveniles occurred on Plymouth beach than adults in each species. Year to year variability in numbers and in timing of arrival and peak numbers was evaluated for each species.

Shorebird migration through central Venezuela

Betsy Trent Thomas, 1 Wetsel Road, Troy, New York 12182, U.S.A.

At least 10 species of sandpipers cross the Venezuelan llanos on their spring migration to North American arctic and subarctic breeding grounds. The most numerous were the Least Sandpiper *Calidris minutilla* and the White-rumped Sandpiper *C. fuscicollis*. Field observations and mist-net captures in 3 years showed that the birds passed through Venezuela from the end of February through mid-May, although April was the principal passage month. Peak spring migration of different species occurred in this order: Greater Yellowlegs *Tringa melanoleuca*, Lesser Yellowlegs *T. flavipes*, Solitary Sandpiper *T. solitaria*, Least Sandpiper, White-rumped Sandpiper, and Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularia*. One mist-netted Least Sandpiper was banded the previous September in Massachusetts. Two other Least Sandpipers were banded at the same Venezuelan site in previous years. This suggests that these shorebirds used the same feeding stop-over sites in consecutive years.